

UNIT 24

Simple Past Statements: Regular Verbs SUCCESS STORIES

OUTCOMES

- Use regular verbs in simple past statements to talk about the past
- Identify true and false sentences about a reading and a conversation
- Talk about events from your past
- Give a short presentation about the life of a successful businessperson
- Write a paragraph about a successful businessperson

STEP 1 GRAMMAR IN CONTEXT

BEFORE YOU READ

A VOCABULARY Study these words. Complete the paragraph with the words from the box.



move



graduate



hire

graduated hired moved

Ten years ago my wife and I _____ 1. _____ from college. We _____ 2. _____ to Chicago, Illinois. Then we started a shoe business. After a year, we started to get a lot of customers, and we needed help. So we _____ 3. _____ more workers. Today, thirty people work for us.

B Work with a partner. Compare your answers in A.



Read about the businessman Brian Scudamore.

BRIAN SCUDAMORE: The Business of Junk¹

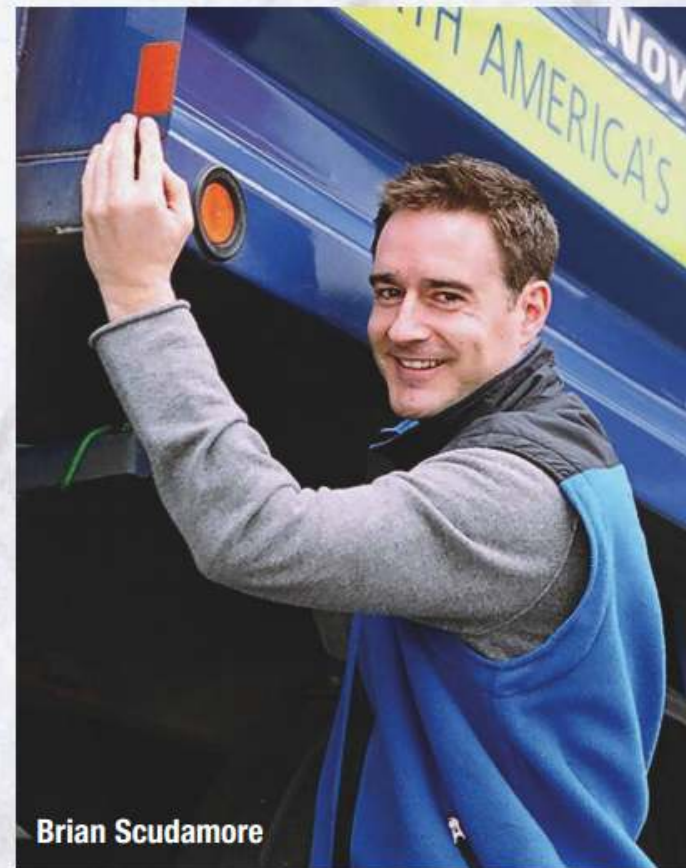
BRIAN SCUDAMORE was born in San Francisco in 1970. In 1978, his family **moved** to Vancouver. Brian wasn't a good student. He **didn't finish** high school, so colleges **didn't want** him. But Brian **wanted** to go to college. He **talked** to professors at a business college. They **liked** him, and they **offered** him a place. Brian **enrolled** at the college.

College was expensive, and Brian **needed** money. One day he was at a restaurant. An old truck was in the street outside. Brian **looked** at all the junk in the truck. He **realized**² something important. People **didn't want** to move their own junk. They **wanted** someone else to take it away. So, Brian **started** his own junk removal³ business. He **moved** junk from people's homes. He **worked** hard, and his business **expanded**.⁴

Brian wanted an unusual name for his business. He **liked** the name 1-800-GOT-JUNK?, but the Department of Transportation of Idaho **owned** that name. That **didn't stop** Brian. He **talked** to the Department, and they **agreed** to give him the name.

Brian was busy with his business, so he never **graduated** from college. But that wasn't a problem for him. Today he is a very successful businessman.

What is Brian like? Does he love junk and keep it in his house? He says, "No. I'm very neat, and I don't keep many things."



Brian Scudamore

¹ *junk*: old things people don't want

² *realized*: understood

³ *removal*: taking away

⁴ *expanded*: grew; got bigger

AFTER YOU READ

A COMPREHENSION Look at the article again. For each statement, check (✓) *True* or *False*.

- | | True | False |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Brian Scudamore lived in San Francisco for eight years. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Brian Scudamore didn't attend college. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Brian Scudamore didn't finish college. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Brian Scudamore's business moved junk from homes. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Brian Scudamore didn't like the name 1-800-GOT-JUNK?. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Brian Scudamore has a lot of junk in his house. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

B Work with a partner. Compare your answers in A.

Go to [MyEnglishLab](#) for more grammar in context practice.

STEP 2 GRAMMAR PRESENTATION

SIMPLE PAST: REGULAR VERBS (STATEMENTS)

Affirmative			Negative		
Subject	Past Form of Verb		Subject	Did not	Base Form of Verb
I You He She We You They	started	a job last week.	I You He She We You They	did not (didn't)	start
It		on time.	It		

PAST TIME EXPRESSIONS

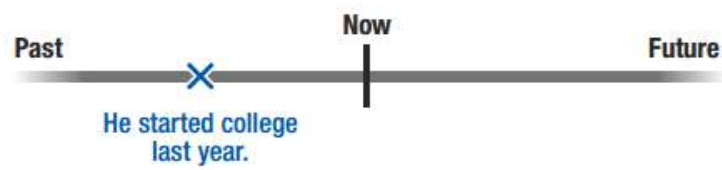
Past Time Expressions		
Yesterday	Ago	Last
yesterday yesterday morning yesterday evening	two days ago a week ago a month ago a year ago	last night last week last Monday last year



GRAMMAR NOTES

1 Simple Past: Uses

Use the **simple past** to talk about an event that **happened in the past**.



I **graduated** high school two years ago.
He **started** college last year.

2 Simple Past: Affirmative Statements

In **simple past affirmative** statements, **regular verbs** end in **-ed**. The ending is the **same** for **all subjects**.

If the base form of the verb ends in **-e**, add only **-d**.

Some verbs end in a **consonant + -y**. Change the **-y** to **-i** and add **-ed**.

I **started** a business.
She **started** a business.
They **started** a business.

She **graduated** from college last year.

I **studied** all night.

3 Simple Past: Negative Statements

Use **did not** + the **base form** of the verb to make a negative statement in the simple past.

USAGE NOTE We often use **didn't** for speaking and informal writing.

BE CAREFUL! Do not add **-ed** to verbs that follow **didn't**.

She **did not work** yesterday.

She **didn't work** yesterday.

She **didn't start** a business.
NOT She didn't ~~started~~ a business.

4 Past Time Expressions

Past time expressions come at the **beginning** or the **end** of a sentence.

Last night, I studied Spanish.
I studied Spanish test **last night**.
My friend worked **yesterday**.
Yesterday, my friend worked.
I visited my grandparents **two weeks ago**.
Two weeks ago, I visited my grandparents.



PRONUNCIATION NOTE

Simple Past Verb Endings

The regular **simple past verb ending** has **three sounds**: /t/, /d/, and /ɪd/. The sound of the past ending depends on the last sound in the base form of the verb.

- **/t/ sound:** The simple past of *like* is pronounced /laɪkt/.
- **/d/ sound:** The simple past of *study* is pronounced /stʌdɪd/.
- **/ɪd/ sound:** The simple past of *start* is pronounced /stɑːtɪd/.

I **liked** that school.

We **studied** business in college.

I **started** college last year.

REFERENCE NOTES

For **definitions of grammar terms**, see the Glossary on page 375.

For more information on the **past of be**, see Unit 7 on page 76.

For information on **irregular simple past verbs** and **simple past yes/no questions**, see Unit 25 on page 286.

For more information on the **simple past spelling and pronunciation rules**, see Appendices 17 and 18 on page 372.

Go to [MyEnglishLab](#) to watch the grammar presentation.

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STEP 3

FOCUSED PRACTICE

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EXERCISE 1 DISCOVER THE GRAMMAR

A GRAMMAR NOTES 1–4 Read about Kathy's cousin Ted Geller. Underline the simple past verbs. Circle the negative past tense verbs.

Ten years ago, Ted Geller graduated from college. He finished college in three years. A year after his graduation, Ted and four friends started an online business. They hired a lot of people. For three years, everyone worked very hard. They didn't travel. They didn't relax. Their business expanded. In their fifth year, a company offered them a lot of money for their business. The five partners agreed to sell it. Ted used half of his money to help poor children and the other half to start a new business.

B Write the base forms of the underlined words in A.

graduate _____

EXERCISE 2 SIMPLE PAST: AFFIRMATIVE STATEMENTS

GRAMMAR NOTES 1-2 Complete the sentences. Use the past forms of the verbs from the box.

graduate help learn ~~love~~ move open work

As a child, Jane loved ^{1.} flowers. She always ^{2.} her mother in their garden. Six years ago, Jane ^{3.} from art school. She ^{4.} in a flower shop after graduation. She ^{5.} a lot about flowers and about business. Three years ago, she ^{6.} to a new city and ^{7.} her own flower shop. Her flower shop is doing very well, and Jane wants to open another one.

EXERCISE 3 AFFIRMATIVE AND NEGATIVE STATEMENTS

GRAMMAR NOTES 1-3 Look at the pictures. Complete the sentences with the past forms of the verbs from the box. Use the affirmative or negative. Use all the verbs twice.



clean enjoy play rain stay watch

On Saturday, it rained ^{1.} all day long. Judy ^{2.} at home. She ^{3.} her apartment. Then she ^{4.} TV. She ^{5.} tennis. Judy wasn't happy. She ^{6.} the day. On Sunday, it ^{7.}. It was a beautiful day. Judy ^{8.} at home. She ^{9.} TV. She ^{10.} her apartment. She ^{11.} tennis in the park. Judy was happy. She ^{12.} the day.