**PAST SIMPLE EXERCISES**

1. **Write positive sentences in simple past.**
2. He / the question / answer
3. You / a question / ask
4. The dog / bark
5. They / us / call
6. We / a mountain / climb
7. John / stamps / collect
8. We / in London / live
9. I / hungry / be
10. They / a hamster / have
11. He / to school / go
12. **Have a look at James's last week's diary and answer the questions in complete sentences. Put the time expression at the end of the sentence.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
| football | shopping | meeting | ring Jane | buy flowers | concert | sailing |
|  | cinema | tennis | English | Italian restaurant |  |  |

1. When was his English course? → 
2. When did he go shopping? → 
3. When did he buy flowers? → 
4. When was his meeting? → 
5. When did he play football? → 
6. When did he go to the Italian restaurant? → 
7. When did he ring Jane? → 
8. When did he go to the cinema? → 
9. When did he play tennis? → 
10. When was the concert? → 
11. When did he go sailing? → 
12. **Rewrite the sentences in the negative.**
13. They collected postcards. → 
14. You jumped high. → 
15. Albert played squash. → 
16. The teacher tested our English. → 
17. Fiona visited her grandma. → 
18. He washed the car. → 
19. You were thirsty. → 
20. He had a computer. → 
21. I bought bread. → 
22. You saw the house. → 
23. **Put the verbs into the correct form (simple past).**
24. Last year I (spend) my holiday in Ireland.
25. It (be) great.
26. I (travel) around by car with two friends and we (visit) lots of interesting places.
27. In the evenings we usually (go) to a pub.
28. One night we even (learn) some Irish dances.
29. We (be) very lucky with the weather.
30. It (not / rain) a lot.
31. But we (see) some beautiful rainbows.
32. Where (spend / you) your last holiday?

**Reading comprehension on the simple past**

* 1. **Say the infinitive of the highlighted verbs.**
  2. **Answer the questions on the text.**

**The Canterville Ghost (Oscar Wilde)**

There was a horrible storm that night, but apart from that nothing scary happened. The next morning, however, when the family came down to breakfast, they found the terrible stain of blood once again on the floor. Washington cleaned it a second time, but the second morning it appeared again. The third morning it was there, too, although the library had been locked up at night by Mr Otis himself.

The following night, all doubts about the existence of the ghost were finally removed forever. At eleven o'clock the family went to bed and some time after, Mr Otis was awakened by a strange noise in the corridor, outside his room. It sounded like the clank of metal, and it came nearer every moment. Mr Otis got up and looked at the time. It was exactly one o'clock. So Mr Otis put on his slippers, went to the door and opened it. There, right in front of him, stood the ghost - his eyes were as red as burning coals; long grey hair fell over his shoulders and from his wrists and ankles hung heavy chains.

“My dear Sir,” said Mr Otis, “you must oil those chains. It's impossible to sleep with such a noise going on outside the bedrooms. I have therefore brought you this bottle of lubricator, and I will be happy to supply you with more if you require it.” With these words Mr Otis laid the bottle down, closed his door and went back to bed.

Shocked, the Canterville ghost stood quite motionless for a moment, but then he growled angrily. Just at this moment, the twins appeared on the corridor and threw a large pillow at him! The ghost hastily escaped through the wall, and the house became quiet again.

When the ghost reached his small secret chamber, he he took a deep breath. No ghosts in history had ever been treated in this manner!

* **Which statement is true?**   
  The ghost appears on the first night the Otis family spends in the castle.  
  Washington runs out of stain remover.  
  The blood-stain is there again every morning.
* **What wakes Mr Otis up?**The ghost's chains.  
  His wife's snoring.  
  The screaming of a person.
* Is Mr Otis afraid of the ghost? yes no

**Find a synonym for each word in the text.**

* terrible → 
* closer → 

**Why do we use the simple past in the following sentences?**

* He put on his slippers, went to the door and opened it.   
  states in the past  
  actions that happened one after the other
* His eyes were red; grey hair fell over his shoulders and from his wrists hung heavy chains.   
  states in the past  
  actions that happened one after the other