

Simple Past Tense – Practice 1

B1 / B2 Level – Student Worksheet

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____

VERB LIST – Regular & Irregular Verbs

Regular verbs:

Base form	Past simple	Example sentence
negotiate	negotiated	They negotiated a better deal with the supplier.
launch	launched	The company launched its new product last spring.
resign	resigned	She resigned from her position after ten years.
achieve	achieved	He achieved everything he set out to do.
convince	convinced	She convinced the board to approve the budget.

Irregular verbs:

Base form	Past simple	Example sentence
arise	arose	Several problems arose during the project.
forbid	forbade	The manager forbade any discussion of the issue.
forecast	forecast	Analysts forecast a significant rise in costs.
overtake	overtook	The new brand overtook its rivals within a year.
undergo	underwent	The system underwent a complete overhaul.
undertake	undertook	She undertook a major review of the department.
withdraw	withdrew	He withdrew his application at the last minute.
withstand	withstood	The company withstood enormous pressure from investors.
mislead	misled	The report misled shareholders about the true figures.
overcome	overcame	They overcame a series of significant obstacles.

Remember! Use the past simple for completed actions in the past. Negatives: didn't + base form. Questions: Did + subject + base form. Never use the past form after didn't or Did.

EXERCISE 1 – True or False?

Read each sentence. Write **True** or **False**. If false, write the correct version.

No.	Sentence	True / False
1.	"She arised early to prepare for the presentation." is correct.	_____
2.	"The company underwent a major restructuring last year." is correct.	_____
3.	"He didn't withdrew his complaint after all." is correct.	_____
4.	"Did they overcome all the obstacles?" is correct.	_____
5.	"She withstended the pressure remarkably well." is correct.	_____
6.	"They didn't negotiate a satisfactory outcome." is correct.	_____
7.	"Did the report misled investors?" is correct.	_____

8.	"He undertook a full review of the department." is correct.	_____
9.	"The brand overtook its main competitor last quarter." is correct.	_____
10.	"She didn't convince the board to approve the plan." is correct.	_____

EXERCISE 2 – Multiple Choice

Choose the correct answer.

- Several unforeseen problems _____ during the merger.
a) arised b) arose c) arising
- The company _____ a complete overhaul of its supply chain.
a) underwent b) undergone c) undergoing
- He _____ his resignation before the board meeting.
a) submitted b) submitted c) submit
- _____ they overcome all the challenges they faced?
a) Did b) Does c) Were
- She _____ withdraw her application despite the pressure.
a) didn't b) don't c) hadn't
- The new regulations _____ considerable disruption to the sector.
a) caused b) causd c) causing
- Analysts _____ a slowdown in consumer spending.
a) forecasted b) forecast c) forecasting
- _____ the report mislead investors about the figures?
a) Did b) Does c) Was
- They _____ a new licensing agreement with a European partner.
a) negotiated b) negociated c) negotiate
- She _____ the rival company within her first year in the role.
a) overtaked b) overtook c) overtaking

EXERCISE 3 – Gap Fill

Complete each sentence with the correct past simple form of the verb in brackets.

No.	Sentence
1.	Several issues _____ (arise) during the due diligence process.
2.	She _____ (not / withdraw) her offer despite the complications.
3.	_____ (they / undertake) a full review of the procedure?
4.	The company _____ (undergo) significant restructuring last year.
5.	He _____ (convince) the investors to back the new strategy.
6.	_____ (the brand / overtake) its main rival in market share?
7.	They _____ (withstand) months of intense pressure from stakeholders.
8.	She _____ (launch) the new product range at the trade fair.
9.	_____ (the report / mislead) shareholders about the financial position?

10. He _____ (not / overcome) his initial reluctance to take on the role.

EXERCISE 4 – Matching

Match each sentence beginning (1–8) with the correct ending (a–h).

Sentence beginning	Answer	Ending
1. She resigned ...	_____	a) ... a comprehensive review of the entire department.
2. He didn't withdraw ...	_____	b) ... investors about the true state of the company finances.
3. Did they overcome ...	_____	c) ... a series of significant obstacles to complete the project.
4. The company underwent ...	_____	d) ... from her position after a long and distinguished career.
5. She convinced ...	_____	e) ... a far better deal than anyone had expected.
6. They negotiated ...	_____	f) ... his application even when it became clear he had little chance.
7. The report misled ...	_____	g) ... a major overhaul of its logistics and distribution network.
8. He undertook ...	_____	h) ... the board to approve a substantial increase in the budget.

EXERCISE 5 – Word Order

Put the words in the correct order to make a sentence or question.

No.	Words	Your sentence
1.	arose / several / during / problems / the / merger	_____
2.	she / didn't / her / withdraw / application	_____
3.	did / they / the / overcome / challenges	_____
4.	the / company / underwent / restructuring / major / a	_____
5.	she / convinced / to / the / board / approve / the / plan	_____
6.	did / the / report / mislead / investors	_____
7.	he / undertook / a / full / review	_____
8.	they / a / negotiated / new / deal	_____
9.	the / brand / overtook / its / rivals	_____
10.	when / did / she / resign	_____

EXERCISE 6 – Error Correction

Each sentence has one mistake. Write the correct sentence.

No.	Incorrect sentence	Correct sentence
1.	Several problems arised during the investigation.	_____
2.	He didn't withdrew his offer until the deadline passed.	_____
3.	Did the company underwent a review last year?	_____
4.	She withstanded a great deal of pressure from the board.	_____
5.	The new product overtook the market leader within months.	_____
6.	They didn't overcame the obstacles as quickly as expected.	_____
7.	Did she misleded the committee about her qualifications?	_____
8.	He undertaked a thorough analysis of the situation.	_____

9.	She didn't convinced anyone with her argument.	_____
10.	They forecasted an improvement in market conditions.	_____

TEACHER ANSWER KEY – DO NOT DISTRIBUTE TO STUDENTS

EXERCISE 1 – Answers

No.	Sentence	Answer
1.	"She arised early to prepare for the presentation." is correct.	False – Arise is irregular. Correct: She arose early to prep
2.	"The company underwent a major restructuring last year." is correct.	True
3.	"He didn't withdrew his complaint after all." is correct.	False – After didn't, use the base form. Correct: He didn't
4.	"Did they overcome all the obstacles?" is correct.	True
5.	"She withstanded the pressure remarkably well." is correct.	False – Withstand is irregular. Correct: She withstood the
6.	"They didn't negotiate a satisfactory outcome." is correct.	True
7.	"Did the report misled investors?" is correct.	False – After Did, use the base form. Correct: Did the rep
8.	"He undertook a full review of the department." is correct.	True
9.	"The brand overtook its main competitor last quarter." is correct.	Correct. Overtake is irregular. Correct: The brand overtook
10.	"She didn't convince the board to approve the plan." is correct.	True

EXERCISE 2 – Answers

No.	Question	Answer
1.	Several unforeseen problems _____ during the merger.	b) arose
2.	The company _____ a complete overhaul of its supply chain.	a) underwent
3.	He _____ his resignation before the board meeting.	a) submitted
4.	_____ they overcome all the challenges they faced?	a) Did
5.	She _____ withdraw her application despite the pressure.	a) didn't
6.	The new regulations _____ considerable disruption to the sector.	a) caused
7.	Analysts _____ a slowdown in consumer spending.	b) forecast
8.	_____ the report mislead investors about the figures?	a) Did
9.	They _____ a new licensing agreement with a European partner.	a) negotiated
10.	She _____ the rival company within her first year in the role.	b) overtook

EXERCISE 3 – Answers

No.	Sentence	Answer
1.	Several issues _____ (arise) during the due diligence process.	arose
2.	She _____ (not / withdraw) her offer despite the complications.	didn't withdraw
3.	_____ (they / undertake) a full review of the procedure?	Did they undertake
4.	The company _____ (undergo) significant restructuring last year.	underwent
5.	He _____ (convince) the investors to back the new strategy.	convinced
6.	_____ (the brand / overtake) its main rival in market share?	Did the brand overtake
7.	They _____ (withstand) months of intense pressure from stakeholders.	withstood
8.	She _____ (launch) the new product range at the trade fair.	launched
9.	_____ (the report / mislead) shareholders about the financial position?	Did the report mislead

10.	He _____ (not / overcome) his initial reluctance to take on the role.	didn't overcome
-----	---	-----------------

EXERCISE 4 – Answers

Sentence beginning	Answer	Full sentence
1. She resigned ...	d	1. She resigned ... from her position after a long and distinguished career.
2. He didn't withdraw ...	f	2. He didn't withdraw ... his application even when it became clear he had.
3. Did they overcome ...	c	3. Did they overcome ... a series of significant obstacles to complete the project?
4. The company underwent ...	g	4. The company underwent ... a major overhaul of its logistics and distribution network.
5. She convinced ...	h	5. She convinced ... the board to approve a substantial increase in the budget.
6. They negotiated ...	e	6. They negotiated ... a far better deal than anyone had expected.
7. The report misled ...	b	7. The report misled ... investors about the true state of the company financially.
8. He undertook ...	a	8. He undertook ... a comprehensive review of the entire department.

EXERCISE 5 – Answers

No.	Words	Answer
1.	arose / several / during / problems / the / merger	Several problems arose during the merger.
2.	she / didn't / her / withdraw / application	She didn't withdraw her application.
3.	did / they / the / overcome / challenges	Did they overcome the challenges?
4.	the / company / underwent / restructuring / major / a	The company underwent a major restructuring.
5.	she / convinced / to / the / board / approve / the / plan	She convinced the board to approve the plan.
6.	did / the / report / mislead / investors	Did the report mislead investors?
7.	he / undertook / a / full / review	He undertook a full review.
8.	they / a / negotiated / new / deal	They negotiated a new deal.
9.	the / brand / overtook / its / rivals	The brand overtook its rivals.
10.	when / did / she / resign	When did she resign?

EXERCISE 6 – Answers

No.	Incorrect sentence	Correct sentence
1.	Several problems arised during the investigation.	Several problems arose during the investigation.
2.	He didn't withdrew his offer until the deadline passed.	He didn't withdraw his offer until the deadline passed.
3.	Did the company underwent a review last year?	Did the company undergo a review last year?
4.	She withstanded a great deal of pressure from the board.	She withstood a great deal of pressure from the board.
5.	The new product overtook the market leader within months.	The new product overtook the market leader within months.
6.	They didn't overcame the obstacles as quickly as expected.	They didn't overcome the obstacles as quickly as expected.
7.	Did she misleded the committee about her qualifications?	Did she mislead the committee about her qualifications?
8.	He undertaked a thorough analysis of the situation.	He undertook a thorough analysis of the situation.
9.	She didn't convinced anyone with her argument.	She didn't convince anyone with her argument.
10.	They forecasted an improvement in market conditions.	They forecast an improvement in market conditions.