Engels A2 – Les 2: Levensverhalen

Levensfasen en gebeurtenissen, onderwijs en leren, de past simple met 30 extra onregelmatige werkwoorden, vragen in de verleden tijd en onderwerpsvragen, ago / for / from ... to en when-bijzinnen, plus het levensverhaal van een kok om te lezen, vragen over iemands verleden, een korte biografie om te schrijven en een herhaling van de les. 9 werkbladen met antwoorden.

ENGLISH A2 · UNIT 2

Life Stories

After this unit you can:

- ☐ I can tell the main events of my life in order (I was born in ..., I left school in ..., I moved to ...).
- ☐ I can ask someone about their past (Where did you grow up? When did you start work?).
- ☐ I can talk about my education and the courses I did or am doing.
- ☐ I can write a short biography of myself or another person with dates and time expressions.

9 printable worksheets · answer keys included

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ENGLISH A2 · UNIT 2 · VOCABULARY Name: _____ Date: _____

Life stages and events

Focus: life stages and events: childhood, teenager, grow up, get married, retire, partner, neighbour

childhood **teenager** **adult** **grow up** **be born** **leave school** **get a job** **get married** **wedding** **have a baby** **move house** **retire** **career** **die** **generation** **neighbour** **best friend** **boyfriend** **girlfriend** **partner** **couple** **engaged** **divorced** **alone** **lucky**

1 Match the words and the definitions.

1. childhood	a. Stop work at 60 or 65.
2. teenager	b. All the people of about the same age.
3. wedding	c. A person from 13 to 19 years old.
4. retire	d. Your years as a child.
5. neighbour	e. A husband and wife, or two partners.
6. couple	f. The party on the day you get married.
7. generation	g. The person in the flat next to yours.

2 Complete the sentences with words from the box.

Example: My parents _____ in 1985. The wedding was in Gyumri. → got married

1. Omar was born in Yerevan, but he _____ in Tbilisi from the age of two.
2. Lena and Mark got _____ last week. The wedding is in June.
3. Ken lives _____ in a small flat. He hasn't got a partner.
4. Sara and Tom were married for ten years, but they got _____ last year.
5. Elena and Luis _____ in March. Her name is Nina.
6. We were very _____. We found a cheap flat near the office.
7. Ali hated lessons, so he _____ at 16 and _____ in a shop.
8. Tom's _____ started in a small café. Now he's the manager.
9. My grandfather _____ at 65. Now he goes for a walk every morning.
10. You are a child at 10, a teenager at 15 and an _____ at 20.
11. My grandmother _____ in 2015. She was 92, and we were all very upset.
12. We _____ three times when I was a child. I went to three schools.

ANSWER KEY

1 1 d, 2 c, 3 f, 4 a, 5 g, 6 e, 7 b **2** 1 grew up, 2 engaged, 3 alone, 4 divorced, 5 had a baby, 6 lucky, 7 left school / got a job, 8 career, 9 retired, 10 adult, 11 died, 12 moved house

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ENGLISH A2 · UNIT 2 · VOCABULARY Name: _____ Date: _____

Education and learning

Focus: education words: primary school, college, degree, course, exam, pass, fail, revise, certificate, skill

EDUCATION AND LEARNING

primary school **secondary school** **college** **university** **degree** **course** **subject** **lesson** **exam** **pass** **fail** **certificate** **qualification** **grade** **term** **homework** **practise** **improve** **mistake** **revise** **library** **lecture** **online** **skill** **knowledge**

1 Put the words in the correct column.

Example: secondary school → Places to study

degree **practise** **college** **certificate** **library** **revise** **primary school** **grade** **improve** **university** **fail** **qualification**

Places to study	Things you get	Verbs

2 Choose the correct word.

Example: I do my _____ in the evening after work. (homework / lecture / term) → homework

1. Ben _____ the exam and did it again in May. (passed / failed / revised)
2. I made a lot of _____ in my first lesson. (mistakes / grades / skills)
3. The first _____ of the year is from September to December. (grade / mistake / term)
4. Omar does an _____ course on his computer. (alone / online / lucky)
5. English is an important _____ in my job. (skill / lecture / homework)
6. A _____ is a talk for 200 students at university. (grade / term / lecture)
7. Tom _____ school at 18 and went to college. (left / grew / retired)
8. She did a _____ in economics at university. (lesson / degree / term)
9. When I was a _____, I hated homework. (wedding / neighbour / teenager)
10. Sara's _____ started with a job in a bank. (career / childhood / homework)

ANSWER KEY

1 Places to study: college, library, primary school, university | Things you get: degree, certificate, grade, qualification | Verbs: practise, revise, improve, fail **2** 1 failed, 2 mistakes, 3 term, 4 online, 5 skill, 6 lecture, 7 left, 8 degree, 9 teenager, 10 career

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ENGLISH A2 · UNIT 2 · GRAMMAR Name: _____ Date: _____

Past simple: thirty more irregular verbs

Focus: past simple affirmative and negative; -ed spelling review; thirty new irregular verbs; be born

PAST SIMPLE

Regular: **-ed** (worked, lived, studied, stopped). Irregular: see the table below.
Negative: **didn't** + verb: She didn't pay. They didn't understand the question.
be born: I **was born** in 1990. They **were born** in Lisbon. He **wasn't born** here.

1 Complete the table with the past simple forms (British spelling).

Example: learn → learnt / learned

Verb	Past	Verb	Past	Verb	Past	Verb	Past
begin	_____	bring	_____	build	_____	catch	_____
choose	_____	cost	_____	cut	_____	drive	_____
fall	_____	find	_____	forget	_____	grow	_____
hear	_____	keep	_____	know	_____	write	_____
lose	_____	pay	_____	put	_____	run	_____
sell	_____	send	_____	sit	_____	speak	_____
spend	_____	stand	_____	teach	_____	tell	_____
understand	_____	win	_____	think	_____	buy	_____

2 Complete with the past simple of the verbs in brackets.

Example: Ali _____ (not / like) his first job. → didn't like

1. My grandmother _____ (teach) at a primary school for thirty years.
2. We _____ (not / understand) the lecture, so we asked a question.
3. Lena _____ (be born) in 1988 and _____ (grow up) in Berlin.
4. Tom _____ (sell) his car and _____ (buy) a bike last spring.
5. I _____ (not / pass) the exam because I _____ (not / revise).
6. They _____ (spend) two years in London and _____ (speak) English every day.
7. Maria _____ (not / be born) in Yerevan. She _____ (move) there at twenty.

ANSWER KEY

1 1 began, 2 brought, 3 built, 4 caught, 5 chose, 6 cost, 7 cut, 8 drove, 9 fell, 10 found, 11 forgot, 12 grew, 13 heard, 14 kept, 15 knew, 16 wrote, 17 lost, 18 paid, 19 put, 20 ran, 21 sold, 22 sent, 23 sat, 24 spoke, 25 spent, 26 stood, 27 taught, 28 told, 29 understood, 30 won, 31 thought, 32 bought **2** 1 taught, 2 didn't understand, 3 was born / grew up, 4 sold / bought, 5 didn't pass / didn't revise, 6 spent / spoke, 7 wasn't born / moved

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ENGLISH A2 · UNIT 2 · GRAMMAR

Name: _____ Date: _____

Past simple: questions

Focus: past simple questions with did and short answers; What was ... like?; subject questions without did

PAST SIMPLE QUESTIONS

Yes/no: **Did** you enjoy the course? Yes, I **did**. / No, I **didn't**.
Wh-: Where **did** she grow up? **What was** your first job **like**?
Subject questions (no did): **Who taught** you English? **What happened** after that?
Object questions: **Who did** you meet? **What did** she study?

1 Choose the correct form.

Example: _____ you have a good time at the wedding? (Did / Do / Were) → Did

1. _____ Sara pass her exams last year? (Did / Does / Was)
2. Where _____ Omar study economics in 2010? (does / did / was)
3. Did Lena leave school at 16? Yes, she _____. (left / was / did)
4. Who _____ you your first job? (gave / did give / did gave)
5. What _____ your first teacher like? (did / were / was)
6. What _____ after the lecture? (did happen / happened / was happen)
7. Did they move house? No, they _____. (didn't / weren't / don't)
8. How long _____ you work in Prague before you came here? (were / did / do)
9. Who _____ the exam? Only two students. (did pass / did passed / passed)

2 Complete the questions with the words in brackets.

Example: Where _____ (she / go) to university? In Lisbon. → did she go

1. When _____ (Ali / get) his first job? In 2015.
2. Who _____ (teach) you to cook? My grandmother.
3. What _____ (happen) at the end of the course? We all passed.
4. How long _____ (Nina / live) in Berlin? For four years.
5. Who _____ (Mark / meet) at college? His wife, Elena.
6. Why _____ (they / move) to Tbilisi? Because Tom got a job there.
7. Who _____ (pay) for the wedding? Her parents.
8. What _____ (the wedding / be) like? It was great.

ANSWER KEY

1 1 Did, 2 did, 3 did, 4 gave, 5 was, 6 happened, 7 didn't, 8 did, 9 passed **2** 1 did Ali get, 2 taught, 3 happened, 4 did Nina live, 5 did Mark meet, 6 did they move, 7 paid, 8 was the wedding

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ENGLISH A2 · UNIT 2 · GRAMMAR Name: _____ Date: _____

Past time expressions: ago, for, when, then

Focus: ago, last, in + year, from ... to, until, for + period, when + past clause; then / after that / later / finally

TIME WORDS WITH THE PAST SIMPLE

ten years ago · **last** year · **in** 2010 · **from** 2005 **to** 2009 · **until** 2009
for + period: I worked there **for** two years. (two years, then I left)
When I was 18, I left school. I got a job **when** I finished college.
Order: first ... **then** ... **after that** ... **later** ... **finally** ...

1 Complete with ago, last, in, for, from, to or when.

Example: I started my first job ten years _____. → ago

1. Anna was born _____ 1992 in Madrid.
2. We lived in Berlin _____ 2010 to 2015.
3. They got married _____ year, in June.
4. Tom studied at college _____ three years.
5. _____ I was a teenager, I wanted to be a singer.
6. She worked in the shop from 2018 _____ 2021.
7. My parents moved to this flat twenty years _____.
8. Ben got his first job _____ he finished secondary school.
9. Sara studied English online _____ six months.
10. David retired _____ month. He was a teacher _____ forty years.

2 Choose the correct word.

Example: I lived in London _____ three years. (for / ago / until) → for

1. Ani worked there _____ 2015. Then she retired. (for / ago / until)
2. _____ I finished university, I moved to Tbilisi. (When / Until / Ago)
3. First I did a course. _____ I got a job. (Until / After that / From)
4. She was a nurse _____ twenty years, from 1990 to 2010. (for / ago / until)
5. I got a job in 2010 and a flat two years _____, in 2012. (ago / last / later)
6. _____ year we had a baby. Her name is Lucy. (Ago / Last / Until)
7. I didn't like my job, so _____ I left. (finally / until / ago)

ANSWER KEY
1 1 in, 2 from, 3 last, 4 for, 5 When, 6 to, 7 ago, 8 when, 9 for, 10 last / for **2** 1 until, 2 When, 3 After that, 4 for, 5 later, 6 Last, 7 finally

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ENGLISH A2 · UNIT 2 · LIFE STORIES · READING Name: _____ Date: _____

Reading: From waiter to head chef

Focus: reading a magazine profile: past simple, ago / for / in / when-clauses, education and life-event words

From waiter to head chef

Levon Sargsyan is 40 and the head chef at Café Ararat in Yerevan. He was born in Gyumri in 1986 and grew up there. His mother was a cook, and Levon helped her in the kitchen every day. At school his favourite subject was art. He failed his English exam when he was 16.

Levon left school at 18 and got a job as a waiter in a hotel. He worked there for three years. In 2007 he moved to London and did a two-year cooking course at a college. He practised English every day and improved a lot. After that, he worked in two restaurants in London.

Ten years ago, Levon came back to Yerevan and bought a café near the station. Finally, in 2020, he opened Café Ararat. Now he teaches young cooks there.

1 Read the text. True or false?

1. Levon was born in Yerevan. ☐ T ☐ F
2. His mother was a cook. ☐ T ☐ F
3. He passed his English exam at 16. ☐ T ☐ F
4. His first job was in a hotel. ☐ T ☐ F
5. He did a cooking course in London for three years. ☐ T ☐ F
6. Now Levon teaches young cooks. ☐ T ☐ F

2 Answer the questions about the text.

Example: Where was Levon born? → He was born in Gyumri.

1. What was his favourite subject at school?

_____

2. How long did he work in the hotel?

_____

3. When did he move to London?

_____

4. What did he do when he came back to Yerevan?

_____

ANSWER KEY

1 1 F, 2 T, 3 F, 4 T, 5 F, 6 T **2** 1 It was art. | 2 He worked there for three years. | 3 He moved to London in 2007. | 4 He bought a café.

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ENGLISH A2 · UNIT 2 · EVERYDAY ENGLISH Name: _____ Date: _____

Everyday English: Talking about your past

Focus: everyday English: Where were you born? / What did you study? / What happened next? / What was ... like?

Model dialogue

Tom: Where were you born, Ani?

Ani: In Gyumri, but I grew up in a small town near the sea.

Tom: When did you start your first job?

Ani: Fifteen years ago, when I was 20. I worked in a bank for six years.

Tom: What happened next?

Ani: Then I moved to Tbilisi and I met my husband.

grow **born** **study** **enjoyed** **happened** **ago** **like** **met** **were**

1 Complete the dialogue with the words in the box.

Example: How _____ did you work in Lisbon? → long

Lena: Where did you _____ up, Omar?

Omar: In Lisbon. I was _____ there in 1990.

Lena: What did you _____ at university?

Omar: Art. I _____ the course, but I didn't find a good job after that.

Lena: So what _____ next?

Omar: I did a design course ten years _____. Then I moved to London.

Lena: What was London _____?

Omar: Expensive! But I _____ a lot of nice people there.

2 Match the questions and the answers.

1. Where were you born?
2. What did you study?
3. Did you enjoy it?
4. How long did you work there?
5. What was your first boss like?
6. What happened next?

a. I did a degree in economics.

b. In Gyumri, in 1990.

c. For six years.

d. She was friendly and patient.

e. Then I moved to Berlin.

f. Yes, I did, but the exams were hard.

ANSWER KEY

1 1 grow, 2 born, 3 study, 4 enjoyed, 5 happened, 6 ago, 7 like, 8 met **2** 1 b, 2 a, 3 f, 4 c, 5 d, 6 e

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ENGLISH A2 · UNIT 2 · LIFE STORIES · WRITING Name: _____ Date: _____

Writing: A short biography

Focus: a short biography in the past simple; ordering events with In 2005, ... Two years later, ... Now ...

Writing tip: order the events with time words: **In 2005**, ... **Two years later**, ... **Then** ... **Now** ...

1 Complete the text with in, later, for, from or now.

Example: Maria was born in Tbilisi _____ 1980. → in

1. She left school _____ 1998 and got a job in a shop.
2. Two years _____, in 2000, she went to university in Berlin.
3. She worked in a bank _____ ten years, _____ 2005 to 2015.
4. She is _____ a manager at a big company in Berlin.

2 Write a short biography of yourself, a family member or a colleague (60-80 words).

MODEL

My father was born in Gyumri in 1960. In 1978 he left school and got a job in a factory. Two years later, he met my mother at a wedding. They got married in 1983 and had two children. In 1995 we moved to Yerevan. He worked as a driver for twenty years and retired in 2020. Now he works in his garden.

- Where and when was the person born? Where did he or she grow up?
- School and first job: when did they leave school and start work?
- Two important events with years: In 2005, ... Two years later, ...
- One sentence about now: Now he / she ...

Self-check: capital letters and full stops · subject + verb word order · this unit's grammar · this unit's words · the right length

ANSWER KEY

1 1 in, 2 later, 3 for / from, 4 now

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ENGLISH A2 · UNIT 2 · LIFE STORIES · UNIT REVIEW Name: _____ Date: _____

Unit 2 review

Focus: review: past simple, questions with did, ago / for / when, life-event and education words

1 Choose the correct word.

Example: We _____ to Berlin in 2015. (move / moved / did move) → moved

1. Ben _____ his keys at the wedding. (losed / lost / lose)
2. _____ you pass the exam? Yes, I did. (Did / Do / Were)
3. Who _____ you to drive? My brother. (did teach / did taught / taught)
4. I worked in a hotel _____ five years. (for / ago / until)
5. Lucy left school _____ she was 17. (ago / when / last)
6. My grandparents _____ in 1955. (was born / born / were born)
7. Omar came back from London two years _____. (ago / last / for)
8. What _____ the course like? It was hard. (did / was / were)

2 Complete with degree, grade, retired, career, grew up, engaged, revise, library, lucky or exam.

Example: Tom _____ his exam, so he did it again. → failed

1. Sara did a _____ in history at university and got a good _____: an A.
2. My aunt _____ last year after a long _____ as a nurse.
3. Nina _____ in Berlin, and at 25 she got _____ to a colleague.
4. I want to _____ for the exam, so I'm in the _____ every evening.
5. Ben didn't study much, but he was _____ and passed the English _____.

3 Correct the mistake in each sentence.

Example: She didn't went to university. → She didn't go to university.

1. I didn't knew the answer.

   _____

2. We moved to Yerevan in six years ago.

   _____

4 Match the questions and the answers.

1. When did you leave school?	a. Quiet. We lived in a small village.
2. How long did you live in London?	b. My company did.
3. What was your childhood like?	c. In 2009, when I was 18.
4. Who paid for the course?	d. For two years.

ANSWER KEY

1 1 lost, 2 Did, 3 taught, 4 for, 5 when, 6 were born, 7 ago, 8 was **2** 1 degree / grade, 2 retired / career, 3 grew up / engaged, 4 revise / library, 5 lucky / exam **3** 1 I didn't know the answer. | 2 We moved to Yerevan six years ago. **4** 1 c, 2 d, 3 a, 4 b

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