

## Past Simple – Actions / Activities

Look at the following diagram. When we think of an action or activity in the past we are often just answering these questions:



Now think about your own life. Construct a story based on answering the questions above:

Childhood.  
Primary, secondary education.  
Holidays as a child.  
Things you did as a child.  
Best friend at school.  
University.  
First girlfriend / boyfriend.  
Wedding day.  
First job.  
First house.  
First car.  
Last party you went to.  
Last meal out.  
Last night.  
Last concert.  
Last English class.  
Last museum / gallery you visited.

First bicycle.  
Last summer.  
5 days ago.  
Last year.  
Last exam you took.  
Yesterday.  
First trip abroad.  
Birth of your first child.  
First mobile phone.  
Last film you saw.  
Last weekend.  
First record you bought.  
Last shopping trip.  
Last time you did exercise.  
Last book you read  
First pet.  
Best birthday party.

When were you born?  
Where were you born?  
How old was your mum when you were born?  
Were you the first child in your family?  
Were you born in a hospital or at home?  
Were you baptised?  
How many godparents did you have?  
Were your grandparents alive when you were born?  
Where did you grow up?  
+ at least one other idea!

### *1. Childhood*

How old were you when you got your first bicycle?  
What colour was it?  
Did it have any special features?  
How old were you when you learnt to ride it?  
Who taught you to ride it?  
Did you find it difficult?  
Where did you go on your bicycle?  
Was it a good bicycle?  
When you had to have it repaired, who did it for you?  
How long did you have it for?  
Did you ever fall of it?  
+ at least one other idea.

### *2. First bicycle*

When did you go?  
Where did you study?  
Why did you choose this university?  
What did you study?  
Why did you choose to study this?  
Was it the right choice for you?  
Was it a good course?  
Who did you live with when you were at university?  
Who was your best friend at university?  
When did you graduate?  
Did you do well at university?  
Did you do a masters?  
What did you do next?  
+ at least one more idea.

### *3. University*

How old were you when you first went abroad?  
Was it a good trip?  
Who did you go with?  
How much did the trip cost?  
Where did you go?  
Where did you stay?  
What did you do?  
What was the best thing about this trip?  
What was the worst thing about this trip?  
How long was the trip?  
+ at least one more idea.

*4. First trip abroad.*

When did you learn to drive?  
Did you pass your test first time?  
When did you buy your first car?  
Why did you buy it?  
How much did you pay for it?  
Was it a good buy?  
What type of car was it?  
What colour was it?  
Was it a good car?  
Where did you used to go in it?  
How long did you have it for?  
+ at least one more idea.

*5. First car.*

How old were you when you had your first mobile phone?  
What type of phone was it?  
Why did you buy it?  
Did you have a contract or was it pay as you go?  
Did it have any special features?  
How long did you have it for?  
Why did you change your mobile phone?  
+ at least one more idea.

*6. First mobile phone.*

What did you do?  
Where did you go?  
Were you at home or did you go away?  
Was it fun?  
What was the best thing about last weekend?  
What was the worst thing about last weekend?  
How was the weather?  
How did you feel on Sunday night?  
+ at least one more idea.

*7. Last weekend.*

How old were you when you had your first computer?  
What type of computer was it?  
Why did you buy it?  
Where did you buy it?  
Did it have any special features?  
How long did you have it for?  
Why did you change your computer?  
What did you use it for?  
+ at least one more idea.

*8. First computer*

Where did you go?  
Why did you choose this restaurant?  
How did you get there?  
Who did you go with?  
Were you celebrating anything special?  
How was the service?  
What did you eat?  
Was it nice?  
How much did you spend?  
Did you have fun?  
When did you go?  
+ at least one more idea.

*9. Last meal out*

What was the last film you saw?  
Why did you watch it?  
Did you watch it at home or at the  
cinema?  
Who did you see it with?  
Describe the story.  
How long was it?  
Who starred in the film?  
Was it in English or Spanish?  
Did you use the subtitles?  
Would you recommend this film?  
+ at least one more idea.

*10. Last film you saw*