# Simple Present vs. Simple Past

## Short description:
The students are supposed to learn about the difference between simple present and simple past. They are on a very basic level of learning English and are introduced to the first form of past tense. The foundation build on is the knowledge about the simple present and present progressive. Also, irregular verb forms should be included.

## Subjects:
- This is suited for English lessons grade 5.

## Weblinks:
- [http://www.englishforeveryone.org/Topics/Verb%20Tenses.htm](http://www.englishforeveryone.org/Topics/Verb%20Tenses.htm)

## Preparation:
1. Create a comic strip, which is shown on a projector or overhead-projector. The comic should show the difference between simple present and simple past through signal words, such as “yesterday” or “a week ago”.
2. Create a worksheet with the comic strip on top. Also, a box with certain signal words should be included. The students are supposed to fill gaps with the right form of the verb in simple past, including irregular verb forms.
3. Search for a good webpage with exercises on simple past. Give the link to the students and let them practice simple past tasks as homework. Make sure, every student has the possibility to access the internet at home or in their free time.

## In class:
- Introduction: Put up the comic strip created in preparation and let the students explain the difference between simple present and simple past. Point to signal words, such as “yesterday” which implement that something is “in the past”, leading up to the “simple past”.
- After the introduction and the clarification of last questions, hand out the worksheet to the students and give them time to tackle it alone first.
- After they are finished with the worksheet, let them find a partner to compare their results.
- At the end of a lesson, give a web link to the students, where other tasks can be found to practice simple past.
Simple Present vs. Simple Past

Tasks:

1. Put in the right form of the verb. Use either Simple Present or Simple Past

   a. I __________ (to clean) my car yesterday.
   b. It __________ (to rain) at the moment. Let’s __________ (to stay) inside today.
   c. Marry_________ (to be) at the zoo last week. She__________ (to see) a monkey there.
   d. Tom __________ (to be) at the restaurant right now. Let’s go and __________ (to meet) him.
   e. Susan________ (to come) yesterday, because she ________ (to have) a car accident.
   f. Look! I ________ (to see) Johnny over there. I __________ (to think) he ________ (to be) ill a few days ago.
   g. The weather ____________ (to look) good today, but remember last week? It ________ (to be) raining the whole time.
   h. Last year, Conny ________ (to visit) the United Kingdom. She ________ (to want) to go to France this year.

Signal Words for Simple Past

yesterday, a few days ago, last week, last year, two month ago...

Events that took place in the past