

Grammar Putting Verbs in the Past Simple Tense

Can you put these verbs into past simple tense?

Look	
Jog	
Bring	
Refer	
Eat	
Live	
Dye	
Fancy	
Grow	
Has	

Now, write three sentences using verbs in the past simple tense.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Answers

Look	Looked
Jog	Jogged
Bring	Brought
Refer	Referred
Eat	Ate
Live	Lived
Dye	Dyed
Fancy	Fancied
Grow	Grew
Has	Had



Putting Verbs in the Past Simple Tense

What is Past Simple Tense?

Past simple, sometimes referred to as preterite, is the verb tense we use when describing something that happened in the past.

I walked

He jumped

We slept

They barked



Forming the Past Simple Tense

For many verbs, we simply add -ed to make the past simple tense:

Walk → Walked

However, in some cases, we may need to change the root word before we add -ed:

Hurry → Hurried

Wrap → Wrapped

Admit → Admitted

Panic → Panicked

We're going to look at the rules for changing the root word.



Words Ending in e

If the verb ends in e, we simply need to add an extra d to form the past simple tense.

Bake → Baked

Hope → Hoped

Whine → Whined



Words Ending in y

If the verb ends in a consonant and y, then the y becomes an i. Then we add -ed:

A letter which is not a, e, i, o or u.

Hurry → Hurried

Worry → Worried

Scurry → Scurried

But if the verb ends in a vowel and y, then we just add -ed:

a, e, i, o, u.

Stay → Stayed



Words With Double Consonants

If the verb with one syllable ends with a vowel and a consonant then we double the consonant. Then we add -ed:

← A beat when we pronounce a word.

Wrap → Wrapped

Beg → Begged

Step → Stepped



Words With Double Consonants

Sometimes, a verb with more than one syllable ends in a vowel and a consonant, and the last syllable is stressed. In consonant, then add -ed.

The part of a word we emphasise the most.

Prefer → Preferred

Admit → Admitted

Regret → Regretted

(The stressed syllable is shown in blue.)



Words Ending in c

If a verb ends in c, then we add a k before we add -ed.

Panic → Panicked

Traffic → Trafficked



Irregular Verbs

Some verbs have an irregular form – they don't follow any rules! It's easiest for us to just learn these.

Run	➔	Ran
See	➔	Saw
Teach	➔	Taught
Say	➔	Said
Be	➔	Was



Have A Go

Can you put these verbs into the past simple tense?

Look → Looked

Jog → Jogged

Bring → Brought

Refer → Referred

Eat → Ate

Live → Lived

Dye → Dyed

Fancy → Fancied

Grow → Grew

Has → Had



