

# The Preterite Tense

There are two past tenses in Spanish. The *Preterite* is the past tense that is used for actions completed in the past. The other past tense is the *Imperfect*, and is used to give more description regarding past actions in undefined time periods. Much time in 2nd-year Spanish will be devoted to practicing using these two verb tenses. For now, you will focus only on conjugating verbs in the *Preterite*.

<b><u>-AR Verbs</u></b>	<b>Singular</b>	<b>Plural</b>
<b>1st Person</b>	<b>-é</b>	<b>-amos</b>
<b>2nd Person</b>	<b>-aste</b>	<b>-asteis</b>
<b>3rd Person</b>	<b>-ó</b>	<b>-aron</b>

<u>-ER/-IR Verbs</u>	Singular	Plural
1st Person	-í	-imos
2nd Person	-iste	-isteis
3rd Person	-ió	-ieron

## Examples:

Por dos años yo **viví** en Portugal. → For two years I lived in Portugal.  
Ayer tú **caminaste** al parque. → Yesterday you walked to the park.  
Ellos **vinieron** anoche para visitarnos. → They came last night to visit us.

Mis amigos y yo **salimos** esta mañana a las diez.  
→ My friends and I left this morning at 10:00.

## Helpful Vocabulary Used with the Preterite Tense:

una vez	one time	entonces	then
ayer	yesterday	el mes pasado	last month
anteayer	day before yesterday	esta tarde	this afternoon
anoche	last night	en ese momento	in that moment
esta mañana	this morning	la semana pasada	last week
el año pasado	last year	hace ____ días	____ days ago
el lunes pasado	last Monday	por ____ años	for ____ years
el otro día	the other day		