



Past Tense

The form is : **S + V_{p3}**

The Past Tense (or Simple Past Tense) is used to express an action in a past time, we, in this second, are not present in the time cited. The time is past and thus the action is past and has no relationship to the present.

We are not interested in who does the action neither in exactly what the action is, only the time interests us. (see Time Periods)

Yesterday: here we can use the past

This week: here it is not possible to use the past

I worked yesterday

She went to London on Monday

We saw the film last week

They helped me this morning (it is now afternoon or evening)

The above examples all contain a time period and thus it is easy to establish if the past tense should be used.

John read the book

This sentence is more difficult as the time is not mentioned but we must imagine that the person who said, or wrote, this phrase was thinking of a past period and we can only try to imagine which, maybe yesterday or last week.