**PAST SIMPLE**

FORM ***subject verb+ed / 2nd column(irregular verbs)***

(use ***did+subject+bare infinitive*** to form Interrogative/Negative )

USE **A) Past action when time is given/known/asked about.**

I met George last night.

When did you become such an expert?

**B) Action whose time is not given but happened within a period of time now terminated, thus cannot be repeated.**

My mum lived in Manchester for a while.

Did you ever see Princess Diana?

He once saw Melina Merkouri on stage.

**C) Past habit.**

He never drank coffee; he always had tea.

We loved The Queen back in the 80s! (we still do)

**D) Consecutive actions in the past.**

She slowly opened the door, looked outside, took a step and then started running.

**PAST CONTINUOUS**

FORM ***subject was/were verb + ing***

USE **A) Past actions in progress at some point in the past – time limits unknown/irrelevant.**

The wind was rising and it was gradually getting colder.

**With a point in time, it expresses action that started before and probably went on after it.**

At around nine, he was still working in his office.

**B) with a Past Simple, the action started before it and was interrupted but not necessarily stopped.**

When I returned home, he was talking on the phone.

We were walking home when it started raining.

**C) Descriptions/background settings.**

It was a fine morning. The sun was shining, the birds were singing, the sea was shimmering, people were waking up from a long restful sleep...

REMEMBER: No continuous tenses with stative verbs(unless there is a reason) **Stative verbs** include verbs expressing:

-Senses (feel, hear, see, smell….)in their involuntary sense.

-Feelings/emotions (love, hate, like, loath…)

-Mental activity (understand, realise, suppose….)

-Possession (belong, own…)

- appear, consist, concern, matter, seem.