Université Badji Mokhtar, Annaba.

Module T.C.E Anglais 1ère année LMD (TCSNV)

**The Past Simple**

→ Consider the following sentences:

**1**• Darwin discovered the theory of evolution in 1859 🡺 A finished action in the past

-I visited my grandparents last week.

**2**• I woke up late this morning; I had my breakfast quickly because I had to go to the university. 🡺 A series of completed actions in the past.

-Yesterday, I met my friend. We went to a restaurant where we had a nice dinner. After that, we got back home at 9pm.

**3**• I was revising my lessons when the telephone rang. 🡺 An interrupted action that was in progress in the past.

-While the children were playing, it raind suddenly.

**4**• I studied French when I was child 🡺 Habits in the past.

-They never went to school; they always skipped class.

**The rule:**

We use the present simple to talk about:

1/ A finished action in the past.

2/ A series of completed actions in the past.

3/To interrupt an action that was in progress in the past.

4/Habits in the past.

**The structure:**

-Affirmative: sub+stem(ed) “regular”

Eg: He watched TV last night.

-Negative: sub+did not + stem

Eg: I did not watch that movie.

-Interrogative: (whq) did+sub+stem+?

Eg: Did you have your breakfast today?

When did you meet your friend?

**NB: sometimes with “wh” questions, there is no inversion of subject and auxiliary**

Who wrote the lesson?

Who worked in that company?

-Markers of the past: yesterday, last week, ago, last month, last year…

When we have a vowel + y, we add “ed” at the ed. Eg: Play 🡪 played

 Destroy🡪 destroyed

When we have a consonant + y, we add “ied” Eg: marry 🡪 married

 Carry 🡪 carried

**Activity 1:** Put the verbs between brackets in the correct tense:

-He (to write) many books.

-When she (go) to the party, she (to wear) her best outfit.

-It (to be) fantastic.

-I (to visit) a lot of interesting places. I (to be) with two friend of mine.

-It (not to rain) a lot yesterday.

-Where(spend/you) your last holiday.

-We (to see) beautiful flowers in the garden.

-He (not to miss) the bus.

**Activity 2:**

Write a sentence that expresses a finished action in the past.

Write a sentence that expresses a series of completed actions in the past.