List of Irregular Verbs:
Study and Practice the Top 50

Study this list of irregular verbs. Then fill in the blanks of the two stories with the past tense form of these irregular verbs. Use the verb in parentheses ( ) after each blank.

1. be (am/is/are)-- was/were
2. begin -- began
3. break-- broke
4. bring-- brought
5. buy-- bought
6. come-- came
7. cost-- cost
8. cut-- cut
9. do-- did
10. drink-- drank
11. drive-- drove
12. eat-- ate
13. fall-- fell
14. feel-- felt
15. find-- found
16. fight-- fought
17. get-- got
18. give-- gave
19. go-- went
20. grow-- grew
21. have (3rd person sing.: has)-- had
22. hear-- heard
23. hold-- held
24. keep-- kept
25. know-- knew
26. lead-- led
27. leave-- left
28. let-- let
29. make-- made
30. meet-- met
31. pay-- paid
32. put-- put
33. read (pronounced ‘reed’)-- read (pronounced ‘red’)
34. run-- ran
35. say-- said
36. see-- saw
37. sell-- sold
38. send-- sent
39. set-- set
40. sit-- sat
41. speak-- spoke
42. stand-- stood
43. take-- took
44. teach-- taught
45. tell-- told
46. think-- thought
47. understand-- understood
48. win-- won
49. write-- wrote

Practice the Top 50 Irregular Verbs

Before she _______ (get) sick, Marie often _______ (go) to swap meets. (Swap meets are outdoor markets where many people sell new or used things. People like to shop at swap meets because prices are often much lower than in stores.) Marie ________ (buy) things that ______ (be-plural) inexpensive, and she ______ (take) them to a different swap meet and ______ (sell) them for a little more. She usually ______ (make) a profit, though she ____ (have) a few bad experiences.

One time someone ______ (give) her counterfeit (fake) money when he ______ (pay) for the item he wanted. After that she looked carefully at money before she ______ (take) it. Another day she ______ (set) a beautiful glass vase that ______ (cost) her a lot too near the edge of her sales table. It ______ (fall) off the table and ______ (break), so she ______ (lose) all the money she ______ (spend) to buy it.

One day Marie ______ (eat) some bad meat. She ______ (feel) sick so she ______ (go) home and rested. Rest _____ (do) not help at all. She just ______ (get) worse. After several days she called the hospital and ______ (speak) to a nurse. The nurse ______ (say), “I think you have food poisoning. You need someone to drive you to the hospital right away.” So Maria’s sister ______ (come) and ______ (drive) her to the hospital.
At the hospital, the doctor told her that she had gotten dehydrated. So she drank lots of water and broth and took all the medicine the doctor gave her. Finally she was better, and the doctor let her leave the hospital. Her sister came and took her home. She finally left the hospital a week after she arrived. She kept telling her sister how glad she felt to go home!

After her illness, Marie was weaker. She could not walk around the swap meet anymore. Even when she just sold things she already had, it was too hard for her. When she stood very long at her sales table, she got tired. So she brought a chair and sat while she worked. But she found that even driving to the swap meet and setting up her stand made her too tired. The doctor said to her, “If you want to get better, you need to stay home for a while.”

Marie stayed home and rested. She read books and saw her favorite shows on T.V. She got cards from her friends that heard she had been sick. But after a week Marie did not want to read or watch T.V. anymore. She was bored.

Marie missed the people she met at the swap meet. So she got a computer and made some friends online. She told them, “Even if I can’t sell things, I can still talk to people!”

Jim became a teacher because he understood science and wanted to share it with others. As he taught, he found that he was learning as much from his students about life as he was teaching them about science. He wrote to his mother, “I began as an expert, and thought I knew a lot, but now I just want to learn more.”

Jim has a hobby. He liked to box. He fought with other amateur boxers, and he often won. He stopped boxing after another boxer hit him near the eye and cut his face badly. His trainer held a clean cloth next to his face to stop the bleeding. But after that he found a new hobby!

Jim had lots of energy. So he ran a marathon, grew a vegetable garden, and put many hours into his school’s science fair. The state science fair commission sent his school an award because so many students did experiments for the fair, and three won blue medals at the state competition. But Jim decided his favorite activity of all was helping the scout troop he led.
Before she got sick, Marie often went to swap meets. (Swap meets are outdoor markets where many people sell new or used things. People like to shop at swap meets because prices are often much lower than in stores.) Marie bought things that were inexpensive, and she took them to a different swap meet and sold them for a little more. She usually made a profit, though she had a few bad experiences.

One time someone gave her counterfeit money when he paid for the item he wanted. After that she looked carefully at money before she took it. Another day she set a beautiful glass vase that cost her a lot too near the edge of her sales table. It fell off the table and broke, so she lost all the money she spent to buy it.

One day Marie ate some bad meat. She felt sick so she went home and rested. Rest did not help at all. She just got worse. After several days she called the hospital and spoke to a nurse. The nurse said, “I think you have food poisoning. You need someone to drive you to the hospital right away.” So Maria’s sister came and drove her to the hospital.

At the hospital, the doctor told her that she had gotten dehydrated. So she drank lots of water and broth and took all the medicine the doctor gave her. Finally she was better, and the doctor let her leave the hospital. Her sister came and took her home. She finally left the hospital a week after she arrived. She kept telling her sister how glad she felt to go home!

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Marie stayed home and rested. She read books and saw her favorite shows on T.V. She got cards from her friends that heard she had been sick. But after a week Marie did not want to read or watch T.V. anymore. She was bored.

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Top 50 Irregular Verbs Practice Answers

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Jim became (become) a teacher because he understood (understand) science and wanted to share it with others. As he taught (teach), he found (find) that he was (be) learning as much from his students about life as he was (be) teaching them about science. He wrote (write) to his mother, “I began (begin) as an expert, and thought (think) I knew (know) a lot, but now I just want to learn more.”

Jim had (has) a hobby. He liked to box. He fought (fight) with other amateur (non-professional) boxers, and he often won (win.) He stopped boxing after another boxer hit him near the eye and cut (cut) his face badly. His trainer held (hold) a clean cloth next to his face to stop the bleeding. But after that he found (find) a new hobby!

Jim had lots of energy. So he ran (run) a marathon, grew (grow) a vegetable garden, and put (put) many hours into his school’s science fair. The state science fair commission sent (send) his school an award because so many students did (do) experiments for the fair, and three won (win) blue medals at the state competition. But Jim decided his favorite activity of all was helping the scout troop he led (lead.)