

16 It was three years ago...

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In this lesson - Talk about the first and last times you did things

Core activities - 2-3, 5-6

Grammar - Past time expressions: **ago, last, when, the first time, the last time**

Examples:

The first time I slept in a tent was when I was eight.

The first time I went to Italy was last year.

The last time I saw her was three days ago.

See 'Language reference' (Teacher's book page 96)

Introduction

1a

Go over the instructions and an example with learners to check understanding.

In pairs, learners match the verbs on the left with the words on the right. Monitor and assist as necessary. Feedback as a class. Teach and board any unfamiliar items.

1a answers

See 1b answers.

1b

In pairs, learners write the past simple form of the verbs above in the column in the middle. You may like to direct learners to the list of irregular verbs on **page 111** of the Student book. Monitor and assist as necessary. Feedback as a class.

1b answers

drive	drove	a car
give	gave	someone a kiss
go	went	on holiday
ride	rode	a bicycle
sail	sailed	on a boat
sleep	slept	in a tent
drink	drank	red wine
eat	ate	Indian food

Listening

2a

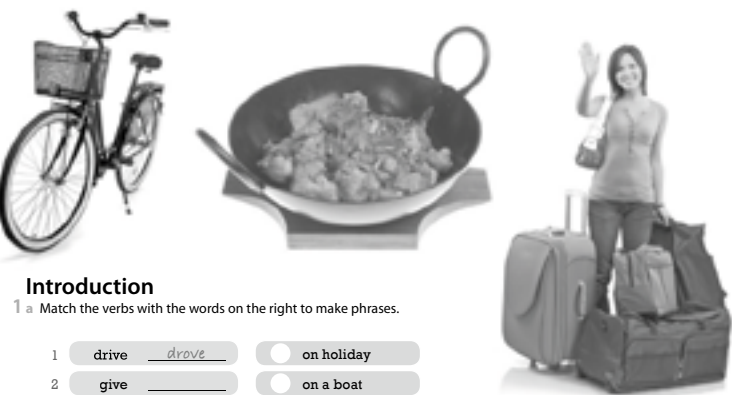
Direct attention to the holiday pictures on the page. Explain that they are all of the same woman, Sue. Explain that learners will listen to Sue talk about the pictures with her friend, Colin. Go over instructions and check understanding.

CD S - 30 Play CD. Learners listen and letter the pictures in the order they are talked about.

Feedback in pairs and then as a class.

16 It was three years ago...

In this lesson: Talk about the first and last times you did things
Grammar: Past time expressions: *ago, last, when, the first time, the last time*



Introduction

1 a Match the verbs with the words on the right to make phrases.

- | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|----------------|
| 1 | drive | drove | on holiday |
| 2 | give | | on a boat |
| 3 | go | | a car |
| 4 | ride | | someone a kiss |
| 5 | sail | | a bicycle |
| 6 | sleep | | red wine |
| 7 | drink | | Indian food |
| 8 | eat | | in a tent |

b Complete the table in **activity 1a** with the past simple form of the verbs.



2a answers

Clockwise from top left: a, c, b

CDS - script 30 (page 88, Student book) 1:07

a)

Colin - Is this you?

Sue - Oh yes, it's me! It was a long time ago! I drove that car around Europe when I was 18. That was the first time I visited Italy.

b)

Sue - This is John and me in Egypt last year. We saw the pyramids and went down the River Nile on a boat. It was the first time I rode a camel.

Colin - It looks dangerous!

Sue - No! It was fun!

c)

Colin - This is a good one.

Sue - Yes. This is my brother, Mark, and me. That was 30 years ago. Our parents took us on a camping holiday. It was the first time I slept in a tent.

Colin - How old were you?

Sue - I was six and Mark was seven.

Listening

2 a **CD - 30** Listen to Colin and Sue talk about Sue's holiday photos. Letter the photos in the order they talk about them.



rode a camel

visited Italy

slept in a tent



b **CD - 30** Listen again.

Complete the sentences about Sue with the words from the box, above.

- 1 The first time she _____ was 30 years ago.
- 2 The first time she _____ was last year.
- 3 The first time she _____ was when she was 18.

c Do you think she enjoyed her holidays?

2b

CD S - 30 Learners listen again and complete the sentences with the words from the box. Feedback in pairs and then as a class.

2b answer

- 1) The first time she **slept in a tent** was 30 years ago.
- 2) The first time she **rode a camel** was last year.
- 3) The first time she **visited Italy** was when she was 18.

2c

As a rounding off activity, ask learners if they think Sue enjoyed her holidays? Why?

Language focus

Go over the explanations and examples with learners. Draw attention to the example of this language in **activity 2b**.

Practice

3a
Draw attention to the story and the picture of the boy with the broken arm. Elicit some ideas about what the story may be about. In pairs, learners read the story and put the verbs in brackets into the past simple. Make sure that learners understand that they should ignore the white gaps and the words in the box at this stage. Monitor and assist as necessary. Feedback as a group. Were learners’ predictions about the story correct?

3a answers
See CDS script 31.

3b
Direct attention to the words in the box. In pairs, learners put the words from the box into the white spaces to complete the story.

3b answers
See CDS script 31.

3c
CD S - 31 Feedback. Learners listen to check their answers.

CDS - script 31 (page 88, Student book) 0:36
*The first time I went to hospital was twenty years ago. I **fell off** my bicycle when I was ten and **broke** my arm. It really **hurt**. My mother **took** me to the doctor and he **put** my arm in a sling. I couldn’t get dressed or do homework for three months. It **was** great! I broke my arm again last week. I **fell** of my bicycle!*

Sounding natural

4a
Draw attention to the underlined words the underlined words in the sentences.
CD S - 32 Learners listen for how we pronounce ‘was’ in connected speech.

4a answers
We generally use the weak form: /wəz/

CDS - script 32 (page 88, Student book) 0:24
*1) It was last summer.
2) It was a year ago.
3) It was when I was twenty.*

Language focus

ago means ‘before now’.
We use it with a period of time.

eight years **ago** = eight years before now
one week **ago** = one week before now

last means ‘the most recent’.
We use it with a point in time.

last week
last year

We can use **when** with a clause to talk about the time something happened.

when I was at high school
when we were six

We use **the first time** to talk about when we did something new.

The first time I slept in a tent was when I was eight.
The first time I went to Italy was last year.

We use **the last time** to talk about the most recent time we did something.

The last time I saw her was three days ago
The last time I ate curry was last night.

Question	Answer
When was the first / last time you slept in a tent?	(It was) last summer. (It was) a year ago. (It was) when I was twenty. I’ve never slept in a tent.

Practice

3 a Read the story and put the verbs in brackets into the past simple.

The first time I went to hospital was _____.

I _____ (fall off) my bicycle when _____

and _____ (break) my arm. It really _____ (hurt).

My mother _____ (take) me to the doctor and

he _____ (put) my arm in a sling. I couldn’t get dressed or

do homework for three months. It _____ (be) great! I broke my

arm again last _____. I _____ (fall off) my bicycle!

b Write the words from the box in the remaining spaces to complete the story.

twenty years ago I was ten week

c **CD - 31** Listen and check your answers.

46 lesson 16

47 lesson 16

Sounding natural

4 a **CD - 32** Listen to the sentences. How do we pronounce the underlined words?

- It was last summer.
- It was a year ago.
- It was when I was twenty.

b **CD - 32** Listen again and copy the pronunciation.

Time to talk

5 a Read the questions below. Make a note of your answers.

1. When was the first time you went on a date?

2. When was the last time you played sports?

3. When was the last time you ate an ice cream?

4. When was the first time you drank beer?

5.

6.

7.

8.

b Write four more questions about first times and last times. Add them to the list of questions in **activity 5a**.

6 a Work with a partner. Ask and answer the questions in **activity 5**. Ask more questions for extra information. Make a note of your partner’s answers.
example - When was the last time you ate ice cream?
- It was last summer, when I was on holiday.
- What flavour was it?

b Tell the class about your partner.
example The last time Eri ate ice cream was...

Homework - turn to page 101

4b
CD S - 32 Play CD again, pausing between each sentence for learners to repeat. Remodel and drill as necessary.

Time to talk

5a
Read through the questions and check understanding. You may like to make notes of your own answers to the questions as a model, and to illustrate how to make notes in English. Allow learners time to think and make a note of their own answers. Monitor and assist as necessary.

5b
Learners write four more questions about first and last times and add them to the list of questions in **activity 5a**. You may like to first elicit some possible questions from the class as a whole. Allow learners time to think and write. Monitor and assist as necessary.

6a
In pairs, learners ask and answer the questions on their lists. Highlight the example and encourage learners to ask for and give additional information when speaking. Monitor, but stay in the background as much as possible in this activity.

6b
Feedback. Learners tell the class about their partner.

Highlight good use of vocabulary and language. Elicit correction of errors/mistakes.

Homework

Highlight the homework reference at the bottom right of **page 67** of the Student book. Ask learners to turn to **page 101**. Set lesson 16 **activities 1** and **2** for homework. Go over the example for **activity 1** as a class. Make sure learners understand what to do for **activity 2** (you may like to elicit some learners’ answers for the example question in **activity 1**).

Homework answers

1

a) When was the first time you drove a car?
b) When was the last time you went shopping?
c) When was the first time you drank beer?
d) When was the first time you met your best friend?
e) When was the last time you wrote a letter?
f) When was the last time you had an argument?

2

Learner’s own answers.

72 Time to Talk orange Book S - teacher’s book

Lesson 16

Lesson 16

Time to Talk orange Book S - teacher’s book 73