

Activity Type

Grammar and Reading Exercises: word search, gap-fill, changing word forms, rewriting sentences

Focus

Past simple affirmative and negative

Regular and irregular past simple verbs

Aim

To practice past simple affirmative and negative sentences as well as a variety of regular and irregular past tense verbs.

Preparation

Make one copy of the two-page worksheet for each student.

Level

Intermediate (B1)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

This past simple worksheet helps students to practice affirmative and negative sentences as well as a variety of regular and irregular past simple verbs.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the two-page worksheet.

Before the students begin, review the meanings of the verbs in Exercise A, paying attention to the harder verbs such as *chew* and *step*.

First, students find and circle the past simple form of the verbs shown in a word search.

Exercise A - Answer key

t	o	l	d	a		w	a	n	t	e	d	r		s	f	
h		e		p	u	t		l	i	f	t	e	d	t	e	
o		t		o								m		e	l	
u				l	e	f	t	c	h	e	w	e	d	p	l	
g	s		w	o	k	e		r			e	m		p	w	
h	a			g				a	s	n	b		e	a		
t	i	e	d	i				n	a	t	e		d	l		
	d			s	e	t				w	e	r	e	w	k	
		c	a	m	e			r	e	p	l	i	e	d	a	e
l	i	k	e	d				o	p	e	n	e	d		s	d

Across: told (tell), wanted (want), put (put), lifted (lift), left (leave), chewed (chew), woke (wake), tied (tie), set (set), were (are), came (come), replied (reply), liked (like), opened (open)

Down: thought (think), said (say), let (let), apologised (apologise), ran (run), saw (see), went (go), remembered (remember), stepped (step), was (is), fell (fall), walked (walk)

Next, students complete a story in three parts with verbs from boxes in their past simple form.

Exercise B - Answer key

Part 1: fell, wanted, ran, woke, put, thought, opened, was, apologised, told

Part 2: liked, lifted, let, set, stepped, came, tied, went

Part 3: left, walked, saw, remembered, chewed, was, was, said, replied, were

(continued on the next page)

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Procedure continued

After that, students read another version of the story that contains mistakes.

Students then write past simple affirmative and negative sentences about the details that are incorrect.

Exercise C - Answer key (order may vary)

2. The mouse didn't walk up and down the lion. She ran up and down the lion.
3. The lion didn't put his huge nose on the mouse. He put his huge paw on the mouse.
4. The mouse didn't sing to the lion. The mouse apologized to the lion.
5. The lion didn't eat the mouse. He let the mouse go.
6. Two farmers didn't set a trap. Two hunters set a trap.
7. The hunters didn't go to find a car. They went to find a truck.
8. The mouse didn't run by. She walked by.
9. The lion wasn't asleep again. The lion was free again.
10. The lion and the mouse weren't hungry. They were friends.

Finally, ask the students to think of a moral for the story, e.g. 'A kindness is never wasted' or 'Even the smallest kindness brings its reward.'

As an extension, students retell the story to a partner, changing some details, and the other student tries to identify the changes.

A. Find and circle the past simple form of the following verbs in the word search.

apologise are chew come fall go is leave let lift like open want
put remember reply run say see set step tell think tie wake



t	o	l	d	a	b	w	a	n	t	e	d	r	n	s	f
h	p	e	k	p	u	t	z	l	i	f	t	e	d	t	e
o	e	t	n	o	y	a	s	w	e	h	c	m	u	e	l
u	n	h	i	l	e	f	t	c	h	e	w	e	d	p	l
g	s	t	w	o	k	e	r	r	v	r	e	m	e	p	w
h	a	r	p	g	o	r	y	a	a	s	n	b	e	e	a
t	i	e	d	i	w	h	e	n	e	a	t	e	s	d	l
f	d	o	e	s	e	t	e	l	l	w	e	r	e	w	k
u	c	a	m	e	n	u	r	e	p	l	i	e	d	a	e
l	i	k	e	d	r	o	o	p	e	n	e	d	i	s	d



B. Read the story "The Lion and the Mouse" and complete it with the verbs from the boxes in their past simple form.

Part 1

apologise	is	fall	open	put	run	tell	think	wake	want
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A long time ago, a lion asleep in the jungle. A mouse to play, so she up and down the lion. The lion up and his huge paw on the mouse. 'Breakfast!' he He his mouth to eat the mouse. The mouse very afraid, and she to the lion. She the lion that maybe she could help him someday.

Part 2

come	go	let	lift	like	set	step	tie
------	----	-----	------	------	-----	------	-----

The lion the idea that the mouse could help him in the future. He his paw and the mouse go. A few weeks later, two hunters a trap, and the lion accidentally into it. The hunters back to the trap and the lion to the tree with ropes while they to find a truck to carry the lion in.

Part 3

are chew is am leave remember reply say see walk

After the hunters, the mouse by and the lion. She her promise to help him, so she through the ropes connecting the lion to the tree. Soon the lion free again. "See, I right", the mouse. The lion, "Thank you!" After that, the lion and the mouse friends.

C. Now, read another version of the story that contains mistakes. Write past simple affirmative and negative sentences about the details that are incorrect. The first one has been done as an example.

A long time ago, a lion was asleep in the forest. A mouse wanted to play, so she walked up and down the lion. The lion woke up and put his huge nose on the mouse. 'Breakfast!' he thought. He opened his mouth to eat the mouse.

The mouse was very afraid, and she sang to the lion. She told the lion that maybe she could help him someday. The lion liked the idea that the mouse could help him in the future. He lifted his paw and ate the mouse.

A few weeks later, two farmers set a trap, and the lion accidentally stepped into it. The hunters came back and tied the lion to the tree with ropes while they went to find a car to carry the lion in.

After the hunters left, the mouse ran by and saw the lion. She remembered her promise to help him. So, she chewed through the ropes connecting the lion to the tree. Soon the lion was asleep again.

"See, I was right", said the mouse. The lion replied, "Thank you!" After that, the lion and the mouse were hungry.

1. *..The lion wasn't asleep in the forest. He was asleep in the jungle.*.....
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.