



start

Verb: _____ / /

Time: _____

study

Verb: _____ / /

Time: _____

work

Verb: _____ / /

Time: _____

want

Verb: _____ / /

Time: _____

live

Verb: _____ / /

Time: _____

finish

Verb: _____ / /

Time: _____

cook

Verb: _____ / /

Time: _____

play

Verb: _____ / /

Time: _____

listen to

Verb: _____ / /

Time: _____

stay

Verb: _____ / /

Time: _____

watch

Verb: _____ / /

Time: _____

visit

Verb: _____ / /

Time: _____

travel

Verb: _____ / /

Time: _____

help

Verb: _____ / /

Time: _____

decide

Verb: _____ / /

Time: _____

Yesterday

Worksheet

38

ACTIVITY

Groupwork: speaking

AIM

To guess the things people did at different times in the past.

GRAMMAR AND FUNCTIONSPast simple regular verbs: *yes/no* questions and short answers**VOCABULARY**

General

PREPARATION

Make one copy of the worksheet for each group of three students and cut it into cards as indicated.

TIME

30 to 40 minutes

PROCEDURE

- 1 Think of three events in your near or distant past and write the infinitive form of the three verbs that describe the events on the board.

For example:

<i>want</i>	<i>live</i>	<i>watch</i>
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Elicit the simple past form of the verbs and write them under the infinitives on the board. Elicit the pronunciation of the -ed endings and write the symbol for the sound in brackets.

For example:

<i>want</i>	<i>live</i>	<i>watch</i>
<i>wanted /id/</i>	<i>lived /d/</i>	<i>watched /t/</i>

- 2 Now write a time expression under each verb.

For example:

<i>want</i>	<i>live</i>	<i>watch</i>
<i>wanted /id/</i>	<i>lived /d/</i>	<i>watched /t/</i>
<i>when I was a</i>	<i>for four years</i>	<i>yesterday evening</i>
<i>child</i>		

- 3 Now ask the students to guess what the events were.

For example:

Student A: *Did you want a bicycle when you were a child?*

Teacher: *No, I didn't.*

Student B: *Did you want a sister?*

Teacher: *No, I didn't.*

Student C: *Did you want to be an actress?*

Teacher: *No, I wanted to be a ballet dancer.*

- 4 Repeat the procedure with the other verbs. Finally, elicit other time expressions.

For example:

*ten years ago, in 1975, on 12th August 1995**last night/week/month/year**yesterday morning/afternoon/evening*

Leave your examples on the board as you may want to refer to them later in the activity.

- 5 Now ask the students to work in groups of three and give each group one set of cards.
- 6 In their groups, students take five cards each.
- 7 For the first part of the activity, students work individually. Each student thinks of times in the near or distant past when they did the actions marked on their cards. Tell the students that if they have difficulty thinking of an event for all their verbs, it is fine provided they use at least three of them.
- 8 Ask each student to write the past form of their verbs in the spaces provided on each card and to put the appropriate phonetic symbol next to them. Refer to your examples on the board.
- 9 When they have done that, they should write in the space provided on their card a time expression showing when the event happened. Refer to your examples on the board if necessary. Be on hand to offer help and advice while they are doing all the above.
- 10 When they have finished, ask the students to put all of their cards together, face up on the table.
- 11 Now ask them to put the cards in a line according to when they happened, with the event which happened the longest time ago at one end and the most recent event at the other end.
- 12 When they have done this, students take it in turns to go along the line of cards, guessing what other people did according to the verb and time marked on the cards. If they do not guess correctly after a few goes, the student who wrote on the card can tell them the correct answer.