

## El pretérito de los verbos *-AR*

The preterite (past tense) of *-AR* verbs.

## El pretérito

### Usos:

- Actions completed in the past
- Actions with clearly defined beginnings or endings in past
- Actions repeated a certain number of times in the past

## Palabras del pasado

### Words that express the PAST:

- Ayer - yesterday
- Anoche - last night
- La semana pasada - last week
- El año pasado - last year
- Ayer por la tarde - yesterday afternoon
- Ayer por la mañana - yesterday morning

## Verbos *-AR*

|                |                        |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Yo -é          | Nosotros -amos         |
| Tú -aste       | Vosotros -asteis       |
| Él/ella/Ud. -ó | Ellos/ellas/Uds. -aron |

## Ejemplos:

### Hablar

- Yo hablé - I spoke
- Tú hablaste - You spoke
- Él habló - He spoke
- Nosotros hablamos - We spoke
- Vosotros hablasteis - You all spoke
- Ellos hablaron - They spoke

## Ejemplos:

### Nadar

- Yo nadé  
– I swam

### Tomar

- Tú tomaste  
– You took

### Esquiar

- Él esquió  
– He skied

### Llegar

- Llegamos  
– We arrived

### Jugar

- Jugasteis  
– You all played

### Mirar

- Ellos miraron  
– They watched

## Los irregulares

### Stem-Changing Verbs

- You do not have to make normal (e-ie, o-ue, u-ue) stem changes in the Preterite.
  - Ella juega - She plays (present)
  - Ella jugó - She played (past)
  
  - Ellos empiezan - They begin (present)
  - Ellos empezaron - They began (past)
- However, the preterite has IRREGULAR spelling changes in some YO forms.

## -CAR/-GAR/-ZAR verbs

Changes are made to first person yo form only.

- Verbs that end in -CAR
  - c → qu**
  - Marcar = yo marqué
  - Buscar = yo busqué
  - Sacar = yo saqué
  - Practicar = yo practiqué

## -CAR/-GAR/-ZAR verbs

Changes are made to first person yo form only.

- Verbs that end in -GAR
  - g → gu**
  - Llegar = yo llegué
  - Jugar = yo jugué
  - Pagar = yo pagué

## -CAR/-GAR/-ZAR verbs

Changes are made to first person yo form only.

- Verbs that end in -ZAR
  - z → c**
  - Empezar = empecé
  - Comenzar = comencé