

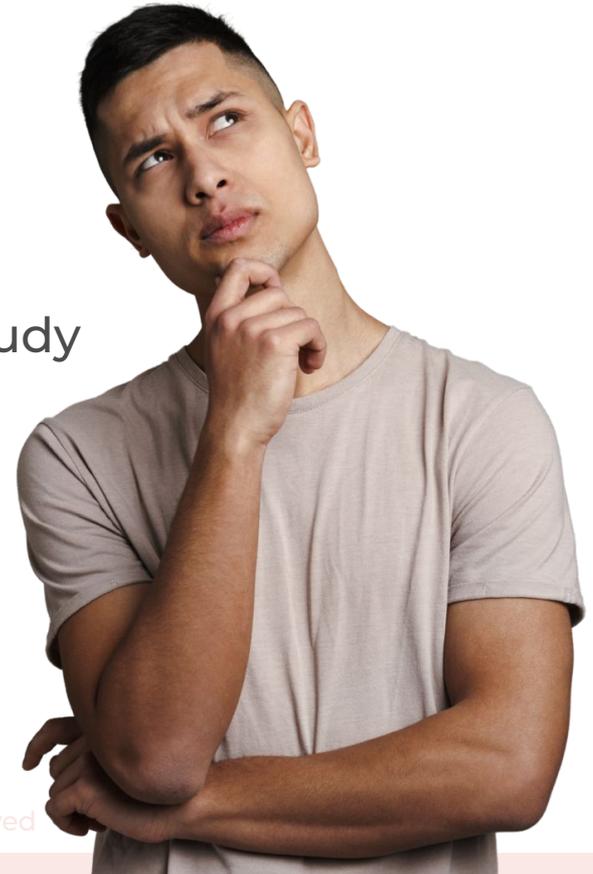


# A2 - Studying and lifelong learning

Explore the uses of 'regular' and 'irregular' past simple verbs

# Warm-up questions

1. Did you study yesterday?
2. What subjects did you like at school?
3. Have you ever taken a course online?
4. Do you know anyone who went back to study later in life?
5. What did you do to prepare for your last exam?



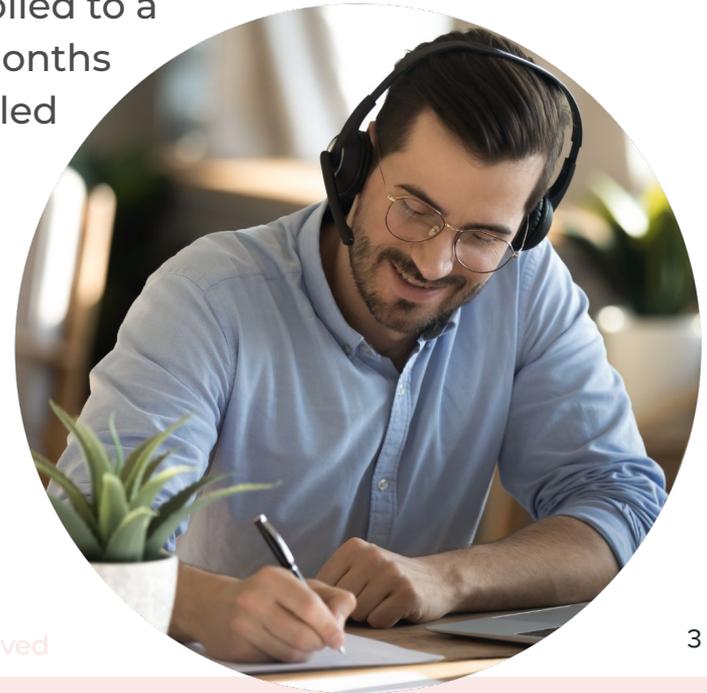
# Back to School at 40

Richard always dreamed of becoming a psychologist. But life moved quickly. After school, he worked at a supermarket, got married, and raised two kids. He never studied at university.

At the age of 40, Richard decided to change his life. He applied to a university and started studying Psychology. The first few months were difficult. He forgot how to write essays, and he struggled with long reading texts. Sometimes, he felt too old to be in class with students in their twenties.

But Richard didn't give up. He studied every night, asked for help when needed, and passed his first exams. Last week, he gave a class presentation and the teacher praised his effort.

Now, he feels proud. "It's never too late to follow your dreams," he said.



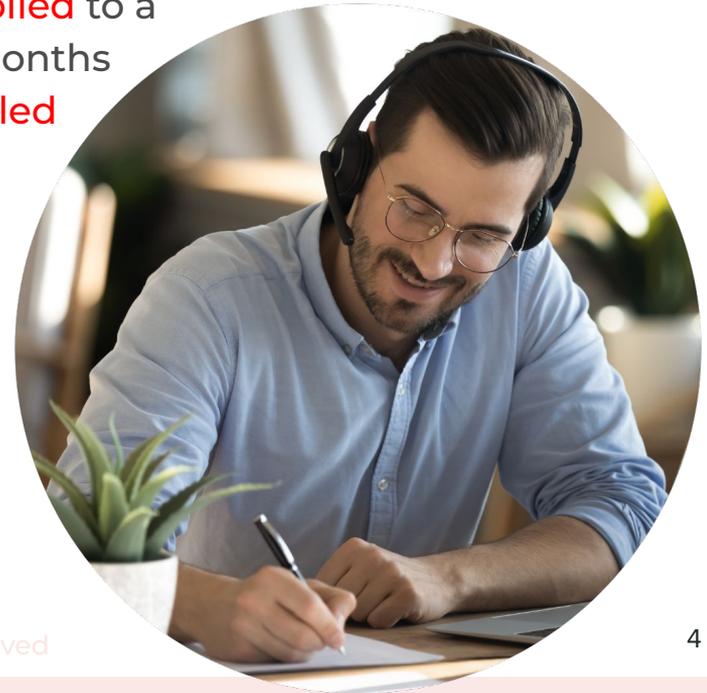
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At the age of 40, Richard **decided** to change his life. He **applied** to a university and **started** studying Psychology. The first few months were difficult. He **forgot** how to write essays, and he **struggled** with long reading texts. Sometimes, he **felt** too old to be in class with students in their twenties.

But Richard didn't give up. He **studied** every night, **asked** for help when needed, and **passed** his first exams. Last week, he **gave** a class presentation and the teacher **praised** his effort.

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# Comprehension questions



1. What did Richard always want to be?
2. What job did he do after school?
3. How old was he when he started university?
4. What problems did he face in the beginning?
5. What did he do to improve?
6. What happened last week?
7. How does he feel now?

# Grammar guide: regular VS. irregular verbs

## Key Points:

Regular verbs are predictable. Just add **-ed** (e.g. *called, helped, visited*)

Irregular verbs must be memorized — no rules (e.g. *ate, saw, took, made*)

Past form is the **same for all subjects**: *I/he/she/they studied/went*

For negatives/questions, use **did** + base verb (e.g. *Did you go? / He didn't study.*)

Type	Form	Examples
Regular	Base verb + <b>-ed</b>	work → worked <b>ed</b>
		study → studied <b>ed</b>
Irregular	Changes form completely (no <b>-ed</b> rule)	go → went
		feel → felt
		give → gave

# Fill in the gaps using the past simple of the verb in brackets

1. Richard \_\_\_\_\_ (decide) to go back to university.
2. He \_\_\_\_\_ (study) Psychology.
3. He \_\_\_\_\_ (forget) how to write essays.
4. He \_\_\_\_\_ (work) at a supermarket.
5. He \_\_\_\_\_ (ask) for help when he needed it.
6. He \_\_\_\_\_ (give) a presentation last week.
7. The teacher \_\_\_\_\_ (praise) him.
8. He \_\_\_\_\_ (feel) proud after his presentation.
9. He \_\_\_\_\_ (pass) his first exams.
10. He \_\_\_\_\_ (dream) of this moment for years.

# Match the sentence to the correct verb

A. He \_\_\_\_\_ a course online.

B. He \_\_\_\_\_ the textbook at home.

C. He \_\_\_\_\_ help from his teacher.

D. He \_\_\_\_\_ to the lecture on time.

E. He \_\_\_\_\_ Psychology at university.

F. He \_\_\_\_\_ a talk in class.

1. studied

2. went

3. asked

4. read

5. gave

6. took



# Spelling rules for adding '-ed' to regular verbs

## 1. **Most verbs: just add '-ed'**

Rule: If the verb ends in a consonant + vowel + consonant (CVC) but is more than one syllable and the final syllable is not stressed, just add '-ed'

Examples: [work → worked] / [help → helped] / [clean → cleaned]

## 2. **Double the final consonant**

Rule: If the verb is one syllable, ends in CVC (consonant + vowel + consonant), and ends in a stressed consonant, double the final consonant before adding '-ed'

Examples: [stop → stopped] / [plan → planned] / [hug → hugged]

**Do NOT double if the final consonant is 'w', 'x', or 'y'**

Examples: [fix → fixed] / [play → played]

# Spelling rules for adding '-ed' to regular verbs

## 3. Verbs ending in 'e'

Rule: If the verb already ends in 'e', just add '-d'

Examples: [love → loved] / [dance → danced] / [live → lived]

## 4. Verbs ending in consonant + 'y'

Rule: Change 'y' to 'i' and add '-ed'

Examples: [cry → cried] / [carry → carried] / [study → studied]

## 5. Verbs ending in vowel + 'y'

Rule: Just add '-ed' (do NOT change the 'y')

Examples: [play → played] / [enjoy → enjoyed]

# Correction activity: Past simple '-ed' verbs

**Read the past simple verbs in the sentences below. Some are spelled incorrectly. Correct the spelling if needed.**

1. She stoped the car quickly.
2. We played outside until sunset.
3. He studdied all night for the test.
4. I huged my grandma before I left.
5. They danced at the party.
6. He planed his trip to London.
7. Sarah cryed when she watched the film.
8. We enjoyed the concert a lot.
9. The dog chasted the ball.
10. He hoped to pass the exam.



**Thank you for your support.**

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