CELEBRITIES

1 Vocabulary

Match the words and phrases to the definitions:

1. a performer
2. successful
3. an album
4. best-selling

a. a music CD or record
b. a person who entertains people, for example somebody who sings, dances, or plays music
c. most popular (many people buy it)
d. popular and/or rich

Name one famous performer, one successful person and one best-selling book or album.

FAMOUS PERFORMER: ...........................................................................

SUCCESSFUL PERSON: ...........................................................................

BEST SELLING BOOK OR ALBUM: .........................................................
The King of Pop

Look at the picture. Who was this person? What do you know about him? Read the text.

Michael Jackson was a famous American singer and performer. According to Guinness World Records, he is the most successful performer of all time. He was born in Gary, Indiana, a city near Chicago. He was one of eight children in an African American family. They lived in a small 3-room house. As a child, he was a member of the pop group The Jackson Five with his brothers. They performed songs, danced, and traveled in the United States. They practiced very hard with their father.

In 1971, Jackson started his career as a solo artist. In the 1980s, he was very popular. People all over the world listened to his music and watched his music videos. They called him the ‘King of Pop’. His album Thriller (1982) is the best-selling album of all time.

Michael Jackson continued to make music in the 1990s, but his personal life and behavior also attracted a lot of attention.

On June 25, 2009, he died of a heart attack. He was 50 years old.

Simple past - regular verbs

The words in bold in the text are the past forms of regular verbs. Answer the questions:

1. How do we form the past of a regular verb like perform, watch, and listen?
2. How do we form the past of a regular verb like live, continue, and die?
3. Find more examples of rule 1 and 2 in the text.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>/d/</th>
<th>/t/</th>
<th>/id/</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>lived</td>
<td>practiced</td>
<td>started</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>listened</td>
<td>watched</td>
<td>attracted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now listen and read the words below. Which category do they belong to?

- wanted - offered - liked - hated - repeated - stopped - corrected
- loved - worked - played - asked
Before they were famous

Complete the facts about the celebrities before they were famous. Use the verbs below in the past.

dress  live  open  play  serve  train  want  work

1. Johnny Depp ____________ as a salesman on the telephone.
2. Brad Pitt ____________ as a chicken for a Mexican restaurant.
3. Tom Cruise ____________ to become a priest.
4. Usain Bolt ____________ cricket.
6. Chuck Norris ____________ a karate school.
7. The singer Rihanna ____________ as an army cadet in Barbados.
8. Jennifer Aniston ____________ food in a restaurant.

Simple past - Negative and question forms

In pairs read the dialogue and answer the questions on the next page:

A: Did Michael Jackson _live_ in New York as a child?
B: No, he _didn't_ _live_ in New York. He _lived_ in Gary, Indiana.
A: Did he _perform_ with the Jackson Five?
B: Yes, he _did_.
A: When _did_ he _start_ his solo career?
B: He _started_ in 1971.
A: Did people _call_ him the King of Rock?
B: No, they _didn't_. They _called_ him the King of Pop.
A: When _did_ he _die_?
B: He _died_ in 2009.
1. How do we form questions with the simple past?
2. What is the negative past form?
3. How do we form short answers with the past form?

### Simple past (regular verbs)

Study the past forms of the verb 'work'.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>affirmative forms</th>
<th>negative forms</th>
<th>questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I worked</td>
<td>I didn't work</td>
<td>Did I work?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You worked</td>
<td>You didn't work</td>
<td>Did you work?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He/she/it worked</td>
<td>He/she/it didn't work</td>
<td>Did he/she/it work?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We worked</td>
<td>We didn't work</td>
<td>Did we work?</td>
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<td>They worked</td>
<td>They didn't work</td>
<td>Did they work?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Short answers**

Yes, I did. / Yes, you did. / Yes, he did...
No, I didn’t. / No, you didn’t. / No, he didn’t...
Practice

Form questions like in the example.


1. Johnny Depp / work / as a computer programmer?

2. Brad Pitt / dress / as a chicken for an Italian restaurant?

3. Tom Cruise / want / to be a dancer?

4. Usain Bolt / play / cricket?

5. Where / Barack Obama / live?

6. Chuck Norris / open / a judo school?

7. Rihanna / train / as an army cadet?

8. Jennifer Aniston / serve / food in a restaurant?

In pairs, ask and answer the questions like in the dialogue.
### Key

1. **Vocabulary**

   Go through the terms. Have the students translate them if necessary. Elicit examples of performers, successful people, and best-selling books/albums.

   1. b
   2. d
   3. a
   4. c

2. **The King of Pop**

   Students read the text in preparation for the follow-up grammar exercises. Be prepared to answer questions about vocabulary and check understanding.

3. **Simple past - regular verbs**

   Draw attention to the regular simple past verbs in the text. Ask students to work out the simple rules for forming the simple past of regular verbs.

   1. we add -ed
   2. we add -d
   3. 1: traveled, started, attracted, called; 2: practiced

   Read out the words and have the students repeat. At this stage, students only need to know that it is easier to pronounce -ed as /d/ after words like 'live', /t/ after words like 'watch', etc. Read out the past forms below and have the students put /d/, /t/ or /id/ next to each word.

   /d/ offered, loved, played
   /t/ liked, stopped, worked, asked
   /id/ wanted, hated, repeated, corrected

4. **Before they were famous**

   Explain what a celebrity is (= a famous person usually in the entertainment business). Go through the verbs, checking understanding. Students can complete the sentences individually and check in pairs.

   1. worked
   2. dressed
   3. wanted
   4. played
   5. lived
   6. opened
   7. trained
   8. served

5. **Simple past - Negative and question forms**

   Have the students read the dialogue in pairs and work out the rules for forming questions, negative sentences and short answers in the simple past.

   1. did + SUBJECT + verb
   2. SUBJECT + didn't + verb
   3. Yes, SUBJECT + did. / No, SUBJECT + didn't

6. **Simple past (regular verbs)**

   Draw attention to the table. Point out that the simple past forms are the same for each person (I, you, he/she/it, we, you, they).
7. Practice

Students can form the questions individually and check in pairs. Have students ask and answer the questions about the celebrities. Encourage short and long answers, e.g. 1 - “No, he didn’t. He worked as a salesman on the telephone.”

1. Did Johnny Depp work as a computer programmer?
2. Did Brad Pitt dress as a chicken for an Italian restaurant?
3. Did Tom Cruise want to be a dancer?
4. Did Usain Bolt play cricket?
5. Where did Barack Obama live?
6. Did Chuck Norris open a judo school?
7. Did Rihanna train as an army cadet?
8. Did Jennifer Aniston serve food in a restaurant?