**Lesson 4**

### A Past simple: be and have/have got

**Verb be**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I/he/she/it + was</th>
<th>we/you/they + were</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I was away last week.</td>
<td>We were tired last night.</td>
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<tr>
<td>He wasn’t worried.</td>
<td>You weren’t at school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was he disappointed?</td>
<td>Were you tired?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, he was.</td>
<td>Yes, I was.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No, he wasn’t.</td>
<td>No, I wasn’t.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 The Past simple forms of the verb *be* are *was* and *were*.

Unlike Italian, in English we always use the Past simple of *be* (*was* and *were*) with *born*. Shakespeare was born in 1564. NOT Shakespeare is born in 1564.

**Verbs have/have got**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I/he/she/it/we/you/they + had</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I had an interview yesterday.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He didn’t have any pets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did she have the money?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, she did.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No, she didn’t.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1 The Past simple of both *have* and *have got* is the same: *had* for all persons.
I have/have got a dog.
When I was younger, I had a dog.
NOT I had got a dog.

2 We form negative sentences, questions and short answers for both *have* and *have got* in the past using the auxiliary *did/didn’t*.
I didn’t have a dog. NOT I hadn’t got a dog.

### B Past simple: regular and irregular verbs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I/he/she/it/we/you/they</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I listened to the CD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He didn’t speak to me.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did you go home?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, I did.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No, I didn’t.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 We use the Past simple to talk about finished actions or situations in the past. We often use it with past time expressions such as *yesterday, last month, two days ago.*
I watched a good film last night.

2 We use the same form for all persons in the affirmative for both regular and regular verbs. We form the affirmative Past simple of most regular verbs by adding *-ed*. (See the spelling rules.)

**Note:** There are lots of verbs which are irregular in the Past simple.

### C Subject and object questions (present and past)

**Interrogative pronoun**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Object/Clause</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What</td>
<td>happened</td>
<td>to you?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which book</td>
<td>went</td>
<td>with you?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who</td>
<td>leaves</td>
<td>first?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 When questions in the Present simple and Past simple begin with *What, Who* or *Which*, the question word can refer to the object or the subject of the question. When the question word refers to the subject of the verb:
- we do not use *do/does/did*;
- the word order of the question is the same as an affirmative sentence.

*Where did Maria go?* (*Where = object*)
*Who saw Maria?* (*Who = subject*)

2 We often answer subject questions with just the subject + *do/does/did*.
*Who saw Maria? I did.*
A Past simple: be and have/have got

1 Complete the sentences with the Past simple of be or have/have got.
   1 Pete _______ very tired after his exam yesterday.
   2 We _______ (not) any pets when we were young.
   3 ____________ (Mike) at Sue’s party last night?
   4 ____________ (Dan) breakfast this morning?
   5 She didn’t go out as she _______ a temperature.
   6 He _______ (not) very interested in the lesson.

2 Translate the sentences into English in your exercise book.
   1 Dove sei nato?
   2 Chi c’era al concerto sabato?
   3 Paul ha avuto un problema con la sua macchina.
   4 Non erano alla riunione stamattina.
   5 Hai fatto una festa per il tuo compleanno?
   6 Quando nacque Dante Alighieri?
   7 Io e mio fratello siamo nati a Torino?
   8 Non avevamo tempo di vedere tutto.

B Past simple: regular and irregular verbs

3 Choose the correct alternative.
   1 We _______ in Germany for three weeks.
      stayed  stayed  stayed
   2 I _______ to go to the theatre.
      didn’t want  want  not want
   3 Did they _______ to the match last night?
      go  to go  go
   4 Sean _______ his aunt in hospital when she was ill.
      visit visited  visited
   5 The family _______ us some food and drink.
      gave  gave  gave
   6 The gang _______ two banks in the town centre.
      robbed  rob  robbed
   7 Did you like your meal? No, I _______.
      not like  didn’t like  not like
   8 With _______ you go on holiday?
      I  who  who did
   9 My mum _______ to Canada on her own.
      travelled  traveled  travelled
   10 I _______ a poem for my sister for her birthday.
      wrote  wrote  writed
   11 Did you _______ that book I gave you?
      read  read  readed
   12 I _______ about you last night!
      dreamt  dreamt  dreamd

4 Complete the text with the correct form of the Past simple of the verbs in the box.

My friend and I _______ to the cinema last night. There _______ a French film on that we _______ to see. We _______ a little late because we _______ the first bus, so we _______ sit right at the back behind a very tall man. Anyway, we _______ the film was in French with subtitles so we _______ see them! Then the people on the left of us _______ crisps and popcorn the whole time and the people on the right _______ on everything that happened. They _______ very irritating and _______ even when we _______ them to.

The tickets _______ £5.50 and it _______ even a very good film. The next time, I’ll get a DVD!

C Subject and object questions (present and past)

5 Reorder the words to make sentences.
   1 broke my who tennis racket?
   2 my what keys with do you did?
   3 go where did dinner for you?
   4 film which want see you do to?
   5 with who come wants me to?
   6 you which admire do person famous?
   7 king had eight English which wives?
   8 party the what at happened?

6 Write a subject and object question for each of these answers. Use who, which or what.

1 Who broke a plate?/What did you break?
   I broke a plate.

2 _______
   Jennifer got the prize.

3 _______
   The number 6 bus goes to the train station.

4 _______
   I walked home with Simon.

5 _______
   Katie saw Ligabue.

6 _______
   Jane Austen wrote Pride and Prejudice.