

**PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES**

1. Study the information below to revise how we use the Past Simple tense.

**PAST SIMPLE CHEAT SHEET**

- We use Past Simple to talk about something that started and finished in the past.
- We use Past Simple with actions that happened at a specific time in the past. This is often marked with time expressions (yesterday, last week, 1 hour ago).
- We use Past Simple to talk about a past state of being, e.g. how we felt, what we thought.

	EXAMPLES	FORMULA
AFFIRMATIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I worked last weekend.</li> <li>• She went to the seaside last Sunday and spent a few days there.</li> <li>• Jorge was here 30 minutes ago.</li> </ul>	<p>person + verb + -ed (or +irregular form, e.g. go =&gt; went)</p> <p><u>to BE:</u> person + was/were</p>
NEGATIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We didn't stop at the traffic lights and hit another car.</li> <li>• He didn't eat lunch yesterday.</li> <li>• Sammy wasn't very busy so he helped me with my tasks.</li> </ul>	<p>person + did not (didn't) + verb (infinitive)</p> <p><u>to BE:</u> person + was/were not (wasn't/weren't)</p>
QUESTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did you come home late on Sunday?</li> <li>• What did we talk about a little while ago?</li> <li>• Where were you at 10 p.m. last Tuesday?</li> </ul>	<p>[Wh- question word] + did + person + verb (infinitive)</p> <p><u>to BE:</u> [Wh- question word] + was/were + person</p>

**2. Complete the sentences with the words from the brackets using the Past Simple tense.**

- a) When Samsung was a small company, it **sold** (sell) groceries and noodles.
- b) How **did Oprah Winfrey become** (Oprah Winfrey / become) so popular on TV?
- c) Ferruccio Lamborghini **didn't start** (not start) his business from luxury cars, instead he made millions building tractors.
- d) Where **were you** (you / be) when they launched the first iPhone?
- e) Andrew Carnegie **donated** (donate) 90% of his wealth to charities.
- f) Walt Disney **was** (be) a shy introvert who didn't like spending time with people.
- g) **Did you know** (you / know) that Warren Buffet still lives in the same house he bought 60 years ago?
- h) Apple **wasn't** (not be) the first company to bring tablets to the market but the first to succeed.

**3. Choose the correct endings to create true sentences.**

- a) When you **drop out** of college, you successfully complete your education / stop attending your classes and don't graduate.
- b) Henry Ford **founded** the Detroit Automobile Company in 1899 which means he created a company / he sold the company.
- c) In 1991, Pan Am, a famous airline company, **went bankrupt** because of large financial losses so now it doesn't exist anymore / still exists.
- d) Tesla **turned a profit** last year, which means it earned some money / had more costs than income.
- e) Because of the economic situation, we didn't **expand** into new markets, which means we didn't open our business in new countries / win against our competition in new markets.
- f) When you **set up** a company, you want to open a new business / close a business.
- g) If a company **goes public**, it means it is listed on the stock exchange / the government bought that firm.

4. Read the story about Bill Gates, a famous entrepreneur, and complete the gaps with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.



William Henry Gates III was born on October 28, 1955 in Seattle. Most people know him as Bill Gates, the famous entrepreneur who **founded** (found) Microsoft. As a young boy, Bill was fascinated with computers and even **hacked** (hack) his school's computer at the age of 13. Thanks to his great grades, he **went** (go) to Harvard University. One day he **called** (call) a computer manufacturer and said that he had a computer language for their new Altair computer.

They said they wanted it, but in reality, Bill **didn't have** (not have) it! He spent a few weeks to quickly write the language for Altair which was then bought by the company. In 1975, he **dropped** (drop) out of Harvard and opened a company, called Microsoft, together with his childhood friend Paul Allen.

Bill Gates **led** (lead) Microsoft as CEO until January 2000. During that time Bill made Microsoft the largest software company in the world thanks to his business skills and the innovation he **brought** (bring) to the world, e.g. the Windows operating system. In 2008, he **left** (leave) Microsoft and decided to focus on the charity he **set** (set) up with his wife, called The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Microsoft, and other businesses Bill invested in, **made** (make) him the richest person on the planet. He held this title from 1995 to 2017 when he was replaced by Jeff Bezos.

**IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES****5. Discuss the questions below.**

- Do you know what these people are famous for?



Warren Buffet



Elon Musk



Richard Branson

- What makes people become successful entrepreneurs?
- What kind of people found their own businesses?
- Have you ever thought about setting up your own business?  
What kind of business would that be?

**6. What are the past forms of the verbs below?**

get => **got**

give => **gave**

pull => **pulled**

teach => **taught**

put => **put**

meet => **met**

love => **loved**

end => **ended**

take => **took**

go => **went**

start => **started**

become => **became**

**7. In a moment, you'll watch a video about Steve Jobs. Before you do it, answer the question below.**

What do you know about Steve Jobs?



8. Watch the [video](https://youtu.be/bTpvbKCYaoQ) [https://youtu.be/bTpvbKCYaoQ] to learn about his early life and describe what his childhood was like.
9. Now, watch the second [video](https://youtu.be/hTcQRDacFt0) [https://youtu.be/hTcQRDacFt0] about his early career.
10. Mark the sentences below True (T) or False (F). Watch again to check your answers.
  - a) Apple was started in Steve Wozniak's parents' garage. **F**
  - b) Apple grew to more than 4000 employees. **T**
  - c) Steve Jobs was fired from Apple. **T**
  - d) Steve Jobs returned to Apple in 2002. **F**
11. You will see an infographic about a famous entrepreneur, but with some facts missing. Read the information you get and ask your partner about the missing parts.

EXAMPLE:



.....  
starts Apple with Steve  
Wozniak

**Q:** *When did Steve Jobs start Apple with Steve Wozniak?*

**A:** *They started Apple in 1976.*



2001  
Apple launches .....

**Q:** *What did Apple launch in 2001?*

**A:** *In 2001, Apple launched the iPod.*

### Infographics:

The story of Jeff Bezos [[full](#)]

[Student A](#)

[Student B](#)

The story of Zhou Qunfei<sup>1</sup> [[full](#)]

[Student A](#)

[Student B](#)

The story of Amancio Ortega [[full](#)]

[Student A](#)

[Student B](#)

### 12. HOMEWORK:

**Find out some facts about one businessperson you admire and write a short bio (at least 7 sentences).**

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<sup>1</sup> Qunfei is her first name and Zhou is her surname. Her name is pronounced /tʃou kʰn'fei/. Listen [here](#).