

Simple Past Tense – Practice 2

B1 / B2 Level – Student Worksheet

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____

VERB LIST – Regular & Irregular Verbs

Regular verbs:

Base form	Past simple	Example sentence
implement	implemented	The team implemented the new policy immediately.
allocate	allocated	Management allocated extra resources to the project.
acquire	acquired	The firm acquired a smaller competitor last year.
assess	assessed	She assessed the risks before making a decision.
prioritise	prioritised	He prioritised the most urgent tasks first.

Irregular verbs:

Base form	Past simple	Example sentence
bind	bound	The contract bound both parties to strict terms.
cost	cost	The delay cost the company millions in lost revenue.
deal	dealt	She dealt with every complaint promptly and professionally.
dig	dug	The investigation dug up some uncomfortable truths.
forbid	forbade	The terms forbade any disclosure of confidential information.
offset	offset	The gains offset the losses from the previous quarter.
outbid	outbid	A rival firm outbid them at the auction.
plead	pled	He pled his case convincingly to the review panel.
shrink	shrank	The market shrank considerably during the recession.
swing	swung	Opinion swung sharply in their favour after the announcement.

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.	"The contract binded both parties to the agreed terms." is correct.	_____
2.	"The market shrank significantly during that period." is correct.	_____
3.	"She didn't dealt with the complaint properly." is correct.	_____
4.	"Did the delay cost the company a great deal?" is correct.	_____
5.	"A rival company outbided them at the final stage." is correct.	_____
6.	"They didn't allocate enough resources to the project." is correct.	_____
7.	"Did opinion swang in their favour?" is correct.	_____

8.	"The investigation dug up several serious issues." is correct.	_____
9.	"She pleaded her case clearly before the committee." is correct.	_____
10.	"They didn't offset the losses with any new gains." is correct.	_____

EXERCISE 2 – Multiple Choice

Choose the correct answer.

- The agreement _____ both parties to a strict set of conditions.
a) binded b) bound c) binding
- The unexpected delays _____ the company over two million euros.
a) costed b) cost c) costs
- She _____ every difficult situation with great professionalism.
a) dealt b) dealed c) dealing
- _____ they allocate sufficient funds to the new initiative?
a) Did b) Does c) Were
- The market _____ considerably in the wake of the financial crisis.
a) shrunken b) shrank c) shrinking
- A competitor _____ them at the last moment during the tender process.
a) outbided b) outbid c) outbidding
- She _____ deal with the matter without consulting her manager.
a) didn't b) don't c) hasn't
- _____ the gains offset the losses from the previous year?
a) Did b) Does c) Was
- Opinion _____ dramatically in favour of the proposal overnight.
a) swang b) swung c) swinging
- The firm _____ a well-established brand to expand its portfolio.
a) acquired b) acquiried c) acquiring

EXERCISE 3 – Gap Fill

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

No.	Sentence
1.	The contract _____ (bind) both parties for a period of three years.
2.	She _____ (not / deal) with the issue as effectively as expected.
3.	_____ (the delay / cost) the company more than originally estimated?
4.	The investigation _____ (dig) up several previously unknown problems.
5.	They _____ (not / allocate) enough time for proper testing.
6.	_____ (opinion / swing) in their favour after the press conference?
7.	The market _____ (shrink) by nearly fifteen percent during that period.
8.	She _____ (assess) each proposal carefully before making her recommendation.
9.	_____ (a rival firm / outbid) them at the auction?

10. He _____ (not / prioritise) the right tasks at the start of the project.

EXERCISE 4 – Matching

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

Sentence beginning	Answer	Ending
1. The contract bound ...	_____	a) ... the company more than anyone had anticipated?
2. She didn't deal ...	_____	b) ... sharply in their favour following the announcement.
3. Did the delay cost ...	_____	c) ... both parties to a strict set of obligations.
4. The market shrank ...	_____	d) ... with the client complaint in the way she should have.
5. They allocated ...	_____	e) ... additional resources to the most critical areas of the project.
6. A rival firm outbid ...	_____	f) ... each application thoroughly before drawing up a shortlist.
7. Opinion swung ...	_____	g) ... considerably during the two years of economic uncertainty.
8. She assessed ...	_____	h) ... them at the very last stage of the bidding process.

EXERCISE 5 – Word Order

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

No.	Words	Your sentence
1.	the / contract / bound / both / parties	_____
2.	she / didn't / deal / with / complaint / the	_____
3.	did / the / cost / delay / company / the	_____
4.	the / market / shrank / during / recession / the	_____
5.	they / resources / allocated / extra	_____
6.	did / rival / a / outbid / firm / them	_____
7.	swung / opinion / in / favour / their	_____
8.	she / assessed / the / carefully / risks	_____
9.	the / dug / investigation / up / issues	_____
10.	when / did / shrink / the / market	_____

EXERCISE 6 – Error Correction

Each sentence has one mistake. Write the correct sentence.

No.	Incorrect sentence	Correct sentence
1.	The agreement binded them to pay all associated costs.	_____
2.	She didn't dealt with the issue in a timely manner.	_____
3.	Did the project costed more than the original estimate?	_____
4.	The market shrunken faster than anyone had predicted.	_____
5.	A rival company outbided them by a considerable margin.	_____
6.	They didn't offset the losses with sufficient gains.	_____
7.	Did opinion swang in their favour after the announcement?	_____
8.	The investigation digged up some highly sensitive information.	_____

9.	She didn't allocated enough time for the review process.	_____
10.	He pled guilty to the lesser charge at the hearing.	_____

TEACHER ANSWER KEY – DO NOT DISTRIBUTE TO STUDENTS

EXERCISE 1 – Answers

No.	Sentence	Answer
1.	"The contract binded both parties to the agreed terms." is correct.	False – Bind is irregular. Correct: The contract bound both parties.
2.	"The market shrank significantly during that period." is correct.	True
3.	"She didn't dealt with the complaint properly." is correct.	False – After didn't, use the base form. Correct: She didn't deal with the complaint properly.
4.	"Did the delay cost the company a great deal?" is correct.	True
5.	"A rival company outbided them at the final stage." is correct.	False – Outbid is irregular. The past form is also outbid. Correct: A rival company outbid them at the final stage.
6.	"They didn't allocate enough resources to the project." is correct.	True
7.	"Did opinion swang in their favour?" is correct.	False – After Did, use the base form, and swing is irregular. Correct: Did opinion swing in their favour?
8.	"The investigation dug up several serious issues." is correct.	True
9.	"She pleaded her case clearly before the committee." is correct.	True
10.	"They didn't offset the losses with any new gains." is correct.	True

EXERCISE 2 – Answers

No.	Question	Answer
1.	The agreement _____ both parties to a strict set of conditions.	b) bound
2.	The unexpected delays _____ the company over two million euros.	b) cost
3.	She _____ every difficult situation with great professionalism.	a) dealt
4.	_____ they allocate sufficient funds to the new initiative?	a) Did
5.	The market _____ considerably in the wake of the financial crisis.	b) shrank
6.	A competitor _____ them at the last moment during the tender process.	b) outbid
7.	She _____ deal with the matter without consulting her manager.	a) didn't
8.	_____ the gains offset the losses from the previous year?	a) Did
9.	Opinion _____ dramatically in favour of the proposal overnight.	b) swung
10.	The firm _____ a well-established brand to expand its portfolio.	a) acquired

EXERCISE 3 – Answers

No.	Sentence	Answer
1.	The contract _____ (bind) both parties for a period of three years.	bound
2.	She _____ (not / deal) with the issue as effectively as expected.	didn't deal
3.	_____ (the delay / cost) the company more than originally estimated?	Did the delay cost
4.	The investigation _____ (dig) up several previously unknown problems.	dug up
5.	They _____ (not / allocate) enough time for proper testing.	didn't allocate
6.	_____ (opinion / swing) in their favour after the press conference?	Did opinion swing
7.	The market _____ (shrink) by nearly fifteen percent during that period.	shrank
8.	She _____ (assess) each proposal carefully before making her recommendation.	assessed
9.	_____ (a rival firm / outbid) them at the auction?	Did a rival firm outbid

10.	He _____ (not / prioritise) the right tasks at the start of the project.	didn't prioritise
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EXERCISE 4 – Answers

Sentence beginning	Answer	Full sentence
1. The contract bound ...	c	1. The contract bound both parties to a strict set of obligations.
2. She didn't deal ...	d	2. She didn't deal with the client complaint in the way she should have.
3. Did the delay cost ...	a	3. Did the delay cost the company more than anyone had anticipated?
4. The market shrank ...	g	4. The market shrank considerably during the two years of economic u
5. They allocated ...	e	5. They allocated additional resources to the most critical areas of the p
6. A rival firm outbid ...	h	6. A rival firm outbid them at the very last stage of the bidding process.
7. Opinion swung ...	b	7. Opinion swung sharply in their favour following the announcement.
8. She assessed ...	f	8. She assessed each application thoroughly before drawing up a sho

EXERCISE 5 – Answers

No.	Words	Answer
1.	the / contract / bound / both / parties	The contract bound both parties.
2.	she / didn't / deal / with / complaint / the	She didn't deal with the complaint.
3.	did / the / cost / delay / company / the	Did the delay cost the company?
4.	the / market / shrank / during / recession / the	The market shrank during the recession.
5.	they / resources / allocated / extra	They allocated extra resources.
6.	did / rival / a / outbid / firm / them	Did a rival firm outbid them?
7.	swung / opinion / in / favour / their	Opinion swung in their favour.
8.	she / assessed / the / carefully / risks	She assessed the risks carefully.
9.	the / dug / investigation / up / issues	The investigation dug up issues.
10.	when / did / shrink / the / market	When did the market shrink?

EXERCISE 6 – Answers

No.	Incorrect sentence	Correct sentence
1.	The agreement binded them to pay all associated costs.	The agreement bound them to pay all associated costs.
2.	She didn't dealt with the issue in a timely manner.	She didn't deal with the issue in a timely manner.
3.	Did the project costed more than the original estimate?	Did the project cost more than the original estimate?
4.	The market shrunken faster than anyone had predicted.	The market shrank faster than anyone had predicted.
5.	A rival company outbided them by a considerable margin.	A rival company outbid them by a considerable margin.
6.	They didn't offset the losses with sufficient gains.	They didn't offset the losses with sufficient gains.
7.	Did opinion swang in their favour after the announcement?	Did opinion swing in their favour after the announcement?
8.	The investigation digged up some highly sensitive information.	The investigation dug up some highly sensitive information.
9.	She didn't allocated enough time for the review process.	She didn't allocate enough time for the review process.
10.	He pled guilty to the lesser charge at the hearing.	He pled guilty to the lesser charge at the hearing.