



Mac and Rory Grammar Stories Lesson Plan – Past Simple (I Had Such A Good Summer!)

1. Lesson Aim

The aim of this lesson is to help students to:

- say what they did and didn't do in the simple past tense using regular verbs and some irregular verbs
- understand and ask questions in the simple past tense

2. Warm-Up

Draw a timeline on the board, and label it with now, past and future. Underline “past”.



Ask your students if they remember doing the class about the simple past of the verb “to be”. Talk about the Mac and Rory Grammar story about Rory being in Rome. Ask your students if they can give you some example sentences using the simple past of the verb “to be”.

Now tell your students that we need more than one verb to talk about the past and that today's class is about regular and a few irregular verbs in the simple past.

3. The Mac And Rory Grammar Story

Read the *Mac and Rory Grammar Story – Past Simple*. You can either bring students through the online version or hand out the paper version. If you are using the paper version, ask for volunteers to play the roles of Mac and Rory and get them to read the story aloud.

4. Vocabulary

Read the Glossary at the end of the story. Check that your students understand all the words and phrases.

5. Story Discussion

Go through each picture of the *Mac and Rory Grammar Story – Simple Past*, asking questions and explaining the grammar points as you go.

Rory is using the simple past tense of the verb "to have".

- I had a good summer.
- You had pizza last night.
- Rory had lots of homework.
- We had lots of fun in the park.
- Mac and Rory had a game of football.

For lots of verbs, add "ed" to make the simple past.

- I surf... I surfed.
- My friends call around... My friends called around.
- I climb mountains... I climbed mountains.

A lot of verbs are irregular. Tell your students not to worry. They'll learn them over time.

- I make... I made
- you do ... you did
- she flies ... she flew
- we go ... we went
- they see ... they saw



To ask a question, use "did".

- Did you see the movie?
- Did she go home early?
- Did they have a good day?

Look how we use the stem of the verb with "did".

- Did you went home? X
- Did you go home? ✓

You can also use question words...

- What did I get for lunch?
- Why did you do that?
- When did she see that movie?
- Where did he hide it?
- How did we do it before?
- Who did they meet in the park?

To make a negative sentence, use "did not" or "didn't".

- I didn't swim yesterday.
- You didn't see that movie yet.
- Rory didn't do his homework.
- We didn't go to school last week.
- Mac and Rory didn't clean their room.

The verb "to be" is another irregular verb in the simple past. We use it so much we have a whole story about it. Check out the Mac and Rory's Grammar Story "I Was... (Sad Without You)".

6. Practice Sheet

Ask your students to complete the *Mac And Rory Grammar Story Practice Sheet*.

7. Role Play

Tell your students to imagine you are having a conversation with a friend. Describe a trip that you didn't enjoy, for example, a trip to the movies. Write some phrases on the board that your students might use.

- Where did you go?
- What happened?
- Who did you see?
- We were late.
- The movie was boring and really long.
- I spilt my drink.
- Another person knocked over my popcorn.
- We forgot where we parked the car.
- It was a disaster!

8. Homework

Ask your students to describe when they went to one of their *favourite places. It could be the zoo, the playground, the forest, the beach, on holidays*, staying with friends or family.

9. Summary And Finish

Summarise* what you did in the class with the help of your students. "We started the class at 3.00 o'clock. I told you what I did last weekend. Then we read Mac and Rory's Grammar Story. What did we do then?" Get your students to help you summarise.

10. Extra Activities

Dictation

Rory is thinking about last summer. He had such a good time. He surfed and climbed mountains. He went out with his friends, flew his kite and ate lots of pizza. He had a really good summer.

Fantasy Holiday

Get an adventure holiday brochure. Divide your class into groups and give a holiday itinerary to each group. Tell them to imagine they went on that particular holiday. Get them to write 5 sentences about their experience.

*holidays (UK English) vacation (US English)
favourite (UK English) favorite (US English)
summarise (UK English) summarize (US English)