What do you do for a living?

EAE Learning objectives for this lesson

Learn vocabulary for jobs, the past simple and past continuous tenses.
Ask questions and practice dialogues



Activity one: **Questions and Answers**

Ask people in the room what they do for a living and note it down.

"What do you do for a living?"

Try to list as many different jobs as you can.



Activity two: **Jobs**

I work in sales.
I work in customer service.
I work at C&A.
I work at Monoprix.
I work in a school.
I work in a shop.
I work as a fireman.
I work as a cashier.

What other jobs can you think of?

Activity three: **Dialogue**

Read the dialogue with a partner and underline the verbs you think are in the past tense, then answer the comprehension questions below.

John "Hey Peter, it's nice to meet you."
Peter "Hello John, it's nice to meet you too. What do you do for a living?"
John "I work as a doctor, and what do you do?"
Peter "I lost my job last week, I worked in marketing. I am looking for a new job."
John "Oh, that is a shame. Where did you work?"
Peter "Yes, I really liked my position."
John "I hope that you find a new position soon"

Peter "Thanks, me too"
Peter "I worked in an office in London for a small company. Where do you work?
John "I work at the local hospital near here."

Comprehension questions:

1. What does the expression 'It's a shame' mean?
2. What happened to Peter last week?
3. Where does John work?
4. What is John's job?
5. What did Peter do?

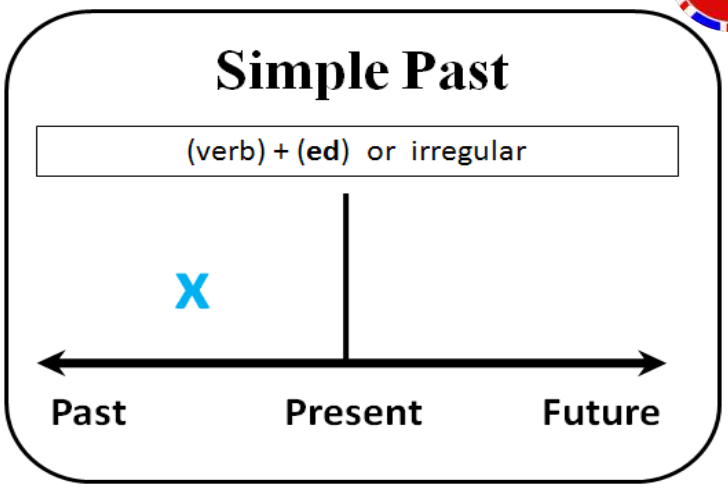
Activity four: **Simple past tense**

We use the **SIMPLE PAST** tenses to talk about something that finished in the past at one specific point or several times in the past.

We can use words and expressions like:

This morning
Yesterday
Last week
Last month
Last year
Yesterday morning / afternoon / evening
Last night

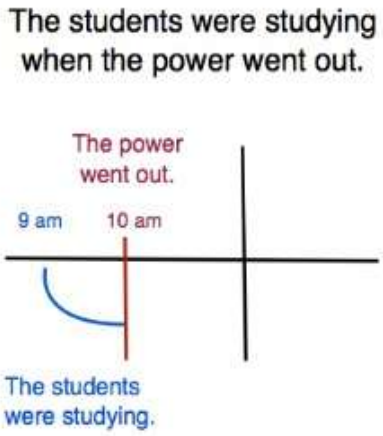
A long time a go
When I was young
Many years ago



Examples: Yesterday I **went** to the shops / Last week I **was** on holiday / I **saw** a bird this morning

PAST CONTINOUS – We use the past continous tense to talk about at action that happened during a period of time or an interrupted action

Examples:
I **was cooking** when the phone **rang**
I **was sitting** in the bath when someone **knocked** on the door



Let's practice, Part one:
With your partner, answer the following questions

Example:
***Question** - Why do you not have your car today?*
***Answer** - I was driving to work yesterday when someone hit my car*

1. What were you doing yesterday when I called you?
2. What were you doing when the police came?
3. Why aren't you wearing any shoes?
4. Why are you tired?
5. What was happening last week when the fire started?
6. Why did the alarm ring?

Part two: Change the verbs below in the past simple tense – then create a sentence with each verb!

1. Wake _____ 2. Find _____ 3. Hear _____ 4. Leave _____ 5. Pay _____

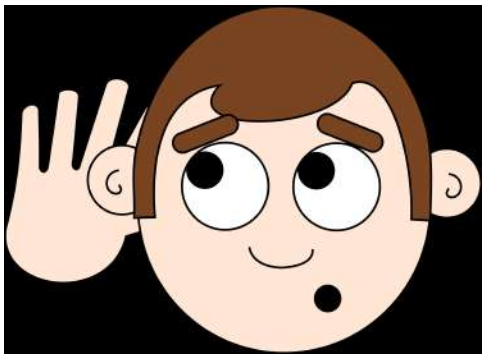
6. Stuck _____ 7. Speak _____ 8. Hang _____ 9. Keep _____ 10. Send _____

Activity five: **Conversation**

Read the conversation in activity three again with your partner, but talking about yourselves and your jobs

If you don't work now, but you worked in the past, talk about the job you did before.

Activity six: **Listening comprehension**
Watch the video and with your partner, answer the comprehension questions



Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PrBmifzYfNg
Kids Describe their Dream job to an Illustrator.
(First 2 minutes 30)

Comprehension Questions:

1. What are the different jobs that the children want?
2. Why do they want that job?
3. What is meant by "dream job"?
4. How tall will the girl be when she is older?
5. Where does the girl want to work?



Activity seven: **Gap fill**
Firstly, Fill in the gaps, putting the verbs into the simple past
Secondly, try to create a past continuous sentences to invent a story with some of the verbs in the list

Example:
Last week I (see) a car accident
Last week I SAW a car accident
I was walking on the pavement when I saw a car accident

1. Last week I (go) to Barcelona.
2. I (visit) the Arc de Triomphe.
3. I (walk) in the city centre.
4. In the evening, we (go) to some bars.
5. It (rain) at night, but it (is) hot during the day.
6. I (eat) spaghetti at a restaurant and I (drink) some w
7. My friends and I (speak) a lot.
8. We (buy) chocolate at the market.
9. We (drive) back to Montpellier.
10. We (have) a good time.



Activity eight: **Discuss**
With a partner, talk about what you did yesterday at work (or the last time you worked or studied)

Activity nine: **Charades**
Act out a job, the other team guesses the answer using the simple past tense.

Were you a policeman?
Yes, I was a policeman.

Were you a farmer?
Yes, I was a farmer



Activity ten: **Matching**

With a partner, match the jobs with what they do for a living, and where they work.

Jobs:	**What do they do?**	**Where do they work?**
Accountant	They serve food and drinks.	They work in an office
Baker	They look after the finance of a business.	They work in a bakery.
Builder	They cook bread.	They work in a hospital.
Butcher	They construct buildings.	They work on a construction site.
Dentist	They help in legal affairs.	They work at the butchers.
Doctor	They clean and check teeth.	They work at a dentist.
Hairdresser	They look after people.	They work in a restaurant.
Lawyer	They help patients.	They work in a hospital.
Nurse	They greet customers.	They work in a hair salon.
Receptionist	They teach people.	They work at the reception desk.
Sales Assistant	They serve food.	They work at a school.
Teacher	They prepare and sell meat.	They work in an office.
Waiter/Waitress	They sell items.	They work in a shop.

Activity eleven: **Profile**

Look at this CV of a candidate for a job only written in the present tense. Imagine that you are in a meeting and you are talking about the candidate. Use the past tense to talk about the student.
For example: His name was John...



CV:

- My name is John and I am 27 years old.
- I live in Paris for 6 years.
- I move to Montpellier to be with my family.

Qualifications:

- 2000-2003: I study law at the University of Paris. I achieve my diploma.

Experience:

- 2000-2005 : I am a waiter. I serve food and drinks to customers. I work in a restaurant.
- 2005-2010 : I am a receptionist. I meet customers at the reception desk. I work in a law office. I organise the timetable of the employees. I phone customers and record their details.
- 2010-2017 : I am a lawyer in a lawyers office. I go to court and give legal help to customers. I study their evidence and talk to the customers.

Role Plays:

With a different partner, act out one of the following role plays

You are a new employee at an office, and your colleague asks you where you worked before this job, and what you did, and where you studied.

You and you friend went on holiday. When you return home, your colleagues ask you how your holiday was, and where you went.

