



Lecture 1

Describing Experiences and Events

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Sub-Topics

1. Talking about past events using the simple past tense & past continuous tense
2. Writing short paragraphs about personal experiences
3. Vocabulary for common hobbies and activities
4. Expressing opinions on basic topics (e.g., "My favorite subject is...")
5. Comparing two items, places, or activities (e.g., "I prefer X because...")

Language Features

1. Simple Past Tense
2. Question Forms in the Past
3. Negative Sentences in the Past
4. Past Continuous Tense
5. Sequencing Words
6. Connecting Words for Reasons
7. Descriptive Adjectives and Adverbs

Learning Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to

1. Narrate past events using proper grammar sequence events, and enrich their descriptions with adjectives and adverbs
2. Use the simple past tense to describe past events.
3. Use the past continuous tense to describe ongoing past actions.
4. Organize a short story using sequencing words and connecting words for reasons.
5. Expand their vocabulary with hobbies, activities, and descriptive adjectives/adverbs.
6. Confidently talk about past experiences using the simple past, past continuous, past modals, sequencing words, and adjectives/adverbs in conversations and short writings.

Listen and answer!

Last weekend, I _____ (go, went, goes) to the mountains with my friends. We _____ (hike, hiked, hiking) for three hours before we finally _____ (reach, reached, reaching) the top. The view _____ (is, was, were) amazing! After that, we _____ (have, had, having) lunch and _____ (take, took, taking) lots of photos. It _____ (is, was, were) a great experience!



(The text was converted to speech using <https://app.resemble.ai/hub>)

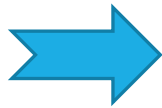
Did you answer it correctly?

Last weekend, I went to the mountains with my friends. We hiked for three hours before we finally reached the top. The view was amazing! After that, we had lunch and took lots of photos. It was a great experience!

1. What **did** the writer do **last weekend**?
2. Where **did** they go?

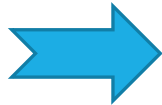
Talking about past events using the simple past tense

What did you do yesterday?



Did you go somewhere?

What did you eat this morning?



Were you at home last night?

How was the concert?



I studied for my exam.

I finished my homework.

I attended my classes.

I worked on a project.

I had a meeting with my group.

I went to the gym.

I took a long walk in the park.

It was amazing

I was not at home

That was not what I expected

Let's get to know!

Affirmative Statements		
Subject	Past Verb	
I	Met	Last Saturday
You	Found	
She/He/It	Walked	
We	Worked	
You	Cried	
They	Left	

(Source: Pavlik, C., & Bland, S. K. (2004). *Grammar Sense: Student Book 1*. Oxford University Press. Pg. 186)

Let's get to know!

Negative Statements

Subject	Did + not	Base form of Verb	
I	Did + not	Meet	Last Saturday
You		Find	
She/He/It	Didn't	Walk	
We		Work	
You	Didn't	Cry	
They		Do	

Note:

1. "Didn't" is to form negative sentence.
2. Use base form of verb

(Source: Pavlik, C., & Bland, S. K. (2004). *Grammar Sense: Student Book 1*. Oxford University Press. Pg. 186)

Past simple

“I did not go there”

Base form	Regular Past Tense
agree	agreed
amaze	amazed
amuse	amused
decide	decided
deliver	delivered

Regular Verb

Base form	Irregular Past Tense
break	broke
bring	brought
buy	bought
build	built
choose	chose

Irregular Verb

Let's get to know!

Yes/no questions				Short answer		
Did	Subject	Base form of Verb		Yes/No	Subject	Did/ Didn't
Did	I	Meet	Last Saturday	Yes	I	Did
	You	Find			You	Did
	She/He/It	Walk			She/He/It	Did
	We	Work		No	We	Didn't
	You	Cry			You	Didn't
	They	Do			They	Didn't

Note:

1. "Did" is to form questions
2. Use base form of verb

Let's get to know!

Information questions

WHQ	Did	Subject	Base form of Verb		Answers
Who	Did	I	Meet	Here?	Your manager
What		You	Find	Yesterday?	I found a key
Where		She/He/It	Walk	Last night?	Around campus
When		We	Work	On this project?	We did that last night
Why		You	Cry	This morning?	I got a bad score
How		They	Do	The project?	Their friends helped them
WHQ			Past Verb		
Who			helped	John?	His mom
What			happened	Here?	An accident

Note:

1. "Did" is to form questions in the past
2. Use base form of verb for negative and question form, except when **who** and **what** as the subject.

Past simple

“I went there last year and I was happy”



He went to Pangalengan last year
He did not go to Pangalengan last year
Did he go to Pangalengan last year?

Used for actions started and finished in the past

Past time expression:
Last week, yesterday, two days ago

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(Source: Pavlik, C., & Bland, S. K. (2004). *Grammar Sense: Student Book 1*. Oxford University Press. Pg. 197)

What about this?

Affirmative Statements		
Subject	Was/Were	
I	Was	happy
You	Were	
She/He/It	Was	
We	Were	
You	Were	
They	Were	

Negative Statements		
Subject	Was/were + not	
I	Was not	happy
You	Were not	
She/He/It	Was not	
We	Were not	
You	Were not	
They	Were not	

Yes/no questions			Short answer		
Was/were	Subject		Yes/No	Subject	Was/were + not
Was Were Was Were Were Were	I	Happy?	Yes	I	Was
	You			You	Was
	She/He/It			She/He/It	Was
	We		No	We	Were not
	You			You	Were not
	They			They	Were not

(Source: Pavlik, C., & Bland, S. K. (2004). *Grammar Sense: Student Book 1*. Oxford University Press. Pg. 172)

Information questions					
WHQ	Was/ were	Subject			Answers
How	Was	The exam?			It was easy
What	Was	The noise?			Something felt down
Where	Was	She/He/It?			She was at Canteen
When	Were	We	In Jakarta?		Last year
Why	Were	You	Here?		I had an appointment
Who	Were	They	With?		Their brothers
WHQ					
Who	was		In Jakarta?		My brother and I were
What			In the room?		A cat

Notes:
1. "be" for past tense: **was & were**

How did it look like?

How did he do that?

Descriptive Adjectives (10 Words)

1. **Exciting** – *The movie was really exciting!*
2. **Tiring** – *The last travelling was very tiring.*
3. **Memorable** – *It was a memorable journey.*
4. **Delicious** – *The food was absolutely delicious.*
5. **Peaceful** – *The Park had a peaceful atmosphere.*
6. **Beautiful** – *The sunset was so beautiful.*
7. **Boring** – *The lecture was very boring and long.*
8. **Amazing** – *Her performance was amazing!*
9. **Crowded** – *The mall was too crowded on Saturday.*
10. **Disappointing** – *The movie was pretty disappointing.*

Descriptive Adverbs (10 Words)

1. **Quickly** – *He quickly cleaned his room.*
2. **Happily** – *She happily did her job.*
3. **Carefully** – *He carefully selected the answer.*
4. **Slowly** – *The baby walked slowly.*
5. **Excitedly** – *They excitedly went to the beach.*
6. **Loudly** – *She spoke loudly to show her anger.*
7. **Gently** – *He gently washed the dishes.*
8. **Sadly** – *She sadly left her old house.*
9. **Bravely** – *The policeman bravely caught the killers.*
10. **Angrily** – *He angrily knocked the door.*

Can you find the errors?

Last weekend, my friends and I go to the park. The weather is so perfect—sunny and warm. We playing mini football, hide and seek, and many more. The air are incredibly clean and fresh. After a few hours, we feel tired, so we sat under a big tree and eat some delicious snacks. It was a wonderful day, and everyone was happy.

How many correct answers?

Last weekend, my friends and I **go** to the park. The weather **is** so perfect—sunny and warm. We **playing** mini football, hide and seek, and many more. The air **are** incredibly clean and fresh. After a few hours, we **feel** tired, so we sat under a big tree and **eat** some delicious snacks. It was a wonderful day, and everyone was happy.

Last weekend, my friends and I went to the park. The weather was so perfect—sunny and warm. We played mini football, hide and seek, and many more. The air was incredibly clean and fresh. After a few hours, we felt tired, so we sat under a big tree and ate some delicious snacks. It was a wonderful day, and everyone was happy.

Two Truths and a Lie - Detective Edition

Objective: Practice forming and asking yes/no and WH-questions in the past tense to identify the lie.

Instructions:

1. Students need to prepare three sentences about their past: two truths and one lie.

Example:

I visited Singapore last summer

I ate Burger this morning

My best friend called me last night.

2. Each student will share their sentences with class (not reveal which one is the lie).
3. The other students take turns asking past tense questions to collect clues about each statement. They should try to confirm details about the sentences. Example questions for "I visited Singapore last summer":
 1. "Who did you go with?"
 2. "What places did you visit in Bali?"
 3. "How long did you stay?"
 4. "When did you leave?"
4. Based on the answers, the class guesses which statement is the lie.
5. The student reveals the truth, and the teacher can give feedback on grammar or vocabulary used during questioning.

Pair Speaking Activity: “What Did You Do?”

Vocabulary Focus: Daily activities (Study, write, sang, wake up, have breakfast, go to school, watch TV, play game, listen to music, sleep, visit). **Students interview a partner using WH-questions in the past.**

Name	Questions	Answers
.....	What did you do last Saturday?	Bought vegetables
	Why did you do that?	For parents
	How did you do that?	Went to market, chose carefully and made some comparison
	What time did you do that?	4 p.m.
	Where did you do that?	Market

Report

Example Report (Paragraph Form):

Last Saturday, my friend Rio went to the market with her sister. They went to buy vegetables and fruits for their parents. The market was a bit far from their house, so they took a taxi. There were a lot of options at the market, and they spent some time looking before deciding what to buy. They went to the market at around 4 p.m. and stayed there for about an hour. After shopping, Rio and his sister ate ice cream at a small café. It was a fun and special day for them.

Example Report (Oral Presentation):

Hey, everyone! I had the pleasure of chatting with Rio about his last Saturday. He told me that he went to the market with his sister. They bought some fresh fruits and vegetables for their parents, which is really sweet. They went at 4 p.m. and took an online taxi to get there. They spent about an hour there, carefully choosing and deciding on the items they bought. And just before heading home, they enjoyed an ice cream at a cute little café. He said it was a really fun and memorable day!

Use this! One student acts out a hobby

Drawing

Travelling

Climbing

Singing

Playing soccer

Swimming

Running/jogging

Cycling

Were you ... ?



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What were you doing yesterday at 6 PM?

Maybe:

1. I was painting
2. I was drawing
3. Playing a musical instrument (guitar)
4. I was singing my favourite song
5. I was reading my favourite book

Why not
“I drew”

Past Continuous is used to talk about activities that were in progress at a specific time in the past.

Talking About Hobbies & Experiences (I was doing)


Usage:

“Something happened (past simple) in the middle of something else (past continuous)”

(e.g., "I was eating when the phone rang.")

was/were + -ing is the past continuous:

he/she/it	was	playing doing
we/you/they	were	working etc.



Time markers:
when, while

“Act it Out”

Each student will act out an action in progress.

Other students will guess it using past continuous.

Example: Student pretends to read a book → Partner says: "She was reading a book."

Group Writing: “Interrupted Stories”

let's write a funny story!

I was studying English when suddenly . . .

While we were watching TV, suddenly . . .

- ✓ The phone rang
- ✓ The doorbell rang
- ✓ Someone knocked on the door
- ✓ Someone called my name
- ✓ My parents asked me to do something
- ✓ The dog started barking
- ✓ The lights went out
- ✓ It started raining heavily
- ✓ The internet disconnected

Would You Rather?

Which mall was more beautiful: the last one you visited or the one before?

Would you rather buy a smaller bottle or bigger one yesterday? Why?"

I would rather buy a bigger one yesterday because I drank more water these days.

I chose a smaller one because . . .

I preferred the smaller one because . . .

The last city I visited was more beautiful.

The one before was more modern.

(Source: Murphy, R. (2019). *English Grammar in Use - Fifth Edition*. Cambridge University Press. Pg. 118)



The comparative form is -er or more

Note:

“-er” → for short words (one syllable)

“more ... “ for longer words (two syllables or more)

“-er” for two-syllable words that end in -y (-y → -ier)

“more ...” for adverbs that end in -ly

“-er” → for short words (one syllable) & for two-syllable words that end in -y (-y → -ier)

Big		Bigger		
Cheap		Cheaper		Pretty
Weak		Weaker		Lucky
Short		Shorter		Easy
Tall		Taller		Early
Fat		Fatter		Curly
Slim		Slimer		
Clear		Clearer		
				Prettier
				Luckier
				Easier
				Earlier
				Curlier

“more ... “ for longer words (two syllables or more) & “more ...” for adverbs that end in -ly

Beautiful

beautiful

Slowly

Expensive

Expensive

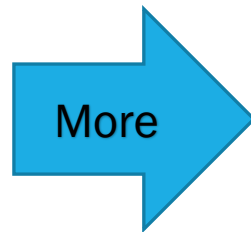
Seriously

Handsome

Handsome

Easily

Comfortable



Comfortable



Excitedly

Serious

Serious

Beautifully

Enjoyable

Enjoyable

Quickly

interesting

interesting

Dramatically

Irregular comparative forms

good/well → better

bad/badly → worse

far → further (or farther)

Superlative

Who is the strongest character in the Avengers: Endgame movie?

What is the hardest course in your study program?

What is the most beautiful city in the whole of Indonesia?

Superlative

The . . . -est or most ...

“-est” for short words

“most ...” for longer words.

Cool

Coolest

Small

Smallest

Thick

Thickest

Big

Biggest

Handsome

More
handsome

Enjoyable

More enjoyable

Exciting

More exciting



Superlative

A few superlative forms are irregular:

good → best

bad → worst

far → furthest or farthest

Which one was better?

“I was studying English while my sister was studying Math.”



“Comparing Classmates' Experiences”

Mini Interviews + Presentation

Questions	Name	Name	Name	Name
What was the most fantastic trip you did last semester?				
What was the most beautiful city you visited in 2010?				
What was the most exciting experience you had with your classmates?				

After collecting answers, please present to the class

“John’s trip to Italy was more fantastic than Lina’s trip to Bali.”

Let's find them!

A Memorable Weekend Trip

Yesterday, my family and I went on a trip to Bandung. At first, we were pretty sure that the weather was perfect. We saw the sky and everything was clear and fresh. We excitedly set up our outdoor lunch quickly, and after that, we started playing games.

Suddenly, dark clouds appeared, and it began to rain heavily. We felt bad about it. Due to this happening, we got wet. The rain was even much stronger than we expected. We didn't have enough time to collect and save our stuffs from the rain.

After a while the rain stopped and we stepped out of the tent to see a beautiful rainbow. The view was more breath-taking than anything we had ever seen before. Finally, we went splashing and playing in the puddles. It was the most exciting camping trip I had ever had!

Writing Challenge: “A Day I’ll Never Forget”

Students tell a personal story and use past tenses and sequencing words. You may add some comparisons too.

Notes:

Vocabulary focus:

- ✓ Sequencing words (e.g. suddenly, next, after that, last)
- ✓ Adjective & adverb (e.g. perfect, beautiful & very, excitedly)

References

Murphy, R. (2019). *English Grammar in Use - Fifth Edition*. Cambridge University Press.

Pavlik, C., & Bland, S. K. (2004). *Grammar Sense: Student Book 1*. Oxford University Press.

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Thank you