

## Episode 017 – Grammar

### 1. The simple past tense of "sein" and "haben"

The simple past tense, or preterite, is a verb tense that describes the past. In German it is more frequently used in the written form than in spoken language. For example, you'll see it used often in newspaper articles and novels.

The past tense of "sein" and "haben", however, are used for speaking. They are irregular verbs and you should get to know their forms.

		<b>sein</b>		<b>haben</b>	
		Present	Simple past	Present	Simple past
Singular	<i>ich</i>	<i>bin</i>	<b>war</b>	<i>habe</i>	<b>hatte</b>
	<i>du</i>	<i>bist</i>	<b>warst</b>	<i>hast</i>	<b>hattest</b>
	<i>er/sie/es</i>	<i>ist</i>	<b>war</b>	<i>hat</i>	<b>hatte</b>
Plural	<i>wir</i>	<i>sind</i>	<b>waren</b>	<i>haben</i>	<b>hatten</b>
	<i>ihr</i>	<i>seid</i>	<b>wart</b>	<i>habt</i>	<b>hattet</b>
	<i>sie</i>	<i>sind</i>	<b>waren</b>	<i>haben</i>	<b>hatten</b>