

Verb 3 Come

Mastering the Verb "Come": A Simple Guide

The verb "come" is a deceptively simple word in English. While its basic meaning – to move towards a speaker or specified place – is easily understood, its various forms and uses can be confusing. This article will dissect the complexities of "come," focusing on its past participle form ("come") and its usage in different contexts. We will break down common misconceptions and offer clear, practical examples to help you confidently use this versatile verb.

1. Understanding "Come" as a Past Participle

Unlike many verbs that form their past participle by adding "-ed" (e.g., walked, talked), "come" is an irregular verb. This means its past participle is the same as its past simple tense: "come". This can be confusing because most irregular verbs have different forms.

Past Simple: I came home late.

Past Participle: I have come to a decision.

The past participle is crucial in forming perfect tenses (present perfect, past perfect, future perfect) and passive voice sentences. Let's explore these applications.

2. "Come" in Perfect Tenses

Perfect tenses express actions completed before a certain point in time. The past participle

"come" plays a vital role here:

Present Perfect: "I have come to understand the problem." (Action completed before now)

Past Perfect: "She had come to the realization before the meeting began." (Action completed before a past event)

Future Perfect: "By next year, I will have come a long way in my career." (Action completed before a future point)

These sentences highlight how "come" in the past participle form indicates a completed action within the context of the perfect tense.

3. "Come" in Passive Voice

Passive voice structures focus on the action's recipient rather than the performer. "Come" can be used in passive voice constructions, although it's less common than in active voice. This is typically found in phrasal verbs. For example:

Active Voice: The news came as a shock.

Passive Voice: A decision was come to after lengthy discussions. (Note: "come to" functions as a phrasal verb here)

The passive voice with "come" often employs phrasal verbs, making the sentence structure more complex.

4. Phrasal Verbs with "Come"

Phrasal verbs significantly expand the meaning and usage of "come." These combinations of "come" and prepositions or adverbs create idiomatic expressions with meanings that aren't always obvious from the individual words. Here are a few examples:

Come across: To find something unexpectedly. (e.g., "I came across an old photograph while cleaning the attic.")

Come along: To progress or develop. (e.g., "The project is coming along nicely.")

Come up with: To think of an idea or solution. (e.g., "She came up with a brilliant marketing strategy.")

Come down with: To become ill. (e.g., "He came down with the flu.")

Come about: To happen or occur. (e.g., "How did this situation come about?")

Understanding these phrasal verbs is crucial for fluent English communication.

5. Common Mistakes and How to Avoid Them

A frequent mistake involves confusing the past simple ("came") with the past participle ("come"). Remember to use "came" for simple past tense and "come" for perfect tenses and passive voice (with phrasal verbs). Pay close attention to the context of the sentence.

Key Takeaways

"Come" is an irregular verb with the same form for its past simple and past participle.

Mastering the use of "come" in perfect tenses and phrasal verbs is essential for accurate and fluent English.

Pay attention to the context to distinguish between "came" and "come."

Learning common phrasal verbs with "come" vastly expands your vocabulary and understanding of idiomatic English.

FAQs

1. What's the difference between "came" and "come"? "Came" is the simple past tense (e.g., "I came home"); "come" is the past participle, used in perfect tenses and some passive

constructions (e.g., "I have come to a decision").

2. How can I improve my understanding of phrasal verbs with "come"? Practice using them in sentences. Read widely and pay attention to how they are used in context. Use flashcards or online resources to memorize common phrasal verbs.

3. Is it grammatically correct to say "I have came"? No, this is incorrect. The correct form is "I have come."

4. Can "come" be used in the future tense? Yes, it can be used in the future perfect tense ("I will have come"). It can also be used in future simple with modal verbs ("I may come").

5. Are there any other irregular verbs similar to "come"? Yes, many verbs are irregular. Studying a list of common irregular verbs will help you understand patterns and exceptions in English verb conjugation.

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120 ounces to gallons

107 kilos to pounds

800m to miles

182lbs to kg

61kg in pounds

213 cm in inches

1200 ml to oz

210 f to c

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63 cm to in

118 lb to kg

1 76 cm in feet

185 grams to ounces

how many in is 95 mm

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