

Unit 23

A Loaf of Bread



GIARDINA CLAUDIA

A Loaf of Bread

- Marg. - What awful weather! And we are in the middle of summer! It seems impossible!
- Tom - Yes. It reminds me of a summer day when I was a boy of fourteen. We didn't live in New York then, but in a quiet little town in California.
- Marg. - How awful! I detest quiet little towns!
- Tom - Well, I liked it very much. I had so many friends there.
- Marg. - All right dear. Go on!
- Tom - Well, one summer evening, about eight o'clock, a storm began. And it was a real storm! - With thunder, lightning and hail. It was the worst storm that I can remember.
Suddenly my mother said, "We have no bread in the house! One of you boys must go and buy a loaf at once! Before the shops close! Which of you wants to go?"
Well, of course I didn't want to go. So I looked at my brother James. And he looked at me. And I was sorry for him because he had a bad cold.
- Marg. - The poor boy!
- Tom - So I said, "All right, Mom." And I went off on my bicycle.
- Marg. - I can't imagine you on a bicycle!
- Tom - Well, I went into the storm...
The lightning nearly blinded me. And the thunder deafened me. At last I fell off my bicycle! And in that moment it began to rain! Torrents of rain! I was almost drowned!
- Marg. - My poor darling!
- Tom - But I went on my way, pushing the bicycle, because it was impossible to ride it, in all that rain. But I didn't care. I felt so proud. I thought, "Tom, my boy, - you are a hero!"
- Marg. - And you were a hero, darling!

(continuation) A Loaf of Bread

Tom - But the rain wasn't my only trouble. When I reached the shops, I found them all closed! At last I found one - just one - still open... and it was a baker's shop!

Marg. - What good luck!

Tom - It certainly was! Well, I bought the only remaining loaf in the shop - and turned back home. I can't describe the journey back! I fell off the bicycle again - and dirtied all my clothes with mud, of course.

Marg. - Oh! You poor darling!

Tom - But I didn't worry about that. I was too busy thinking about my return home. I imagined all the family embracing me and saying, "Our Tom is a hero!"

Marg. - Yes, dear! And I can imagine how proud of you they all were when you arrived home!

Tom - Well, when at last I reached home, I didn't say a word. I just put the loaf on the table - and waited modestly for the applause and the embraces...

Marg. - You darling!

Tom - But my mother just gave one look at the loaf. Then she said, "He bought white bread instead of brown!"

Elenco dei verbi irregolari apparsi nel dialogo "A Loaf of Bread".

Base Form		Past		Past Participle		
begin	bigin	began	bigæn	begun	bigʌn	<i>cominciare</i>
say	sei	said	sed	said	sed	<i>dire</i>
go	gou	went	went	gone	gʌn	<i>andare</i>
fall	fo:l	fell	fel	fallen	fo:lən	<i>cadere</i>
feel	fi:l	felt	felt	felt	felt	<i>sentire</i>
think	θɪŋk	thought	θo:t	thought	θo:t	<i>pensare</i>
find	faɪnd	found	faʊnd	found	faʊnd	<i>trovare</i>
buy	bai	bought	bo:t	bought	bo:t	<i>comprare</i>
put	put	put	put	put	put	<i>mettere</i>
give	gɪv	gave	geɪv	given	gɪvən	<i>dare</i>



regular verbs = verbi regolari

Nella "Unit 22" abbiamo detto che il "Past" e il "Past Participle" dei verbi regolari si formano aggiungendo "ed" o "d" alla "base form".

base form	work	live
past	worked	lived
past participle	worked	lived

Se cerchiamo un verbo in un dizionario, si vede se è *regolare* o *irregolare*.

to work (pt e p.p. worked) = lavorare **verbo regolare**

irregular verbs = verbi irregolari

I verbi irregolari *non* formano il "past" e il "past participle" con "ed" o "d".

base form	past	past participle
go	went	gone
come	came	come

Se cerchiamo "to go" in un dizionario troviamo:

to go (pt. went, p.p. gone) = andare **verbo irregolare**

"To go" è irregolare perché il passato e il participio passato *non* si formano aggiungendo "ed" alla *forma base*.

past simple regolare		past simple irregolare	
I	worked	I	went
you	worked	you	went
he	worked	he	went
we	worked	we	went
you	worked	you	went
they	worked	they	went



in the middle of = *nel mezzo di*

Tom

- One evening, **in the middle of** the summer, there was a terrible storm.

In the middle of the storm, my mother said, "Tom, go and buy a loaf of bread!"

"But Mom," I answered - "In this storm? And it's too far! The baker's shop is **in the middle of** town!"

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to remember = *ricordare*

to forget = *dimenticare*

Abel

When I **forget** to put my room in order or to make my bed, my mother often says to me, "It's more convenient to **forget** than to **remember**."

She says this because I only **forget**, or pretend to **forget**, what I don't like to do.

So my mother is always saying to me, "**Remember** to put your clothes in the wardrobe. Don't leave them all over the room. - Don't **forget** to clean your shoes before going to school. - **Remember** to turn off the lights before leaving your room." And so on, and so on.

Of course she needn't tell me, "**Remember** to telephone Barbara, or, don't **forget** that on Sunday you have an appointment with your friends to play football."

Mom is right; I only **forget** what is boring and unpleasant.
===

to pretend = *fingere* lights = *luci*

wardrobe = *armadio* appointment = *appuntamento*

to turn off = *spegnere* unpleasant = *sgradevole*

she needn't tell me = *non c'è bisogno che mi dica*

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to remind = (far) ricordare a qualcuno - rammentare - richiamare alla memoria

Remind me to go to the bank. = Ricordami di andare...

Remind me that I must go to the bank. = Ricordami che...

Tom and Margaret

- Tom - Margaret!
 Marg. - Yes, dear?
 Tom - If I forget, please **remind** me to telephone my brother James to wish him a happy birthday.
 Marg. - Oh, yes, dear! That **reminds** me **that** I have to send him a present.
 Tom - And **remind** me **that** I must go to the bank to change some dollars.
 Marg. - Yes, darling.
 Tom - And please **remind** me **that** on Friday I have an appointment with the dentist.
 Marg. - Of course, dear.

to remind of

You **remind** me **of** your mother. = Mi ricordi tua madre.

Tom and Margaret

- Tom - Margaret, when you smile you **remind** me **of** your mother.
 Marg. - Do I look like Mother?
 Tom - Yes, dear. Especially when you smile.

 Tom - Margaret, your friend Caroline **reminds** me **of** a zoo.
 Marg. - What do you mean?
 Tom - Well, when she laughs, she **reminds** me **of** a hyena... and when she talks, she **reminds** me **of** a monkey.
 Marg. - Oh, Tom! How can you say such things?!
 ===
 zoo = giardino zoologico monkey = scimmia
 hyena = iena such = tale



to remind = (far) ricordare a qualcuno - rammentare -
richiamare alla memoria

to remember = ricordare

(Tom and Margaret)

Tom doesn't **remember** that Margaret has a little niece. He has a bad memory.

Margaret **reminds** him that she has a little niece. She says to him, "You know that my sister has a little daughter. Little Alice."

"Yes. Now I **remember**," says Tom.

"Well," says Margaret, "as your memory is so bad, I hope that you won't forget that we are engaged! I shall **remind** you every day that I am your fiancée."

"Oh no, darling," laughs Tom, "it will never be necessary to **remind** me of that. I remember it every minute of the day."

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1. **then** = allora

- This ice cream is delicious, Tom!
- **Then** have another one.

2. **then** = dopo, poi

- Waiter! I'll have soup, **then** fried fish, **then** a steak, **then** coffee.

3. **then** = allora, a quel tempo (in those days)

Robert and Millie

Millie - Robert! You always say that I am silly! If I am so silly, why did you marry me?

Robert - You were different **then**.

Millie - Oh, Robert! You were different **then**, too! You never said cruel things to me **then**. You were never rude to me **then**! You were romantic **then**!

Robert - Romantic! Ha ha ha

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one

one day (morning, afternoon, evening, night...)

Quando ci riferiamo a un tempo nel passato o nel futuro usiamo "one".

Abel

- One of these days I must buy some good stereo headphones, so I can listen to music even at midnight, without being punished.

One morning, last week, I was dressing and listening to some nice rock music. I assure you, the volume was quite low, but my father came into the room quite angry and scolded me.

Then, one evening, I was studying and listening to some jazz music to keep me company, but my mother came into the room very irritated and said that the music was getting on her nerves. So I had to stop.

One day, when I have my own house, I will buy a very powerful stereo set and I will put two loudspeakers in each room, even in the bathroom, so I can listen to music day and night, in every part of the house.

===

headphones	= cuffia	to keep me	= per tenermi
to punish	= punire	my own	= la mia propria
to assure	= assicurare	powerful	= potente
to scold	= rimproverare	loudspeaker	= altoparlante

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sudden = improvviso

suddenly = improvvisamente

Tom

One summer evening, it suddenly began to rain. Ten minutes later the rain stopped and it suddenly began to thunder.

Suddenly my mother said, "We have no bread in the house! One of you boys must go and buy a loaf of bread."

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Go and buy...	= Va a comprare... (lett. Va e compra...)
Come and see me.	= Vieni a vedermi. - Vieni a trovarmi.
Try and eat more fruit.	= Cerca di mangiare più frutta.
I'll try and do it.	= Cercherò di farlo.

In inglese è frequente trovare due imperativi o due futuri uniti da "and".

Abel and his Mother

- Mother - Abel!
- Abel - Yes, Mummy!
- Mother - **Come and sit** next to me. I want to tell you something.
- Abel - Yes, Mummy.
- Mother - What were you doing, dear?
- Abel - I was just learning a piece of poetry by heart.
- Mother - All right. When you finish, **go and buy** your father's newspaper.
- Abel - All right, Mom. May I take the dog with me?
- Mother - Of course. And when you come back, **try and put** some order in your room.
- Abel - **I'll try and do** it before going to bed.
- Mother - And don't forget **to go and see** Mr. Wilson. He has telephoned twice already.
- Abel - Yes, Mom. **I'll go and see** him this evening, after dinner.
- ===
- by heart = a memoria (lett. a cuore)
- may I take...? = posso portare...?

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may

Quando si chiede un permesso, è più corretto usare "may" invece di "can".

- May** I come in? = Posso entrare?
- May** I go out? = Posso uscire?
- May** I sit down? = Posso sedermi?
- May** I open the window? = Posso aprire la finestra?

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thunder = *tuono*

Per dire "un tuono, due tuoni" etc., non si può dire:
~~one thunder, two thunders...~~

Si deve dire: a **clap** of thunder, two **claps** of thunder etc.

oppure: a **thunderclap**, two **thunderclaps** etc.

lightning = *fulmine, lampo*

Per dire "un fulmine, due fulmini..." si dice:

a **flash** of lightning, two **flashes** of lightning etc.

===

clap = *scoppio; colpo secco*

flash = *bagliore; fiammata*

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immediately = *immediatamente*

at once = *immediatamente*

Come here **immediately!**

Stop that **at once!**

Robert and Millie

Rob. - Well, I must go to work. It's late. Have you ironed my blue shirt?

Millie - Just a minute, Robert! I'm ironing it now. I've nearly finished.

Rob. - But I must go out **at once!** Do you understand? **At once! AT ONCE!**

Millie - But can't you wait for just one minute, dear?

Rob. - No! When I say - "**At once!**" - I mean **AT ONCE!**

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iron = *ferro; ferro da stiro*

to iron = *stirare*

nearly = *quasi*

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1. cold = *freddo*

It is cold. = *Fa freddo. (lett. Esso è freddo.)*

I'm cold. = *Ho freddo. (lett. Io sono freddo.)*

In December and in January, when the weather is **cold**, you usually hear expressions like these:

It's so **cold** today!

It's bitterly **cold**!

I feel so **cold**!

2. cold = *raffreddore*

I have a bad cold. = *Ho un "cattivo" raffreddore.*

I have caught a cold. = *Ho preso un raffreddore.*

In winter lots of people catch **colds**.

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to catch - caught - caught = *prendere; acchiappare*

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Robert and Millie

Millie - Oh Robert! It is so **cold** today! And I feel so ill! I have a terrible cold.

Rob. - Well, in winter, you catch a **cold** every month.

Millie - Yes, I know. But this time I have caught a frightful cold.

Rob. - Don't exaggerate! Don't make a fuss! A **cold** isn't a serious thing. It won't kill you.

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frightful = *terribile; spaventoso*

don't make a fuss! = *Non fare storie!*

to kill = *uccidere*

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off**to go off** = *andare via*Tom **went off** on his bicycle.**to keep off** = *stare alla larga***Keep off** the grass! = *Non calpestare l'erba!***to take off** = *togliersi***Take off** your coat! = *Togliti la giacca!***to get off** = *scendere da***to get off a bus, a train, a plane...**

Quando siamo arrabbiati con qualcuno e vogliamo dirgli di **andar via**, possiamo usare le espressioni: **Buzz off!** **Clear off!**
Però, attenzione, sono piuttosto offensive!

Quando troviamo "off" in una macchina o un apparato elettrico, significa: "staccato, disinserito, spento".

Nota L'opposto di "off" è "on".



Osserva come le preposizioni modificano il significato dei verbi.

to go

to go in	= entrare	(lett. andare dentro)
to go out	= uscire	(andare fuori)
to go up	= salire	(andare su)
to go down	= scendere	(andare giù)
to go back	= ritornare	(andare indietro)
to go away	= andarsene	(andare via)
to go off	= andarsene	(andare via)



1. **the last** = *l'ultimo*

December is **the last** month of the year.

Tom bought **the last** loaf of bread in the shop.

2. **last** = *scorso*

last week - **last** month - **last** year

3. **at last** = *alla fine*

At last Tom fell off the bicycle.

> Robert was really impossible yesterday! At lunch time he complained about the food.

In the afternoon Millie's mother telephoned and disturbed his afternoon nap, so he complained about that, too.

At last Millie said, "Robert, when you married you made a big mistake."

And do you know what he answered? - "**At last** you have said something intelligent!"

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open = *aperto (aggettivo)*

The window is **open**. = *La finestra è aperta.*

> Tom found only one shop still **open**.

In summer I like to sleep with my bedroom window **open**.

The bank is **open** from 9 to 2.

opened = *aperto (participio passato)*

- Why have you **opened** the window?

- Because I feel hot.

Nota The window is **opened**. **Errore!**

The window is **open**. **Corretto!**

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to arrive = *arrivare; giungere*

To arrive **at** the station.

To arrive **in** London.

To arrive **there**.

To arrive **on** time. = *Arrivare in orario.*

To arrive **home**.

Every morning George gets up early. He does everything in a hurry because he doesn't want to **arrive at** the station late.

When he **arrives** there, he waits patiently for the train.

When the train arrives **on** time George smiles happily.

After an hour or so, he **arrives in** London.

Before starting work he usually has a glass of milk and a sandwich.

At midday he has a very light lunch, so when he **arrives home** in the evening he is quite hungry.

===

an hour or so = *circa un'ora*

to reach = *raggiungere; arrivare*

When Tom **reached** the shops he found them all closed.

When James **reached** the age of eighteen, he changed completely.

To reach the station.

To arrive **at** the station.

To reach London.

To arrive **in** London.

To reach there.

To arrive there.

(uguale)

To reach on time.

To arrive on time.

(uguale)

To reach home.

To arrive home.

(uguale)

* * *

to push = *spingere*

> Tom **pushed** his bicycle because he couldn't ride it.

Don't **push!** = *Non spingere!*

to pull = *tirare*



word formation = *formazione delle parole*

deaf = *sordo*

to deafen = *assordare*

dark = *oscuro, scuro*

to darken = *oscurare, oscurarsi*

Aggiungendo **-en** a certi **nomi** ed **aggettivi** si formano alcuni verbi.

Ecco un elenco dei più comuni:

deep	<i>profondo</i>	to deepen	= <i>approfondire</i>
fat	<i>grasso</i>	to fatten	= <i>ingrassare</i>
hard	<i>duro</i>	to harden	= <i>indurire -si</i>
height	<i>altezza</i>	to heighten	= <i>innalzare</i>
length	<i>lunghezza</i>	to lengthen	= <i>allungare</i>
quick	<i>veloce</i>	to quicken	= <i>accelerare</i>
sharp	<i>tagliante; appuntito</i>	to sharpen	= <i>affilare; appuntire</i>
short	<i>corto</i>	to shorten	= <i>accorciare</i>
strength	<i>forza</i>	to strengthen	= <i>rafforzare</i>
sweet	<i>dolce</i>	to sweeten	= <i>addolcire</i>
weak	<i>debole</i>	to weaken	= <i>indebolire</i>

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to ride - rode - ridden = *montare, cavalcare*

to ride a horse, a bicycle, a motorcycle

to ride on a horse... etc

to drive - drove - driven = *guidare*

to drive a car, a bus, a lorry **lorry** = *camion*

When Tom was a boy of fourteen he liked **to ride** a bicycle.

When he was sixteen he **rode** a motorcycle.

But from eighteen on, he only wanted **to drive** cars.

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saxon genitive

Il "Saxon Genitive" si può usare pure per riferirsi alla casa o al posto di lavoro di qualcuno.

the baker's	=	panettiere
the butcher's	=	macellaio
the hairdresser's	=	parrucchiere
the barber's	=	barbiere
the dentist's	=	dentista
the chemist's	=	farmacista
the doctor's	=	medico

Cioè : The baker's shop. - The butcher's shop. etc.

Nota Nell'inglese moderno, queste espressioni si usano spesso senza 's.

> Lydia goes to the hairdresser twice a week.

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care = cura; attenzione

to care about = preoccuparsi di

Lydia only cares about clothes and jewels.

to take care = fare attenzione, stare attento

Take care! = Attento!

Take care with that dog! = Attento con quel cane!

to take care of somebody = prendersi cura di qualcuno

Mothers take care of their children.

Nurses and doctors take care of their patients.

Nota In frasi interrogative e negative significa: essere indifferenti.

Who cares? = Che importa? Chi se ne frega?

I don't care. = Non m'importa.

I couldn't care less. = Non me ne importa proprio nulla.

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Ivan

Dear cousin Abel,

I **hope** you, my sweet cousin Debra, uncle Giuseppe and aunt Vivian are in good health.

Forgive me for not having written before. I **have been** very busy.

Abel, you will not believe it! At last I **have found** a job that I love! I work for an organization that **helps refugees** to obtain political asylum in America.

The job I had before, **besides** paying very little, was also very boring. Imagine, making beds, putting in order hotel rooms and **cleaning** toilets!

I don't make much money where I work now, but I enjoy what I'm doing.

As you know, for many years I have been a member of the WWF (World Wildlife Fund), the famous organization that for so many years has worked for the **protection** of **nature**.

Well some of my friends and relatives kept saying that all I cared about was animals and the **environment**. You know very well that this is not **true**! I care about people, too, especially children and old people.

This is the **main** reason why I love my new job. Now I take care of refugees; these poor **unfortunate** people who must leave their countries and often their families because their lives are **in danger**.

Most of them are political and religious refugees. They come from countries where they must be careful about what they say or do. Many of them have been **tortured** and have lived for many years in **jail**.

spero

sono stato

ho trovato

aiuta rifugiati

oltre

pulire

come tu sai

*protezione >
natura*

*ambiente
vero*

*principale
sfortunate*

in pericolo

*torturati
carcere*

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(continuation) Ivan

When I started working for this organization, my boss **said to me**, "Ivan, be careful what you do. Your work is very important, the happiness of many people depends on you".

mi disse

You know that many people have wrong ideas about me, just because I didn't want to go to college and **because of** my long hair.

a causa dei

Where I work now nobody could care less about my hair and still less about my earrings. They only care about the way I work, and so far everybody is **satisfied** with me.

soddisfatto

Often, when I go back home, I take some work with me, so that I can go on working for a few hours. Of course, I take care not **to misplace** any documents, because they are all very important.

smarrire

Of course not everybody is satisfied with my new job. They say that I don't make enough money. But who cares? I am happy with **what** I am doing. And I don't care what people say.

ciò che

When you come to America you must help me with my Spanish, because some of these refugees come from Spanish speaking countries, and most of them can't speak English.

My girlfriend Rosy is fine, but I don't see her often, because she is very busy, too. Besides her work, she must help her mother with the housework and she must take care of her younger sister.

Important news: I have bought a new computer. **As soon as** I am **connected to** the Internet, I'm going to send you an e-mail. Take care!

*appena >
collegato a*

Love,

saluti

Your cousin Ivan



Millie

The weather was terrible yesterday! First it rained, and then a terrible storm **began**. It was the worst storm that I can remember - thunder, lightning, rain and hail! The thunder almost deafened me! I am so afraid of thunder. Robert always says that I am silly, because it is only the lightning that can hurt you. Not the thunder. But the thunder makes so much noise. And **I'm afraid** of noise. The lightning doesn't make any noise. But when I say that to Robert, he always says, "You are the silliest woman in the world!"

cominciò

Well, in the morning Robert didn't go to the factory because the weather was so bad. I went to the market, of course, because poor Robert must eat, good weather or bad weather.

ho paura

So I went off to the market in my old **raincoat**, and with Robert's umbrella. (My umbrella is **broken**.)

*impermeabile
rotto*

Oh, the rain! It nearly **drowned me**! And I just can't describe the **journey** back! I had so many parcels that I couldn't open the umbrella. I had **bought** meat, potatoes, tomatoes, **lettuces**, spinach, oranges, bread, chocolates, sugar, coffee, tea, jam and biscuits.

*mi annegava
cammino*

The packet of biscuits fell into the **mud**! And when at last I reached home I was so tired that I couldn't speak a word. But Robert didn't care about that. He was too busy opening all the parcels. Suddenly he said, "You have bought apples instead of oranges! Why can't you remember that I prefer oranges? Go back to the market at once!"

*comprato >
lattughe*

"But Robert!" I said, "In all this rain? I shall be drowned!"

fango

>>>

(continuation) Millie

But he just laughed and said, "You always exaggerate! A little rain won't hurt you. Don't be ridiculous! And don't waste time! Go back to the market at once, if you want to find good oranges!"

Well, I have always **known** that Robert hasn't got a very kind heart. And every day that passes it **gets worse**. But I couldn't believe that his **cruelty** could reach this **point**.

Without answering I went to the kitchen and began to put the vegetables in the refrigerator. After a moment Robert came into the kitchen, and with his mouth full of chocolate said in a nasty tone of voice, "What about the oranges?" I didn't say a word. When I finished putting everything in order, I calmly went **towards** the bathroom. Robert **followed me** without speaking. When I reached the bathroom door I opened it, got in, and **locked** the door behind me.

After a moment I **heard** Robert's voice shouting, "What about the oranges?" - I **hesitated** for a moment, then I said in a strong, **clear** voice, "If you want your stupid oranges, take the umbrella and go to the market **yourself!**"

I generally take a shower very quickly, because I have always so many things to do, and also because I don't want to waste hot water. But this time I **decided** to take a nice hot **bath** instead of a shower.

An hour later I came out of the bathroom and went to the bedroom, put on some **warm clothes**, took a nice book, sat down in a comfortable armchair and began to read.

*saputo
diventa peggio
crudeltà
punto*

verso - mi segui

chiusi a chiave

*udii
esitai
chiara*

tu stesso

decisi - bagno

*vestiti che >
tengono caldi*



Irregular Verbs

I verbi irregolari hanno forme proprie che si debbono imparare a memoria. Diamo un elenco dei verbi irregolari più comuni.

Alla fine del libro c'è un elenco più completo.

Il "past simple", oltre al passato remoto traduce l'imperfetto, e a volte il passato prossimo. - Quindi, "I went" può significare: andai; andavo; sono andato.

Base Form		Past Simple		Past Participle	
be	bi:	was-were	woz- wɜ:	been	bi:n essere
begin	biɡɪn	began	biɡən	begun	biɡʌn incominciare
blow	bləʊ	blew	blu:	blown	bləʊn soffiare
break	breɪk	broke	brouk	broken	broukən rompere
bring	briŋ	brought	bro:t	brought	bro:t portare
buy	baɪ	bought	bo:t	bought	bo:t comprare
choose	tʃu:z	chose	tʃouz	chosen	tʃouzn scegliere
come	kʌm	came	keɪm	come	kʌm venire
cost	kɔst	cost	kɔst	cost	kɔst costare
cut	kʌt	cut	kʌt	cut	kʌt tagliare
dig	dɪɡ	dug	dʌɡ	dug	dʌɡ zappare
do	du:	did	dɪd	done	dʌn fare
dream	dri:m	dreamt	dremt	dreamt	dremt sognare
drink	driŋk	drank	dræŋk	drunk	drʌŋk bere
drive	draɪv	drove	drouv	driven	drɪvɪn guidare
eat	i:t	ate	eɪt	eaten	i:tn mangiare



Base Form		Past Simple		Past Participle		
fall	fɔ:l	fell	fel	fallen	fɔ:lən	<i>cadere</i>
feel	fi:l	felt	felt	felt	felt	<i>sentire</i>
find	faɪnd	found	faʊnd	found	faʊnd	<i>trovare</i>
fly	flaɪ	flew	flu:	flown	flaʊn	<i>volare</i>
forget	fəʒet	forgot	fəʒət	forgotten	fəʒətən	<i>dimenticare</i>
get	get	got	gət	got	gət	<i>diventare</i>
give	gɪv	gave	geɪv	given	gɪvn	<i>dare</i>
go	ɡoʊ	went	went	gone	ɡɒn	<i>andare</i>
have	hæv	had	hæd	had	hæd	<i>avere</i>
hear	hiə	heard	hɜ:d	heard	hɜ:d	<i>udire</i>
know	nəʊ	knew	nju:	known	nəʊn	<i>sapere, conoscere</i>
lead	li:d	led	led	led	led	<i>condurre</i>
learn	lɜ:n	learnt	lɜ:nt	learnt	lɜ:nt	<i>imparare</i>
leave	li:v	left	left	left	left	<i>lasciare, partire</i>
lie	laɪ	lay	lei	lain	leɪn	<i>stendersi</i>
make	meɪk	made	meɪd	made	meɪd	<i>fare</i>
meet	mi:t	met	met	met	met	<i>incontrare</i>
pay	peɪ	paid	peɪd	paid	peɪd	<i>pagare</i>
put	put	put	put	put	put	<i>mettere</i>
read	ri:d	read	red	read	red	<i>leggere</i>
ring	rɪŋ	rang	ræŋ	rung	rʌŋ	<i>suonare</i>
say	sei	said	sed	said	sed	<i>dire</i>



Base Form		Past Simple		Past Participle	
see	si:	saw	sə:	seen	si:n vedere
send	send	sent	sent	sent	sent inviare
shine	ʃain	shone	ʃɔn	shone	ʃɔn brillare
shut	ʃʌt	shut	ʃʌt	shut	ʃʌt chiudere
sing	siŋ	sang	sæŋ	sung	sʌŋ cantare
sit	sit	sat	sæt	sat	sæt sedere -si
sleep	sli:p	slept	slept	slept	slept dormire
speak	spi:k	spoke	spouk	spoken	spoukən parlare
spend	spend	spent	spent	spent	spent spendere
stand	stænd	stood	stud	stood	stud stare in piedi
swim	swim	swam	swæm	swum	swʌm nuotare
take	teik	took	tuk	taken	teikən prendere
tell	tel	told	tould	told	tould dire
think	θiŋk	thought	θɔ:t	thought	θɔ:t pensare
wake	weik	woke	wouk	woken	woukən svegliare -si
wear	weə	wore	wɔ:	worn	wɔ:n indossare
write	rait	wrote	rout	written	ritn scrivere
understand	ʌndəstænd	understood	ʌndəstʊd	understood	ʌndəstʊd capire

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Carmelo Mangano – <http://www.englishforitalians.com>

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Questo brano è stato scritto per esercitarsi ad usare i verbi al "past simple".

Sulla destra c'è la traduzione del "past simple" dei verbi irregolari solamente.

Il "past simple" dei verbi regolari finisce sempre in "-ed".

Abel

When I **went** to America last summer, I **had** a really wonderful time.

Every day **began** with a nice breakfast and ended with a big bowl of chocolate ice cream. My grandpa always keeps his freezer well stocked with ice cream.

A few days before we arrived in America, he **went** shopping and **bought** about ten six-packs of my father's favourite beer, and six half gallons of chocolate ice cream.

When he **came back** home and **put** all those bottles of beer and all that ice cream on the kitchen table, my grandmother couldn't stop laughing. But my grandpa **said**, "Don't laugh, don't laugh, we are going to eat and drink everything." Then he **took** a glass, **sat down**, and **began** drinking his first beer.

We stayed in America for five weeks, and the freezer was never without chocolate ice cream. Grandpa never **forgot** to buy it.

In the evening before going to bed, he always **wrote** a list of what he had to do the next day. Ice cream was always at the top of the list. He **thought** that I couldn't live without it. And he was right.

andai - ebbi

cominciava

andò

comprò

tornò - mise

disse

prese

si sedette >

cominciò

dimenticava

scriveva

pensava

>>>

(continuation) Abel

Besides eating and drinking we **did** lots of other things. One day, my sister Debra, my uncle David and I **went** to Washington to see the Space Museum. You can't imagine how happy I **felt** when I **saw** the aeroplane that **Wright** brothers used in making the world's first flight. We also saw the rocks that the astronauts **brought** back from the moon.

===

bowl	= <i>scodella</i>	at the top of	= <i>il primo</i>
freezer	= <i>congelatore</i>	besides	= <i>oltre a</i>
well stocked	= <i>ben fornito</i>	space	= <i>spazio</i>
six-pack	= <i>confezione di</i> <i>6 bottiglie</i>	flight	= <i>volo</i>
half gallon	= <i>2 litri circa</i>	rock	= <i>roccia</i>
list	= <i>elenco</i>	pilot	= <i>pilota</i>
		to pilot	= <i>pilotare</i>

facemmo

andammo

sentii

vidi

portarono

Wilbur and **Orville Wright** invented the first aeroplane. On December 17, 1903, they made the world's first flight. Orville piloted the plane.

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go - have

begin

go
buy

come back - put

say

take - sit down
begin

forget

write
think

do

go
feel - see

bring



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George and Lydia

"A Happy Weekend"

Lydia was preparing breakfast when she **heard** the doorbell ringing. The bell **rang** three times, so she **understood** that her friends had arrived. She immediately **ran** to the door, and when she opened it she **saw** the smiling faces of her two best friends: Flora and Erica.

After embracing and kissing them, she **led them** to the kitchen. On the kitchen table there was already hot tea, coffee, milk and biscuits. The three ladies **sat down** and **began** to have breakfast. They were in a hurry, so half an hour later they **left** the house.

As soon as they **got into** the car, they turned on the radio to listen to the weather forecast. - They **were** lucky! The weather was going to be fine for the whole weekend.

Erica was an expert driver. She **drove** better than any man, so everybody was relaxed and happy. During the whole journey to Bath, where they were going to spend their weekend, they talked, laughed and **sang** all kinds of songs. Erica loved to drive, and she never got tired. From time to time she even **told** some funny stories to keep her friends in a jolly mood.

*udì
suonò
capì
corse
vide*

le condusse

*si sedettero >
cominciarono
lasciarono*

si misero

erano

guidava

cantavano

raccontava

Have a nice time, ladies!

>>>

(continuation) George and Lydia

"A Happy Weekend"

When George **came back** home at eight o'clock in the evening and **went** into the kitchen, he **found** the dirty plates, cups, glasses, spoons and forks still on the table. So he patiently **put** everything in the sink and **began** to wash them. But he soon stopped. It was nearly half past eight and he **felt** very hungry.

He **went** to the kitchen cupboard, but he only **found** some bread and a packet of biscuits. So he went to the refrigerator hoping to find his dinner there, but in the fridge there was only a piece of cheese, two small apples, a bottle of milk and an egg.

He **knew** that Lydia was going to spend the weekend with her friends in Bath. But before leaving she could have prepared something for his dinner, **thought** poor George. "Surely she was in a hurry and **forgot** to prepare it," he **said to himself**. So he opened the fridge again and **got out** the cheese, a bottle of milk and the egg. But when he put them on the table, the egg **began** to roll, **fell** off the table and - **broke**, of course.

Poor George! He **ate** a piece of bread and cheese, and **drank** half a glass of milk. But he still **felt** hungry, and sad, very sad.

Ten minutes later he went to the bedroom, **took off** his jacket, took off his shoes and **lay down** on the bed. He was so tired that in a few minutes he **fell asleep**.

Half an hour later he **woke up**. He felt cold and, of course, hungry! What could he do? - He **thought** for about ten minutes, then he **had** a brilliant idea. He **took** the phone and **rang up** his colleague, Oscar.

ritornò
andò - trovò

mise
cominciò
si sentiva

andò
trovò

sapeva

pensò
dimenticò >
si disse - uscì

cominciò - cadde
si ruppe

mangiò
bevve
si sentiva

si tolse
si sdraiò

si addormentò

si svegliò
pensò
ebbe

prese - telefonò

>>>

(continuation) George and Lydia

"A Happy Weekend"

When Oscar **heard** George asking him to go out for dinner, he couldn't believe his ears. Oscar was single and he **spent** most of his evenings going to pubs and restaurants. He liked George very much, because he was honest and a hard worker. He had often invited him to go out, but George had seldom accepted.

It was a beautiful evening. A big silver moon **shone** over Glumville. A cool autumn wind gently **blew** the dry leaves from one side of the street to the other. George **wore** his favourite blue suit, his grey overcoat and his black hat. He was quite elegant. He **shut** the front door of his house and **went** to the corner of the street to wait for Oscar.

While he **stood** there waiting for his friend, he began to think about his work, and his life. He **had** to do something to change it.

Oscar was very punctual. At half past nine they were already sitting in a very elegant restaurant. A nice waiter **brought** them the menu. They ordered their dinner, and Oscar **chose** the wine.

While they were waiting for their dinner Oscar asked, "Where did you buy that elegant suit?" "I **bought** it at Selfridges. I know it is elegant but it **cost** relatively little", answered George.

When dinner was served, Oscar **began** to talk about his last holiday in Costa Rica. He **told** George what a fantastic time he had there. He **slept** till ten, got up, had breakfast and went to the beach. The beach was a beautiful solitary place. The sea was emerald green. Every morning he **swam** for a couple of hours, then he lay under a beach umbrella and **read** a book for the rest of the morning.

*udi**passava**brillava**soffiava**indossava**chiuse**andò**stava**doveva**portò**scelse**comprai**costò**incominciò**raccontò**dormiva**nuotava**leggeva*

>>>

(continuation) George and Lydia

"A Happy Weekend"

While in Costa Rica, he never **read** the newspapers, and he never watched television. Twice a week he **wrote** a card and **sent** it to his parents to tell them that he was all right.

When dinner was over and the waiter **brought** the bill, Oscar **paid** for both and he also **gave** the waiter a good tip.

While they were going back home, Oscar **learnt** from George that Lydia was in Bath with her friends Flora and Erica, so he insisted on taking George to a night club.

What a beautiful place it was! Poor George didn't even know that such a place existed in Glumville.

In the night club they **met** another colleague who sat at their table. The three of them **drank** beer and whisky, **spoke** about football, told jokes and laughed the whole night.

It was half past four in the morning when Oscar **took** George back home. His head was spinning a little. He **knew** that he had drunk too much. But he felt really happy.

He **slept** soundly till twelve o'clock, and **dreamt** that he was in Costa Rica.

That Sunday instead of working in his little garden as he usually **did**, he went to a pub to have lunch. Then he called Oscar and they both **spent** the afternoon bowling. Life wasn't so tough after all, **thought** poor George.

===

weather forecast = *previsioni del tempo*to sleep soundly = *dormire profondamente**leggeva**scriveva >**inviava**portò**pagò - diede**seppe**incontrarono**bevvero**parlarono**portò**sapeva**dormì - sognò**faceva**passarono**pensò*

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hear
ring
understand
run - see
lead
sit down - begin
leave
get into
be
drive
sing
tell
come back
go - find
put
feel

>>>

(continuation) George and Lydia*"A Happy Weekend"*

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go - find
go

know

think
forget - say
get out
put
fall off
break

eat
drink

take off
lie down
fall asleep

wake up
think
have
ring up

hear

spend

>>>

(continuation) George and Lydia*"A Happy Weekend"*

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shine
blow
wear
shut - go
stand
have
bring
choose
buy
cost
begin
tell
sleep
go
swim
lie
read
read
write - send

(continuation) George and Lydia*"A Happy Weekend"*

When dinner was over and the waiter the bill, Oscar for both and he also the waiter a good tip.

bring
pay - give

While they were going back home, Oscar from George that Lydia was in Bath with her friends Flora and Erica, so he insisted on taking George to a night club.

learn

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meet
sit - drink
speak

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take
know

He soundly till twelve o'clock, and he that he was in Costa Rica.

sleep - dream

That Sunday instead of working in his little garden as he usually, he went to a pub to have lunch. Then he called Oscar and they both the afternoon bowling. Life wasn't so tough after all, poor George.

do
spend
think

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Translation

1. *Traduci oralmente.*

2. *Copia tutta la pagina.*

1. - There is a table in the middle of the room...
2. There is a book in the middle of the table...
3. - Don't talk nonsense! The shops are closing. Go and buy a loaf of bread!
4. - But I am in the middle of my French translation -
5. - Your French isn't so important. Go! At once!
6. - But, mother! It is raining!
7. You know that I always fall off my bicycle in the rain.
8. - Oh, mother! I am afraid of the storm!
9. The thunder deafens me!
10. - Then go off to bed!
11. - But I'm afraid that the lightning will blind me!
12. - Don't be silly! - One of you boys must buy the loaf.
13. - Well, I can't go because I must do my French translation, and he can't go because he has a cold.
14. - Then I am very sorry, but there will be no bread for dinner.
16. - We lived in London for many years...
17. ... but now we live in a quiet little town.
18. In winter it is very cold here, but the summers are wonderful.
19. There are people who like to live in the mountains.
20. There are others who like to live near the sea.
21. Some people like to live in a big city...
22. But life in a quiet little town is the best of all.
23. There is no smoke, no noise... nothing worries us... all is peace and quiet.



Translation

1.	Traduci oralmente e per iscritto.
2.	Copia tutta la pagina.

1. - C'è un tavolo in mezzo alla stanza...
2. C'è un libro in mezzo al tavolo...
3. - Non dire sciocchezze! I negozi stanno chiudendo. Va a comprare una pagnotta di pane.
4. - Ma io sono a metà della mia traduzione di francese.
5. - Il tuo francese non è così importante. Va! Immediatamente!
6. - Però, mamma! Sta piovendo!
7. Tu sai che io sempre cado dalla bicicletta nella pioggia.
8. - Oh, mamma! Ho paura del temporale!
9. Il tuono mi assorda!
10. - Allora vattene a letto!
11. - Ma io ho paura che i lampi mi accechino!
12. - Non essere sciocco! - Uno di voi ragazzi deve comprare la pagnotta.
13. - Bene, io non posso andare perché debbo fare la mia traduzione di francese, e lui non può andare perché ha un raffreddore.
14. - Allora mi dispiace molto, ma non ci sarà nessun pane per cena.
16. - Noi abitavamo a Londra per molti anni...
17. Ma ora abitiamo in un tranquillo paese.
18. In inverno fa molto freddo qui, ma le estati sono meravigliose.
19. Ci sono persone alle quali piace abitare nelle montagne.
20. Ci sono altre cui piace abitare vicino al mare.
21. Ad alcune persone piace abitare in una grande città.
22. Ma la vita in un tranquillo paese è la migliore di tutto.
23. Non c'è nessun fumo, nessun rumore... niente ci preoccupa... tutto è pace e tranquillità.



Vocabulary

almost	<i>o:lmu:st</i>	<i>quasi</i>
applause	<i>əpləʊ:z</i>	<i>applauso</i>
at last	<i>ət lɑ:st</i>	<i>finalmente</i>
at once	<i>ət wʌns</i>	<i>immediatamente</i>
awful	<i>ɔ:ful</i>	<i>terribile</i>
baker	<i>beɪkə</i>	<i>panettiere</i>
began	<i>bigæn</i>	<i>cominciò</i>
bicycle	<i>baisɪkl</i>	<i>bicicletta</i>
to blind	<i>tu blɑɪnd</i>	<i>accecare</i>
bought	<i>bɔ:t</i>	<i>comprai</i>
certainly	<i>sə:tənli</i>	<i>certamente</i>
to close	<i>tu kləʊz</i>	<i>chiudere</i>
to deafen	<i>tu defn</i>	<i>assordare</i>
to describe	<i>tu dɪskraɪb</i>	<i>descrivere</i>
dirty	<i>dɜ:ti</i>	<i>sporco</i>
to drown	<i>tu draʊn</i>	<i>annegare</i>
fell	<i>fel</i>	<i>caddi</i>
felt	<i>felt</i>	<i>mi sentivo</i>
fool	<i>fu:l</i>	<i>sciocco (nome)</i>
foolish	<i>fu:lɪʃ</i>	<i>sciocco (aggettivo)</i>
found	<i>faʊnd</i>	<i>trovai</i>
gave	<i>geɪv</i>	<i>mi diede</i>
hail	<i>heɪl</i>	<i>grandine</i>
hero	<i>hɪərəʊ</i>	<i>eroe</i>
to imagine	<i>tu ɪmædʒɪn</i>	<i>immaginare</i>
journey	<i>dʒɜ:nɪ</i>	<i>cammino; viaggio</i>
lightning	<i>laɪtnɪŋ</i>	<i>fulmini</i>
loaf	<i>ləʊf</i>	<i>pagnotta</i>
look	<i>lʊk</i>	<i>sguardo</i>
luck	<i>lʌk</i>	<i>fortuna</i>

Vocabulary

middle	midl	mezzo
mud	mʌd	fango
proud	praʊd	orgoglioso
to push	tu puʃ	spingere
quiet	kwaiət	tranquillo
to reach	tu ri:tʃ	raggiungere
remaining	rimeɪnɪŋ	che rimaneva
to remind	tu rɪmaɪnd	(far) ricordare a
		qualcuno; rammentare
to ride	tu raɪd	montare
said	sed	disse
to seem	tu si:m	sembrare
storm	stɔ:m	temporale
thought	θɔ:t	pensai
thunder	θʌndə	tuono
torrent	tɔrənt	torrente
trouble	trʌbl	problema
to turn back	tu tɜ:n bæk	tornare
way	wei	cammino
I went off	went ɔf	me ne andai

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