



50 Irregular Past Tense Verbs



1. say **said**

"Nancy **said** she would be here by 6:00."

2. make **made**

"I hope she gets here soon, I **made** reservations for 6:30 at the restaurant."

3. go **went**

"Maybe she **went** to the bank after work?"

4. take **took**

"If she **took** the local streets she will be late. The roads are always crowded around this time."

5. come **came**

"Last week she **came** here after work and the traffic was fine."

6. see **saw**

"I just **saw** her pull into the driveway."

7. know **knew**

"I **knew** Nancy would be here on time!"

8. get **got**

"I **got** an email from Peter this morning, he's back from his vacation."

9. give **gave**

"Yes, he **gave** me a call from the airport last night when he arrived. I went there to pick him up."

10. find **found**

"The airport was so busy! I finally **found** him after 15 minutes of searching."

11. think **thought**

"I **thought** Peter would be on vacation for 3 weeks."

12. tell **told**

"He **told** me that he would only stay for 12 days."

13. become **became**

"He just **became** a division manager so he can't be away from the office for too long."

14. show **showed**

"On the drive home from the airport, he **showed** some photos from his trip."

*Show is an irregular verb because the past participle is shown not showed. Other regular verbs whose past tense is _ed use the same form for the past participle.

15. leave **left**

"Hawaii is so beautiful, You must have been sad when you **left**."

16. feel **felt**

"I **felt** sad every time I left the beach! Relaxing on the beach is my favorite thing to do."

17. put **put**

"Peter had to buy an extra duffel bag for all the souvenirs he bought for his staff. First, he **put** them in his suitcase, but then his clothes wouldn't fit!"

18. bring **brought**

"He is so kind! He **brought** back a lot of treats for his co-workers."

19. begin **began**

"After working for 6 hours without a break, Lisa **began** to get very hungry."

20. keep **kept**

"We **kept** telling her to relax a little, but Lisa really wants to finish this project."

21. hold **held**

"Our boss **held** a meeting to explain how important this project is to the company."

22. write **wrote**

"As the project manager, Lisa **wrote** a 3-page memo detailing everyone's tasks."

23. stand **stood**

"At the meeting, Lisa **stood** behind our boss taking notes."

24. hear **heard**

"She **heard** everything he said very clearly."

25. let **let**

"She works hard, so this morning I **let** her have the last donut in the staff break room."

26. mean **meant**

"Sorry, I **meant** to say danish, not donut."

27. meet **met**

"After the meeting, the team **met** at a local restaurant to have dinner together."

28. set **set**

"The whole project team was at the restaurant, the staff **set** the table for 18 people. It was a big table!"

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29. run **ran**

"It was a big dinner so I **ran** home to burn some calories."

30. pay **paid**

"It was a great dinner, and our company **paid** for everything!"

31. sit **sat**

"Eric was very quiet during dinner. He **sat** in the corner and didn't say anything."

32. speak **spoke**

"Almost every member of the team **spoke** about their contribution to the project."

33. lie **lay**

"3 nights ago I **lay** in bed thinking about what I would say at the meeting."

34. lead **led**

"It was my first time in Tokyo, so I was happy to have a guide. He **led** the way during my trip."

35. read **read**

"I **read** 6 books about Tokyo before my trip."

*Be careful, the spelling for the past tense is the same as the present tense but they are pronounced differently.

Present tense – read ~ REED

Past tense – **read** ~ RED

36. grow **grew**

"No one took care of my garden while I was away and weeds **grew** everywhere."

37. lose **lost**

"My favorite team **lost** an important game last night. I'm sad today."

38. fall **fell**

"I was so nervous watching the game I **fell** off my chair!"

39. send **sent**

"My friend **sent** me a message right after the game to tease me. (He likes the other team!)"

40. build **built**

"I wish my local team had more support from the community. They **built** a new arena last summer but not enough people are coming to live games."

41. understand **understood**

"I tried to explain to my friends that it's important to support the team, but I don't think they **understood** why."

42. draw **drew**

"I **drew** a picture for my student to help explain the meaning of the new word."

43. break **broke**

"I pressed the pencil so hard that I **broke** it!"

44. spend **spent**

"I **spent** the next 5 minutes trying to find a new pencil."

45. cut **cut**

"I reached into my desk looking for a pencil and I **cut** my finger on a utility knife."

46. rise **rose**

"I shouted 'ouch!' and my student **rose** from her desk to see what was wrong."

47. drive **drove**

"I didn't have any bandages so we **drove** to the pharmacy to buy some."

48. buy **bought**

"I **bought** a big box of band-aids."

49. wear **wore**

"It was raining so I **wore** a rain jacket to the pharmacy."

50. choose **chose**

"I **chose** a family-size box, it has 50 band-aids in 4 different shapes."



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