The Past Tense – Simple Past

There are three aspects of the past tense:

1) Simple past
2) Past progressive
3) Past perfect (simple and progressive)

The simple past tense is used to describe:

1. an action that happened in the past
2. a truth about a time in the past

• Add “ed” or “ied” to regular verb endings in simple past tense when used to describe any subject (I, you, we, they, he, she, it).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>[verb + “ed” or “ied”]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I / he / she / it</td>
<td>[was]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>you / we / they</td>
<td>[were]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The verb “to be” has an irregular conjugation:

Example: He walked to school yesterday.
Example: She was happy.

Directions: Write the correct form of the verb in the spaces below.

1) When I was in school, I ______ (to do) my homework everyday.
2) She ______ (to like) chocolate milk when she was a girl.
3) It always ______ (to rain) when we lived in Seattle.
4) Joey and Mike ______ (to be) friends a long time ago.
5) I ______ (to try) to make a snowman last winter.
6) Our favorite game when we were little ______ (to be) chess.
7) It ______ (to be) so sunny yesterday.
8) Jeremy ______ (to want) to go to the beach this summer.
9) Shelby ______ (to save) $100.
10) It ______ (to snow) last December.

Directions: Put the following sentences in simple past tense.

1) I talk to Anne on the phone.

________________________

2) Nikko laughs at the joke.

________________________

Directions: Now make your own sentences using the simple past tense.

1) ______________________________________________________

2) ______________________________________________________