13.1 Past Simple vs Present Simple: 30-minute Pack

about 30 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

A Visit to Oakwood Wildlife Park

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On Thursday, Class 3 travelled to Oakwood Wildlife Park for the day. The coach arrived at nine o'clock, and Mr Bailey led the children through the main gates.

First, the class visited the meerkat enclosure. The meerkats stood on their back legs and watched everyone walk past. Priya laughed when a meerkat popped its head out of a tunnel.

Next, a keeper called Mrs Grant showed the children how she fed the sea lions. She threw a fish high into the air, and a sea lion caught it with a loud clap of its flippers. Everyone cheered.

Later, the class saw the elephants splashing in a large pool. One elephant sprayed water over its own back, and another elephant ate a whole pile of leaves in a few minutes. Sam took a photograph of the biggest elephant.

Before they left, the children stopped at the gift shop. Mr Bailey gave everyone ten minutes to choose a small toy. The whole class agreed that it was a brilliant day out.

1 Tick the past simple verb in each sentence below. Each sentence describes something that has already happened and finished.

(a) Yesterday, the class visited Oakwood Wildlife Park. **(1)**

- ☐ A) Yesterday
- ☐ B) class
- ☐ C) visited

(b) The giraffe stretched its long neck over the fence. **(1)**

- ☐ A) giraffe
- ☐ B) stretched
- ☐ C) fence

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(c) Last week, the keepers cleaned every enclosure. **(1)**

- ☐ A) Last
- ☐ B) keepers
- ☐ C) cleaned

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2 Practice question (not marked). The present simple tense describes things that happen regularly, are generally true, or are true now. The past simple tense describes things that have already happened and finished. Tick the sentence below that is written in the present simple tense.

- ☐ A) The otters swim in the river.
- ☐ B) The otters swam in the river.

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3 Each sentence below has one incorrect past tense verb. These are common mistakes with irregular verbs. Find the mistake and write the correct past tense form.

(a) The meerkat runned across the enclosure. **(1)**

(b) The elephant eated a pile of leaves. **(1)**

(c) Yesterday, the class goed to the reptile house. **(1)**

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4 This information text about meerkats should be written entirely in the present simple, but one verb has been mistakenly written in the past tense.

Meerkats lived in large groups called mobs. They take turns to watch for danger while the rest of the group searches for food.

(a) Which word is in the wrong tense? **(1)**

(b) Write the sentence containing the mistake correctly. **(1)**

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5 Write one sentence of your own for each instruction below. Use correct subject-verb agreement and correct spelling.

(a) Write a present simple sentence giving a general fact about an animal of your choice. **(2)**

(b) Write a past simple sentence describing something that happened on a visit to a wildlife park or zoo. **(2)**

6 Write a short recount (4 to 5 sentences) about an imagined or real class trip to see animals. Use the past simple tense consistently throughout, including at least one irregular past tense verb, and check the spelling of any -ed verbs carefully.

(4)

7 Rewrite each present simple sentence below in the past simple.

(a) The elephant sprays water over its back. **(1)**

(b) The children feed the goats at the farm. **(1)**

(c) The keeper opens the gate at nine o'clock. **(1)**

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8 This sentence mixes two tenses by mistake.

The children walks to the enclosure and watched the meerkats.

(a) Which word in the sentence is in the wrong tense? **(1)**

(b) Write the whole sentence correctly, using the past simple tense throughout. **(1)**

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9 Sort each verb from the box into the correct column of the table below: present simple or past simple.

Word bank: opens | jumped | watches | arrived | carries | stopped

Present simple	Past simple

(6)

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10 Each time phrase below usually goes with a certain tense. Tick whether it usually signals the present simple or the past simple.

(a) Every day, **(1)**

- ☐ present simple
- ☐ past simple

(b) Yesterday, **(1)**

- ☐ present simple
- ☐ past simple

(c) Last month, **(1)**

- ☐ present simple
- ☐ past simple

(d) Every week, **(1)**

- ☐ present simple
- ☐ past simple

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11 Complete each sentence with the present simple form of the verb in brackets. Watch out for the correct spelling ending for the subject.

(a) The monkey ___ (swing) from branch to branch. **(1)**

(b) The zookeeper ___ (watch) the animals every morning. **(1)**

(c) The tortoise ___ (carry) its shell wherever it goes. **(1)**

(d) The lion ___ (have) a loud, deep roar. **(1)**

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12 Write the past simple form of the regular verb in brackets to complete each sentence.

(a) Last summer, the family ___ (visit) a safari park. **(1)**

(b) The keeper ___ (close) the gate carefully. **(1)**

(c) The zebra ___ (hurry) across the field. **(1)**

(d) The otter ___ (grab) a fish from the water. **(1)**

13 Write the past simple form of each irregular verb below. These verbs do NOT simply add -ed.

(a) go -> **(1)**

(b) see -> **(1)**

(c) have -> **(1)**

(d) eat -> **(1)**

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Mark scheme · 13.1 Past Simple vs Present Simple: 30-minute Pack

Question 1

(a) C ticked (visited) cao — **B1**

(a) Answer: **C) visited**

(b) B ticked (stretched) cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **B) stretched**

(c) C ticked (cleaned) cao — **B1**

(c) Answer: **C) cleaned**

Question 2

Practice question - not marked. Teacher may explain that the present simple describes regular or general actions, while the past simple describes actions that have already finished. — **-**

Answer: **A (The otters swim in the river.)**

Question 3

(a) writes 'ran' (from 'run', not 'runned') cao — **B1**

(a) Answer: **ran**

(b) writes 'ate' (from 'eat', not 'eated') cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **ate**

(c) writes 'went' (from 'go', not 'goed') cao — **B1**

(c) Answer: **went**

Question 4

(a) identifies 'lived' as the word in the wrong tense (cao) — **B1**

(a) Answer: **lived**

(b) writes 'Meerkats live in large groups called mobs.' cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **Meerkats live in large groups called mobs.**

Question 5

(a) sentence gives a sensible, general or habitual fact about an animal (oe) — **B1**

(a) present simple verb correctly formed, with correct subject-verb agreement, e.g. an -s/-es ending where needed (cao) — **B1**

(a) Answer: **Example: A giraffe eats leaves from the tops of tall trees.**

(b) sentence describes a sensible, finished event (oe) — **B1**

(b) past simple verb correctly formed and spelled, regular or irregular (cao) — **B1**

(b) Answer: **Example: We watched the sea lions splash into the pool.**

Question 6

uses the past simple tense consistently throughout, with no slips into the present tense (cao) — **B1**

includes at least one irregular past tense verb used correctly, e.g. went, saw, ate or had (oe) — **B1**

regular -ed verbs are spelled correctly, applying the appropriate spelling rule (oe) — **B1**

sentences are clearly organised in the order the events happened, each with a capital letter and correct end punctuation (oe) — **B1**

Answer: **Example: Last Friday, my class visited a wildlife park. We saw a family of meerkats and watched them dig in the sand. A keeper gave us some facts about elephants. I took a photograph of a peacock before we left.**

Question 7

(a) writes 'The elephant sprayed water over its back.' cao — **B1**

(a) Answer: **The elephant sprayed water over its back.**

(b) writes 'The children fed the goats at the farm.' cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **The children fed the goats at the farm.**

(c) writes 'The keeper opened the gate at nine o'clock.' cao — **B1**

(c) Answer: **The keeper opened the gate at nine o'clock.**

Question 8

(a) identifies 'walks' as the word in the wrong tense (cao) — **B1**

(a) Answer: **walks**

(b) writes 'The children walked to the enclosure and watched the meerkats.' cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **The children walked to the enclosure and watched the meerkats.**

Question 9

opens placed correctly in the Present simple column (cao) — **B1**

watches placed correctly in the Present simple column (cao) — **B1**

carries placed correctly in the Present simple column (cao) — **B1**

jumped placed correctly in the Past simple column (cao) — **B1**

arrived placed correctly in the Past simple column (cao) — **B1**

stopped placed correctly in the Past simple column (cao) — **B1**

Answer: **Present simple: opens, watches, carries. Past simple: jumped, arrived, stopped.**

Question 10

(a) 'present simple' ticked cao — **B1**

(a) Answer: **present simple**

(b) 'past simple' ticked cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **past simple**

(c) 'past simple' ticked cao — **B1**

(c) Answer: **past simple**

(d) 'present simple' ticked cao — **B1**

(d) Answer: **present simple**

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Question 11

(a) writes 'swings' cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **swings**

(b) writes 'watches' cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **watches**

(c) writes 'carries' cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **carries**

(d) writes 'has' cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **has**

Question 12

(a) writes 'visited' cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **visited**

(b) writes 'closed' cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **closed**

(c) writes 'hurried' cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **hurried**

(d) writes 'grabbed' cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **grabbed**

Question 13

(a) writes 'went' cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **went**

(b) writes 'saw' cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **saw**

(c) writes 'had' cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **had**

(d) writes 'ate' cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **ate**

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