

Spanish

Talking about work experience [1 / 3]

- **preterite tense**
- **using phrases which need preterite**

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The vowel u **merges** with [a], [e] and [o] to make a single syllable. The same thing happens with [i]

[ui]

c**ui**dar
¡c**ui**dado!
destr**ui**r

Because the [u] is 'gliding' into the next vowel, it sounds like a [w]!



cuidar

[ui]

destruir

¡cuidado!

buitre

disminuir

[to decrease]



las prácticas laborales	work experience
valer la pena	to be worth it
archivar	to file
en equipo	in a team
ropa elegante	smart clothes
el jefe, la jefa	boss
maleducado, maleducada	rude
empezar	to start, starting
terminar	to finish, finishing
llevar	to wear, wearing



The preterite

The preterite is a past tense. It is used to talk about actions in the past that are completed. The past action had a **definite beginning** and **definite end**.

Ayer vendí ropa.

Yesterday I sold clothes.

La semana pasada cociné.

Last week I cooked.

El primer día respondí al teléfono.

On the first day I answered the phone.



		preterite	not preterite	meaning
1.	El último día.			
2.	La semana pasada.			
3.	Todos los días.			
4.	Cuando tenía 15 años.			
5.	El año pasado.			



Preterite - regular I and we forms

Remove the ending and add:

	-AR verbs	-ER/ IR verbs
I	é	í
we	amos	imos

Useful irregular preterite forms:

hacer hice (I did)
ir fui (I went)
ser fue (it was)
gustar me gustó (I liked it)

ayudar:

Un día ayudé al jefe.

One day I helped the boss.



PRETERITE

1. The preterite is a past tense.
2. The ending -é or -í is the ending for I
3. The ending -amos or -imos is the ending for we
4. The preterite is used to talk about completed actions in the past.
5. Time phrases are a useful way of knowing that you need to use preterite. For example: ayer, la semana pasada, el último día.

