

English in everyday situations

Module 9: The festival

6 Exercises • Duration: 20 min.

The festival

English

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played, looked, helped

Form	Example	Meaning
played	Jack played yesterday.	Describe a completed past action.
helped	I helped at the stall.	Describe help given in the past.
looked	We looked for Milo.	Describe a past search.
Did	Did you help?	Ask about a past action.
help	I didn't help.	Negate an ordinary past action.
stopped	The music stopped.	Use the correct regular-past spelling.

The past simple describes a completed past event. Most regular verbs add **-ed**: **play → played, look → looked, help → helped**. The form is the same for all subjects.

Useful spelling patterns include **live → lived, stop → stopped, study → studied**. The endings sound different in speech, but the written ending stays **-ed**.

For an ordinary past question use **did** plus base verb: **Did you help?**
Negation uses **didn't** plus base verb: **I didn't help**. Keep past **was/were** in its own question pattern.

went, saw, took, didn't see

Form	Example	Meaning
went	I went home.	Describe a completed past journey.
saw	I saw Milo.	Describe seeing Milo in the past.
took	Milo took the key.	Describe taking the key in the past.
see	Did you see Milo?	Ask about a past sighting.
find	I didn't find the key.	Say the past search was unsuccessful.
heard	We heard the trumpet.	Describe hearing the instrument in the past.

Important past verbs have their own forms: **go → went, see → saw, take → took, eat → ate, hear → heard, find → found, come → came.** Learn a small group in the actual story.

After **did** or **didn't**, return to the base verb: **Did you see Milo?, I didn't see him.** Do not put two past forms in one question pattern.

Use **first, then** and **after that** to retell events in order. A specific finished time such as **yesterday** or **on Saturday** normally goes with past simple.

going to, will, won't

Form	Example	Meaning
to	I'm going to write a letter.	State an intended plan.
is	She is going to come tomorrow.	Keep the correct be form in a plan.
help	I'll help you.	Make an immediate offer of help.
won't	I won't work tomorrow.	State a negative future decision.
stay	We're going to stay here.	State a plan for our group.
Will	Will you help me?	Ask for help using will.

English has several future tense patterns. Use **be going to** plus base verb for an intention or a plan: **I'm going to write a letter.** Keep **be** in the pattern: **she's going to come, we're going to stay.**

Will plus base verb can express a decision made now or an offer: **I'll help you, I'll look for Milo.** In ordinary speech **I'll, we'll** and **they'll** are common. Negative **will not** contracts to **won't**.

These forms can overlap in everyday use. For practice, use the story context: an existing plan naturally uses **going to**; an immediate offer naturally uses **will**. Do not invent a different form for a male or female speaker.

was playing, was sleeping

Form	Example	Meaning
was	Jack was playing.	Describe Jack's activity in progress in the past.
were	People were dancing.	Describe a group's past activity in progress.
sleeping	Anne was sleeping.	Describe Anne's past activity in progress.

Form	Example	Meaning
went	The lights went out.	Name the completed event interrupting the scene.
Was	Was Anne sleeping?	Ask about Anne's past activity.
when	Jack was playing when the lights went out.	Connect an ongoing activity with the event.

The past continuous uses **was/were** plus an **-ing** form: **Jack was playing, people were dancing.** It describes an activity in progress at a past time.

Use a short completed event with past simple: **The lights went out.** A useful story pattern is **Jack was playing when the lights went out.** You can also tell the same plot in two short sentences.

For questions invert **was/were**: **Was Anne sleeping?** This pattern goes a little beyond a compact A1 syllabus, but it helps make the festival photographs clear.

have seen, has been, ever

Form	Example	Meaning
seen	I have seen the photo.	Say you have seen the photo, with a current connection.
has	She has been to London.	Describe one woman's experience.
ever	Have you ever been to London?	Ask about an experience at any time.
never	I've never been there.	Say the experience has not happened at any time.
saw	I saw him yesterday.	Choose the past simple with a finished past time.

Form	Example	Meaning
taken	Milo has taken the key.	Describe the missing-key result now.

The present perfect uses **have/has** plus a past participle: **I have seen, she has been**. Spoken contractions are **I've seen, she's been**. Use it for an experience without naming a finished past time, or a result connected to now.

Begin with useful irregular participles: **be → been, see → seen, go → gone, take → taken**. Regular participles use **-ed**, like their past simple. After a finished time such as **yesterday**, use past simple: **I saw him yesterday**.

Ever is useful in an experience question: **Have you ever been to London? Never** says not at any time: **I've never been there**. This is a short introduction, rather than a full present-perfect syllabus.

GRAMMAR

G1) NOTICE THE PATTERNS

Underline the form described in this unit.

- 1 Jack played yesterday.

Meaning: Describe a completed past action.

2 I went home.

Meaning: Describe a completed past journey.

3 I'm going to write a letter.

Meaning: State an intended plan.

4 Jack was playing.

Meaning: Describe Jack's activity in progress in the past.

5 I have seen the photo.

Meaning: Say you have seen the photo, with a current connection.

6 Lukas is my neighbour. He's from Hamburg.

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

7 Lena is my neighbour. She's from Hamburg.

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

8 Lukas is here. He lives in Millbrook.

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

9 Lena is here. She lives in Millbrook.

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

10 We looked for Milo.

Meaning: Describe a past search.

11 Milo took the key.

Meaning: Describe taking the key in the past.

12 I'll help you.

Meaning: Make an immediate offer of help.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Jack _____ yesterday.

- ☐ (A) playing
- ☐ (B) played
- ☐ (C) plays

Meaning: Describe a completed past action.

2 I _____ home.

- ☐ (A) go
- ☐ (B) goed
- ☐ (C) went

Meaning: Describe a completed past journey.

3 I'm going _____ write a letter.

- ☐ (A) to
- ☐ (B) at
- ☐ (C) for

Meaning: State an intended plan.

4 Jack _____ playing.

- ☐ A were
- ☐ B was
- ☐ C is

Meaning: Describe Jack's activity in progress in the past.

5 I have _____ the photo.

- ☐ A seen
- ☐ B see
- ☐ C saw

Meaning: Say you have seen the photo, with a current connection.

6 Lukas: Lukas _____ my neighbour. He's from Hamburg.

- ☐ A are
- ☐ B is
- ☐ C am

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

7 Lena: Lena _____ my neighbour. She's from Hamburg.

- ☐ A are
- ☐ B is
- ☐ C am

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

8 Lukas: Lukas is here. _____ lives in Millbrook.

- ☐ A They
- ☐ B We
- ☐ C He

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

9 Lena: Lena is here. _____ lives in Millbrook.

- ☐ A We
- ☐ B She
- ☐ C They

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

10 We _____ for Milo.

- ☐ A look
- ☐ B looking
- ☐ C looked

Meaning: Describe a past search.

11 Milo _____ the key.

- ☐ A took
- ☐ B take
- ☐ C taked

Meaning: Describe taking the key in the past.

12 I'll _____ you.

- ☐ A to help
- ☐ B helps
- ☐ C help

Meaning: Make an immediate offer of help.

G3) COMPLETE A SHORT MESSAGE

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

plays played

Jack _____ yesterday.

Meaning: Describe a completed past action.

goed went

I _____ home.

Meaning: Describe a completed past journey.

for to

I'm going _____ write a letter.

Meaning: State an intended plan.

were was

Jack _____ playing.

Meaning: Describe Jack's activity in progress in the past.

saw seen

I have _____ the photo.

Meaning: Say you have seen the photo, with a current connection.

are is

Lukas: Lukas _____ my neighbour. He's from Hamburg.

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

are is

Lena: Lena _____ my neighbour. She's from Hamburg.

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

They He

Lukas: Lukas is here. _____ lives in Millbrook.

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

They She

Lena: Lena is here. _____ lives in Millbrook.

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

look looked

We _____ for Milo.

Meaning: Describe a past search.

taked took

Milo _____ the key.

Meaning: Describe taking the key in the past.

helps help

I'll _____ you.

Meaning: Make an immediate offer of help.

G4) BUILD USEFUL SENTENCES

Put the words in order.

- 1 played Jack yesterday.
-

Meaning: Describe a completed past action.

- 2 I home. went
-

Meaning: Describe a completed past journey.

- 3 I'm letter. a to write going
-

Meaning: State an intended plan.

- 4 playing. Jack was
-

Meaning: Describe Jack's activity in progress in the past.

5 I the seen have photo.

Meaning: Say you have seen the photo, with a current connection.

6 He's Hamburg. is my from Lukas neighbour.

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

7 is my neighbour. from She's Lena Hamburg.

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

8 lives is He Lukas Millbrook. here. in

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

9 She here. is Millbrook. in Lena lives

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

10 looked We Milo. for

Meaning: Describe a past search.

11 took Milo the key.

Meaning: Describe taking the key in the past.

12 I'll you. help

Meaning: Make an immediate offer of help.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 Describe a completed past action. You say:

- ☐ A Jack plays yesterday.
- ☐ B Jack played yesterday.

2 Describe a completed past journey. You say:

- ☐ A I goed home.
- ☐ B I went home.

3 State an intended plan. You say:

- ☐ A I'm going for write a letter.
- ☐ B I'm going to write a letter.

4 Describe Jack's activity in progress in the past. You say:

- ☐ A Jack were playing.
- ☐ B Jack was playing.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|---|---|
| ① Lena is my neighbour. She's from Hamburg. | ① Describe Jack's activity in progress in the past. |
| ② I'm going to write a letter. | ② Refer to the learner as your neighbour. |
| ③ Jack played yesterday. | ③ Describe a completed past journey. |
| ④ We looked for Milo. | ④ Describe a completed past action. |
| ⑤ I went home. | ⑤ Describe a past search. |
| ⑥ Jack was playing. | ⑥ Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun. |
| ⑦ I have seen the photo. | ⑦ State an intended plan. |

⑧ Lena is here. She
lives in Millbrook.

⑨ Say you have seen the photo,
with a current connection.