RULE SHEET

Simple past: irregular verbs



Many verbs have an **irregular** simple past. They do not end in -ed. Learn them by heart: go → **went**, see → **saw**. The form is the same for all people: I / she / they **went**. Only **be** has two forms: **was** and **were**.

be

	be
I / he / she / it	**was**
you / we / they	**were**

36 irregular verbs

Verb	Past	Verb	Past	Verb	Past	Verb	Past
begin	**began**	find	**found**	leave	**left**	sing	**sang**
break	**broke**	fly	**flew**	lose	**lost**	sit	**sat**
bring	**brought**	forget	**forgot**	make	**made**	sleep	**slept**
buy	**bought**	get	**got**	meet	**met**	swim	**swam**
catch	**caught**	give	**gave**	read	**read**	take	**took**
come	**came**	go	**went**	ride	**rode**	tell	**told**
drink	**drank**	have	**had**	run	**ran**	think	**thought**
eat	**ate**	hear	**heard**	say	**said**	win	**won**
feel	**felt**	know	**knew**	see	**saw**	write	**wrote**

Examples

- Last summer we **went** to Italy. We **were** there for two weeks.
- Yesterday I **saw** a film, and it **was** great.

Watch out! No -ed on irregular verbs: **went** (not: goed), **ate** (not: eated). · read → **read**: same spelling, new sound (/red/). · Regular verbs still take -ed: played, stopped, tidied.

PRACTICE 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Irregular verbs: the past forms

1 Match the verbs and the past forms.

1. ☐ go
2. ☐ see
3. ☐ eat
4. ☐ write
5. ☐ buy

a. wrote
b. went
c. sat
d. ate
e. bought
f. saw

2 Complete the table.

Verb	Simple past
come	
take	
give	
swim	
sleep	
think	
fly	
lose	