GRADING SHEET

Student: Erika Garibello

Workshop 17 · Yesterday: was, were and the past simple

95%

71 / 75 points

Nota: 4.7 / 5.0

Breakdown

1a · was / were / wasn't / weren't	**8 / 8**
1b · Make it negative	**4 / 4**
1c · Write the question	**4 / 4**
2a · Regular verbs: the spelling	**8 / 8**
2b · Past simple in a sentence	**6 / 6**
3a · Irregular verbs	**10 / 10**
3b · Complete the story	**8 / 8**
4a · Negatives with didn't	**5 / 5**
4b · Write the question	**6 / 6**
4c · Find the mistake	**3 / 5**
5a · could / couldn't	**3 / 5**
6a · Six sentences about yesterday	**6 / 6**

For the teacher to grade (audio / video / free writing)

Not included in the score above. Write the result here.

1a.6 · My parents _____ at home when I called. — both answers are good English, so this was marked correct. See the note below.	
Part 6 · "read them out loud three times" — cannot be seen on paper	
Adjusted final mark	

Comments

Erika, **71 out of 75**. Nota 4.7. Eight of the twelve exercises are perfect, and the four marks you lost are all the same small idea, which means they are quick to fix.

Start with what is finished. The **irregular verbs, 10 out of 10**, and then the story that uses them, **8 out of 8**: had, came, went, felt, thought, said, got, knew. The **regular verbs, 8 out of 8**, including the four that catch people out — tried, travelled, studied, danced — and then **6 out of 6** using them in sentences, with *stopped* and *practised* both spelt correctly. That is the whole of the past simple, and it is done.

Part 4 is the one that matters most and you scored **11 out of 11** on the first two exercises. Every negative built with *didn't* plus the ordinary verb, and all six questions in the right order, including the hard ones: *What time did you wake up?* and *When did you study English?* You never once wrote *Did you went*. That was the goal of the whole workshop.

Now the four marks. In 4c.2 and 4c.3 you spotted the real mistake and fixed it, then dropped the *didn't*, so *I no went to work* became *I did go to work*. The sentence now means the opposite. When you correct a negative, the negative stays: fix the verb, keep the *didn't*. In 5a.1 and 5a.5 the same thing happened in reverse: read the rest of the sentence and it tells you which one you need. If you asked Nina to repeat it, you *couldn't* hear. If Nina understood everything, you *could* talk.

Your six sentences in Part 6 are the best part of the paper. Six correct past simple sentences, in order from waking up to the evening, and all about your real day: the team at the store, the store display, the film in the evening. That is exactly the answer Nina was asking for. Two tiny words are missing — *at* six o'clock and *the* store display — and neither costs you a mark.

Before the next class: say your six sentences out loud three times without looking at the paper. You can write this now. The next step is saying it.

WHAT TO CORRECT

Four marks lost out of seventy-five, and all four are the same idea twice over: a negative that turned into a positive. Read the right-hand column out loud once.

4c · Find the mistake — the mistake was the verb, not the negative

Item	Question	You wrote	Correct answer
2	I no went to work.	I did go to work.	**I didn't go to work.** The mistake to fix was *no went*. You fixed it, but you also dropped the negative, so the sentence now says the opposite.
3	She didn't bought a dress.	She did buy a dress.	**She didn't buy a dress.** Same thing: *bought* → *buy* is exactly right, but *didn't* has to stay.
1	Did you went to the party?	Did you go to party?	The verb is right, so the point is yours. Only *the* is missing: **Did you go to the party?**
4	Where you did go?	Wher did you go?	Word order perfect, point yours. Spelling only: **Where**, with the e.

5a · could / couldn't — let the rest of the sentence tell you

Item	Question	You wrote	Correct answer
1	I _____ hear the question, so I asked Nina to repeat it.	could	**couldn't.** Why would you ask her to repeat it if you could hear it? The second half of the sentence gives you the answer.
5	We _____ talk for fifteen minutes without Spanish, and Nina understood everything.	could not	**could.** Nina understood everything, so the fifteen minutes worked. This one is about you: you *could*.
3	When I was a child I _____ speak any English.	could not	Correct English and the point is yours. The exercise asks for *could* or *couldn't*, so write **couldn't**: it is what you will actually say.

Two small things in your six sentences — no marks lost

Item	Question	You wrote	Correct answer
1	I woke up six o’clock yesterday.	missing at	I woke up **at** six o’clock yesterday. Times take *at*: at six, at half past four, at midnight.
5	I changed store display in the afternoon.	missing the	I changed **the** store display in the afternoon.

A note on 1a.6, so you are not confused

Item	Question	You wrote	Correct answer
6	My parents _____ at home when I called.	were	The key says *weren’t*, but nothing in the sentence tells you which one it has to be. **Both are good English**, so the point is yours. This one is my fault, not yours.

Workshop 17: Yesterday ◀

Talking about the past: was, were, and the past simple

Name: Ella Garbello Date: 13-Sep-2026.

Nina asked all three of you the same two questions: **How was your day today?** and **What did you do today?**

Those two questions are about the past, and the past is what this workshop is for. Once you can answer them, you can tell anyone about your day, your weekend, your childhood, or your last holiday. It is the single most useful thing you can add to your English right now.

Everything here comes from your book, **Grammar Bank 7A, 7B and 7C on pages 136 and 137.** Keep the book open beside you.

Your plan for today ▸

- **Part 1** was / were: the past of *be*
- **Part 2** Regular verbs: + **ed**
- **Part 3** Irregular verbs: the ones that change
- **Part 4** Questions and negatives: **did / didn't**
- **Part 5** could: the past of *can*
- **Part 6** Putting it together: How was your day?

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① was / were

The past of *am*, *is* and *are* is **was** and **were**. Two words cover every person.

	was	were
Who	I · he · she · it	you · we · they
Positive	She was at home.	They were at home.
Negative	She wasn't at home.	They weren't at home.
Question	Was she at home?	Were they at home?
Short answer	Yes, she was. / No, she wasn't.	Yes, they were. / No, they weren't.

⚠ **Careful** Not *Was you at home?* With **you** it is always **Were you...?**

★ **Two things worth memorising now** **was born:** *I was born in Pasca.* This is *nací*. Never *borned*.

Past time words: yesterday · last night · last week · two years ago · in 2020

a. ✎ **Complete with was, were, wasn't or weren't.**

8 points

1 Nina was our guest last Thursday.
2 Erika and Adriana were both a little nervous at the beginning.
3 The conversation was fifteen minutes long.
4 I wasn't at work yesterday, because it was a holiday and everything was closed.
5 Where were you last Saturday?
6 My parents were at home when I called.
7 Didier was born in 2010.

b. ✎ **Make these sentences negative.**

4 points

1 The class was easy. → The class wasn't easy
2 We were tired. → We weren't tired.
3 I was at the shop. → I wasn't at the shop
4 They were in Bogotá. → they weren't in Bogotá.

c. ✎ **Write the question.**

4 points. Write the question that fits the answer.

1 were you at home last night? → Yes, I was at home last night.
2 was the film good? → No, the film wasn't good.
3 where were you last weekend? → I was in Fusagasugá last weekend.
4 When was she born? → She was born in 1990.

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② Regular verbs: + ed

For almost every other verb, the past simple adds **-ed**. The best part: the form is **the same for every person**. I worked, you worked, she worked, they worked. One word covers all of them.

I worked in the shop yesterday.
We **arrived** at eight o'clock.
She **studied** English last night.

Use the past simple for finished actions: something that happened **once** in the past, or **many times** in the past. Either way, it is finished.

The four spelling rules ▸

Rule	Example	Another one
Most verbs: add -ed	work → worked	play → played
Verb ends in -e: add -d	arrive → arrived	live → lived
Consonant + y: -y becomes -ied	study → studied	carry → carried 3/7
One vowel + one consonant: double the consonant	stop → stopped	plan → planned

*Tip: The doubling rule is only for **short verbs of one syllable**: stop → stopped, plan → planned. Longer verbs do not double: listen → listened, visit → visited. One British exception: verbs ending in -l always double, so travel → travelled.*

a. ✎ Write the past simple. Watch the spelling.

8 points

Infinitive	Past simple	Infinitive	Past simple
1 cook	cooked	2 like	liked
3 try	tried	4 travel	travelled
5 watch	watched	6 dance	danced
7 study	studied	8 listen	listened

b. ✎ Complete with the past simple of the verb in brackets.

6 points

1 Last Thursday we talked to Nina for fifteen minutes. (talk)
2 Erika worked in the shop all morning. (work)
3 I studied the questions before the class. (study)
4 Adriana cooked lunch for her family. (cook)
5 The conversation stopped at six o'clock. (stop)
6 We all practised our answers out loud. (practise)

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③ Irregular verbs

Some verbs do not take **-ed**. They change into a completely different word, and the only way is to learn them. The good news is that they are the verbs you use most, so they come quickly.

buy	bought	**come**	came	**feel**	felt
find	found	**get**	got	**go**	went
have	had	**know**	knew	**put on**	put on
say	said	**take**	took	**think**	thought
wear	wore				

Tip: Watch **put on**: *the past is exactly the same word. Only the sentence tells you it is the past.*

★ **Three more you needed with Nina**

These are not on page 136, but you all reached for them and did not have them. Learn them now: make → made · eat → ate · wake up → woke up

I made arepas. I ate breakfast at six. I woke up at half past four.

a. ✎ Write the past simple.

10 points

Infinitive	Past simple	Infinitive	Past simple
1 go	went	2 have	had
3 say	said	4 buy	bought
5 think	thought	6 get	got
7 wear	wore	8 come	came.
9 find	found	10 take	took

b. ✎ Complete the story with the past simple.

8 points. Use the verb in brackets. They are all irregular.

Last Thursday we had (have) a special class. Our guest Nina came (come) from Melbourne, and we all went (go) online at six o'clock. I felt (feel) nervous at the beginning, and I thought (think) it was a very long time. Nina said (say) hello and asked about our day. We got (get) to the end without Spanish, and everybody knew (know) more English than before.

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④ did / didn't

For questions and negatives you do not change the main verb at all. You use **did** or **didn't**, and the main verb goes back to its ordinary form.

Positive	I **went** to Bogotá. She **bought** a dress.
Negative	I **didn't go** to Bogotá. She **didn't buy** a dress.
Question	**Did** you **go** to Bogotá? **Did** she **buy** a dress?
Short answer	Yes, I did. No, I didn't. Yes, she did. No, she didn't.

⚠ **The most common mistake** Not *Did you went?* Say **Did you go?** After **did** or **didn't**, the verb is always the ordinary form. **Did** is already the past, so the second verb does not need to be.

Word order in questions ▸

Without a question word: Did + you + go + shopping yesterday?
With a question word: Where + did + you + go + yesterday?
Your book calls these **ASI** (Auxiliary, Subject, Infinitive) and **QuASI** (Question word, Auxiliary, Subject, Infinitive) on page 136. The order never changes, so learn it once and every past question follows it.

a. ✎ **Make these sentences negative.**

5 points

1 I watched the film. → I didn't watch the film.
2 She went to work. → She didn't go to work
3 They had breakfast. → They didn't have breakfast.
4 We bought the tickets. → We didn't buy the tickets.
5 He said goodbye. → He didn't say goodbye.

b. ✎ **Write the question.**

6 points. Use the words in brackets.

1 (what time / you / wake up) What time did you wake up?
2 (where / she / go) Where did she go?
3 (you / cook / yesterday) Did you cook yesterday?
4 (what / they / buy) What did they buy?
5 (he / like / the film) Did he like the film?
6 (when / you / study / English) When did you study English?

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c. ✎ **Find the mistake and write the sentence correctly.**

5 points. Each sentence has a mistake.

1 Did you went to the party? → Did you go to party? the party
2 I no went to work. → I did go to work. didn't
3 She didn't bought a dress. → She did buy a dress. didn't
4 Where you did go? → Wher did you go? Where
5 Was you at home last night? → were you at home last night?

⑤ could

The past of *can* is **could**. It behaves like *can*, not like an ordinary verb, so it never takes *did*.

Positive	**I could** swim when I was six.
Negative	**I couldn't** understand the question.
Question	**Could** you understand Nina?
Short answer	Yes, I could. No, I couldn't.

⚠ **Careful** Not *I didn't can understand.* Say **I couldn't understand.**

a. ✎ **Complete with could or couldn't.**

5 points

1 I could hear the question, so I asked Nina to repeat it.
2 Erika could answer every question about her job, and Nina was impressed.
3 When I was a child I could not speak any English. couldn't
4 Could you understand Nina at the beginning?
5 We could not talk for fifteen minutes without Spanish, and Nina understood everything.

Corrections - read the right-hand side out loud once

4c.2 I did go to work. -> I didn't go to work. The original is negative, so keep the negative.
4c.3 She did buy a dress. -> She didn't buy a dress. Same idea: fix bought -> buy, but keep didn't.
5a.1 I could hear... -> I couldn't hear the question, so I asked Nina to repeat it.
5a.5 We could not talk... -> We could talk for fifteen minutes. Nina understood everything, so you COULD.
5a.3 could not -> couldn't. Correct English, but the exercise asks for could or couldn't. No mark lost.

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⑥ How was your day?

This is the part that matters. Nina asked two questions and none of us had a good answer ready. Here they are again, and this time you have the grammar for them.

How was your day today?

It **was** good, thank you. It **was** a busy day. It **wasn't** an easy day.

What did you do today?

I **woke up** at half past four. I **made** breakfast for my family. Then I **went** to work and I **worked** until six.

a. ✎ **Write six sentences about yesterday.**

6 points. Use the past simple in every sentence. Start with the time you woke up and finish with the evening. Then read them out loud three times.

- I woke up six o'clock yesterday
- I prepared breakfast for my family
- I went to work in the morning
- I talked to my team at the store.
- I changed store display in the afternoon
- I watched a movie in the evening.

✓ **When you can answer those two questions without thinking, you can talk about anything that already happened. That is most of what people ask each other.**

Before the next class ▸

- ☐ I know when to use was and when to use were.
- ☐ I can spell the four regular endings: worked, arrived, studied, stopped.
- ☐ I know sixteen irregular verbs by heart.
- ☐ I never say *Did you went*. I say **Did you go**.
- ☐ I use **couldn't**, never *didn't can*.
- ☐ I wrote my six sentences and said them out loud.

Written total: 75 points. Part 1 16 · Part 2 14 · Part 3 18 · Part 4 16 · Part 5 5 · Part 6 6
Nota = (correct ÷ 75) × 5.0, to one decimal. Pass = 3.0.

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