

20 Irregular verbs

Most verbs in English are regular but some of the most common verbs in English are irregular. The forms here are the infinitive (go, come), the past simple (went, came) and the past participle (gone, come).

A All forms the same

cost cost cost
let let let

cut /kʌt/ cut cut
put /pʊt/ put put

hurt hurt hurt
shut /ʃʌt/ shut shut

B Two different forms

run ran run
keep kept kept
come came come

read /ri:d/ read /red/ read /red/
sleep slept slept
become became become

feel felt felt
leave left left

bring brought brought
fight fought fought

buy bought bought
teach taught taught

catch caught caught
think thought thought

find found found

spend spent spent

learn learnt learnt

pay paid /peɪd/ paid

say said /sed/ said

win won won
sell sold sold

lose lost lost
tell told told

shine shone shone
sit sat sat

meet met met

get got got

shoot shot shot

stand stood stood

understand understood understood

make made made
hear heard heard

have had had
beat beat beaten

do did done

C Three different forms

be was/were been
drink drank drunk

go went gone
sing sang sung

begin began begun
swim swam swum

fly flew flown

know knew known

throw threw thrown

break broke broken

choose chose chosen

speak spoke spoken

steal stole stolen

wake woke woken

take took taken

wear wore worn

drive drove driven

ride rode ridden

rise rose risen

write wrote written

eat ate eaten

give gave given

forget forgot forgotten

fall fell fallen

Tip: When you learn a new irregular verb, add it to one of the groups of verbs on this page.

Exercises

20.1 Do you know what the verbs opposite mean? Write out the infinitive form of each of the verbs with its meaning in your own language beside it. Use a dictionary if you want to.

20.2 Write these words out in their three forms. Then find a verb on the opposite page which has the opposite meaning. Write it out in its three forms.

- | | | |
|--------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1 open | open, opened, opened; | shut, shut, shut |
| 2 give | 5 walk | 8 rise |
| 3 come | 6 wake | 9 win |
| 4 make | 7 remember | 10 buy |

20.3 Use the pictures and complete this story about Jane yesterday.

Yesterday Jane (1)..... up at 7.00. She (2)..... an apple and she (3)..... a cup of hot chocolate. Then she got in her car and (4)..... to work. At work she (5)..... a newspaper and then she (6)..... some letters. At lunch-time she (7)..... in the park for half an hour and then she (8)..... a sandwich. After lunch she (9)..... at her desk again and (10)..... some telephone calls. In the evening she (11)..... the office at six o'clock and (12)..... some Japanese visitors. They (13)..... to a restaurant together. After a busy day Jane (14)..... very well.



20.4 Choose the best verbs opposite. Complete the sentences with the correct past participle form.

- We have in the sea every day this week.
- Where is my bike? Someone has it!
- I have a long time on this work.
- That boy has very lazy recently.
- I hope Jack has the bus and won't be late home.
- Poor John. He has his leg badly. But he hasn't it.

20.5 Write sentences of your own with verbs from the box. Use the past tense.

bring	choose	fall	feel	fly	keep
pay	speak	teach	tell	think	win

20.6 Read all three parts of all the verbs on the opposite page aloud. Then cover parts two and three. Can you remember what they are?