

## The preterite of **-er** and **-ir** verbs

To form the preterite of **-er** and **-ir** verbs:

- 1** take the infinitive    **2** remove the **-ir** or **-er** ending    **3** add the correct ending
- |           |                           |   |                   |                           |   |
|-----------|---------------------------|---|-------------------|---------------------------|---|
| beber     | <i>to drink</i>           |  | escribir          | <i>to write</i>           |  |
| bebí      | <i>I drank</i>            |   | escribí           | <i>I wrote</i>            |   |
| bebiste   | <i>you drank</i>          |   | escribiste        | <i>you wrote</i>          |   |
| bebió     | <i>he/she drank</i>       |   | escribió          | <i>he/she wrote</i>       |   |
| bebimos   | <i>we drank</i>           |   | escribimos        | <i>we wrote</i>           |   |
| bebisteis | <i>you (plural) drank</i> |   | escribisteis      | <i>you (plural) wrote</i> |   |
| bebieron  | <i>they drank</i>         | bebieron  | <i>they wrote</i> |                           |   |

**A** What do these preterite verbs mean? The infinitives on the right will help.

- |                    |                    |   |         |                  |           |                 |         |                   |       |                  |        |                |        |                  |
|--------------------|--------------------|---|---------|------------------|-----------|-----------------|---------|-------------------|-------|------------------|--------|----------------|--------|------------------|
| 1 comiste _____    | 6 salieron _____   | <table border="0"> <tr><td>asistir</td><td><i>to attend</i></td></tr> <tr><td>compartir</td><td><i>to share</i></td></tr> <tr><td>recibir</td><td><i>to receive</i></td></tr> <tr><td>salir</td><td><i>to go out</i></td></tr> <tr><td>vender</td><td><i>to sell</i></td></tr> <tr><td>volver</td><td><i>to return</i></td></tr> </table> | asistir | <i>to attend</i> | compartir | <i>to share</i> | recibir | <i>to receive</i> | salir | <i>to go out</i> | vender | <i>to sell</i> | volver | <i>to return</i> |
| asistir            | <i>to attend</i>   |   |         |                  |           |                 |         |                   |       |                  |        |                |        |                  |
| compartir          | <i>to share</i>    |   |         |                  |           |                 |         |                   |       |                  |        |                |        |                  |
| recibir            | <i>to receive</i>  |   |         |                  |           |                 |         |                   |       |                  |        |                |        |                  |
| salir              | <i>to go out</i>   |   |         |                  |           |                 |         |                   |       |                  |        |                |        |                  |
| vender             | <i>to sell</i>     |   |         |                  |           |                 |         |                   |       |                  |        |                |        |                  |
| volver             | <i>to return</i>   |   |         |                  |           |                 |         |                   |       |                  |        |                |        |                  |
| 2 volvimos _____   | 7 no vendí _____   |   |         |                  |           |                 |         |                   |       |                  |        |                |        |                  |
| 3 compartí _____   | 8 comieron _____   |   |         |                  |           |                 |         |                   |       |                  |        |                |        |                  |
| 4 recibió _____    | 9 asistió _____    |   |         |                  |           |                 |         |                   |       |                  |        |                |        |                  |
| 5 no salimos _____ | 10 ¿saliste? _____ |   |         |                  |           |                 |         |                   |       |                  |        |                |        |                  |

**B** Choose the correct ending for each verb by colouring in the table.

1 she drank	beb	í	iste	<b>ió</b>	imos	isteis	ieron
2 you (sing.) wrote	escrib	í	iste	<b>ió</b>	imos	isteis	ieron
3 they received	recib	í	iste	<b>ió</b>	imos	isteis	ieron
4 I went out	sal	í	iste	<b>ió</b>	imos	isteis	ieron
5 Did you (plural) eat?	com	í	iste	<b>ió</b>	imos	isteis	ieron
6 we sold	vend	í	iste	<b>ió</b>	imos	isteis	ieron
7 I didn't attend	No asist	í	iste	<b>ió</b>	imos	isteis	ieron
8 he shared	compart	í	iste	<b>ió</b>	imos	isteis	ieron

**C** Write the missing verb.

- |                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 _____, escribiste, escribió | 4 recibí, recibiste, _____   |
| 2 comió, _____, comisteis     | 5 _____, salió, salimos      |
| 3 bebimos, bebisteis, _____   | 6 volvimos, _____, volvieron |

**D** Write the correct form of the verbs in the past.

- Marisol (comer) \_\_\_\_\_ .
- Marisol y Belén (beber) \_\_\_\_\_ .
- Mi amigo y yo (compartir) \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (Tú) (recibir) \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (Yo) (salir) \_\_\_\_\_ .
- Mi hermano no (escribir) \_\_\_\_\_ .

