Past Tenses

CEFR A1 · Talking about the past: was, were and -ed
WS1 Was / Were · WS2 Regular Past: -ed · WS3 Negatives & Questions · WS4 Writing · Answer Key

Worksheet 1: Was / Were

Name: _____ Date: _____ Level: A1 (CEFR)

Reference: The Past of 'be'

The verb **be** has two past forms: **was** and **were**. Use **was** with I, he, she, it. Use **were** with you, we, they. The negatives are **wasn't** and **weren't**.

Subject	Form	Example
I / he / she / it	was	I **was** at home.
you / we / they	were	They **were** happy.
negative	wasn't / weren't	She **wasn't** late.
question	Was / Were + subject	**Were** you tired?

> **Use was for I/he/she/it and were for you/we/they. ✗ We was there. → ✓ We were there.**

Part A – Choose was or were

1. I _____ at school yesterday.
2. They _____ very kind.
3. She _____ tired last night.
4. We _____ at the park.
5. It _____ cold in the morning.
6. You _____ late for the bus.

Part B – Make it Negative

1. He was happy. → He _____ happy.
2. They were at home. → They _____ at home.
3. I was ready. → I _____ ready.
4. We were tired. → We _____ tired.

Score: _____ / 20

Worksheet 2: Regular Past — -ed

Name: _____ Date: _____ Level: A1 (CEFR)

Reference: Add -ed for the Past

Most verbs make the past simple by adding **-ed**. Watch the spelling: *like → liked* (just add -d); *study → studied* (y → ied); *stop → stopped* (double the consonant). We use the past simple for finished actions: *yesterday, last week, in 2020, ago*.

Verb	Past simple	Rule
play	played	add -ed
like	liked	ends in -e: add -d
study	studied	consonant + y → ied
stop	stopped	short vowel: double consonant

Part A – Write the Past Simple

1. watch → _____
2. live → _____
3. carry → _____
4. plan → _____
5. work → _____
6. cook → _____

Part B – Complete the Sentence

1. Yesterday I _____ (watch) TV.
2. She _____ (clean) the house last week.
3. We _____ (play) football on Sunday.
4. They _____ (live) in Paris in 2019.
5. He _____ (study) all evening.

Part C – Correct the Spelling

#	Wrong past form	Correction
1	stoped	
2	studyed	
3	likeed	
4	playd	

Score: _____ / 25

Worksheet 3: Negatives & Questions

Name: _____ *Date:* _____ *Level: A1 (CEFR)*

Reference: Use did / didn't

For negatives and questions in the past simple, we use **did** and **didn't** (did not) + the **base form** of the verb. The main verb goes back to its base form — no -ed.

	Structure	Example
Positive	verb + -ed	I **played** tennis.
Negative	didn't + base	I **didn't play** tennis.
Question	Did + subject + base	**Did** you **play** tennis?
Short answer	Yes/No + did/didn't	Yes, I did. / No, I didn't.

> **After did / didn't, use the base form. ✗ Did you played? → ✓ Did you play?**

Part A – Make it Negative

1. I watched the film. → _____
2. She cooked dinner. → _____
3. They worked yesterday. → _____

Part B – Make a Question

1. You played tennis. → _____
2. She studied English. → _____
3. They lived in Rome. → _____

Part C – Short Answers & Correcting

1. Did you watch TV? (Yes) _____
2. Did she call you? (No) _____
3. Fix: "Did they played?" → _____
4. Fix: "I didn't watched it." → _____

Score: _____ / 30

Worksheet 4: Writing

Name: _____ Date: _____ Level: A1 (CEFR)

Part A – Fix the Mistakes

#	Wrong sentence	Correction
1	We was at the beach.	
2	She studyed for the test.	
3	Did you watched the game?	
4	They didn't played football.	
5	I were happy yesterday.	

Part B – Complete the Text

Fill each gap with the past simple.

Last Saturday _____ (be) a great day. In the morning I _____ (help) my mum. Then we _____ (walk) to the park. My friends _____ (play) football, but I _____ (not / play) — I _____ (watch). In the evening we _____ (cook) dinner together.

Part C – Writing

Write 5–6 sentences about your last weekend. Use the past simple. Include **was/were** and at least one negative sentence.

#	Your sentence
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

Score: _____ / 35

Answer Key & Teacher Notes

For teacher use only — A1 Level, Past Tenses

Worksheet 1 – Part A

1 was · 2 were · 3 was · 4 were · 5 was · 6 were

Worksheet 1 – Part B

1 wasn't · 2 weren't · 3 wasn't · 4 weren't

Worksheet 2 – Part A

1 watched · 2 lived · 3 carried · 4 planned · 5 worked · 6 cooked

Worksheet 2 – Part B

1 watched · 2 cleaned · 3 played · 4 lived · 5 studied

Worksheet 2 – Part C

1 stopped · 2 studied · 3 liked · 4 played

Drill the three spelling rules: -e → -d; consonant + y → ied; short vowel + consonant → double the consonant.

Worksheet 3 – Part A

1 I didn't watch the film. · 2 She didn't cook dinner. · 3 They didn't work yesterday.

Worksheet 3 – Part B

1 Did you play tennis? · 2 Did she study English? · 3 Did they live in Rome?

Worksheet 3 – Part C

1 Yes, I did. · 2 No, she didn't. · 3 Did they play? · 4 I didn't watch it.

Core A1 point: after did/didn't the verb loses its -ed and returns to the base form.

Worksheet 4 – Part A

1 We were at the beach. · 2 She studied for the test. · 3 Did you watch the game? · 4 They didn't play football. · 5 I was happy yesterday.

Worksheet 4 – Part B

was · helped · walked · played · didn't play · watched · cooked

Worksheet 4 – Part C: Marking Guide

Criterion	Descriptor	Marks
was/were	Correct forms and negatives	0–3
Regular past	-ed forms and spelling correct	0–4
Negatives & questions	did/didn't + base form	0–4
Task & length	5–6 sentences; clear and connected	0–4