**CELTA Lesson Plan: Past Tense Narration (Online, A1-A2 Level)**

**Lesson Title: Sharing Stories in the Past**

**Level: A1-A2**

**Length: 40 minutes**

**Number of Students: 2**

**Lesson Focus: Past Simple Tense (Regular and Irregular Verbs)**

**Main Aim: To develop students' ability to narrate events in the past using the Past Simple tense.**

**Subsidiary Aim: To practice listening comprehension and build vocabulary for storytelling.**

**Assumptions:**

* **Students have limited exposure to past tense forms but may know a few common irregular verbs.**
* **Students can communicate basic ideas in English.**

**Anticipated Problems & Solutions:**

1. **Problem: Students might struggle with irregular verb forms.**
	* **Solution: Provide a list of common irregular verbs with examples and pronunciation practice.**
2. **Problem: Students may experience technical issues as the lesson is online.**
	* **Solution: Ensure students know how to use chat functions and troubleshoot basic problems.**
3. **Problem: Students may not understand task instructions.**
	* **Solution: Use clear, simple language and confirm understanding through ICQs.**

**Lesson Plan**

**Lead-in (5 minutes):**

* **Teacher: Greet the students and ask about a happy memory from last week (e.g., "What did you do last weekend?").**
* **Write two or three student responses on the shared screen to activate schema and introduce the theme of storytelling.**

**Language Focus (10 minutes):**

1. **Vocabulary Analysis:**
	* **Key Words: yesterday, last week, ago, visited, went, ate, watched, stayed, enjoyed, saw.**
	* **Pronunciation Focus:**
		+ **Regular Verbs: -ed endings: /d/, /t/, /ɪd/.**
		+ **Irregular Verbs: Focus on stress patterns and correct vowel sounds (e.g., went /wɛnt/, saw /sɔː/, ate /eɪt/).**
2. **Grammar Analysis:**
	* **Form:**
		+ **Regular verbs: verb + -ed (e.g., "I visited my grandparents.")**
		+ **Irregular verbs: Memorize forms (e.g., "I went to the park.")**
	* **Examples:**
		+ **Affirmative: "I stayed at home yesterday."**
		+ **Negative: "I didn’t go to the park."**
		+ **Questions: "Did you watch TV?"**
	* **Concept Questions (CCQs):**
		+ **Does this sentence talk about now or the past? (Past)**
		+ **Do we use -ed for all verbs? (No, some are irregular.)**

**Controlled Practice (5 minutes):**

* **Activity: Students match verbs to sentences in the chat (e.g., "went - I went to the park").**
* **Instructions: Share sentences orally and elicit responses via chat. Correct as needed.**

**Freer Practice (15 minutes):**

1. **Example Dialogue (Script):**
	* **Person A: "Yesterday, I woke up early and helped my neighbour with their garden. We planted flowers and cleaned the yard."**
	* **Person B: "That’s nice! Last week, I helped my friend cook dinner. We made rice and vegetables. After that, we played cards."**
	* **Target Structure: Encourage students to use similar sentence patterns when telling their stories.**
2. **Activity:**
	* **Students take turns sharing their past experiences via audio or video.**
	* **Teacher monitors and notes errors for feedback.**

**Feedback and Error Correction (5 minutes):**

* **Highlight accurate use of the Past Simple.**
* **Correct common errors (e.g., "I goed to the park" – Correct to "I went to the park").**

**Teacher’s Script**

**Lead-in:**

* **"Hello, everyone! How are you today?"**
* **"Can you tell me one thing you did last weekend? For example, I stayed home and watched TV."**

**Language Focus:**

* **"Here are some words we use to talk about the past: yesterday, last week, ago. Repeat after me: yesterday, last week, ago."**
* **"Let’s practice some verbs. For example, visited. Repeat: visited."**
* **"Some verbs are irregular. For example, went. Repeat: went."**

**Controlled Practice:**

* **"I’ll say a sentence, and you type the correct verb in the chat. For example: Yesterday, I \_\_\_ to the park. What is the answer? (Answer: went)"**

**Freer Practice:**

* **"Now, I want you to share a story about something you did in the past. Use words like yesterday or last week."**
* **"For example, yesterday I woke up early and helped my neighbor with their garden."**

**Feedback:**

* **"Great work! I heard some excellent sentences. Let’s correct a few common mistakes."**
	+ **"For example: I goed to the park – we say I went to the park."**
	+ **"Another example: She don’t go yesterday – we say she didn’t go yesterday."**

**Technical Optimization**

* **Platform: Zoom.**
* **Tools: Use chat for eliciting responses and audio for storytelling.**
* **Backup Plan: Provide a PDF worksheet if technical issues arise.**

**Homework**

* **Write 3-4 sentences about what you did last weekend and bring them to the next class for sharing.**

**Example Story for Scaffolding**

**Title: Helping a Neighbour**

**"Yesterday, I woke up early to help my neighbour. Their garden was messy, so we cleaned it together. We planted flowers and picked up trash. After that, we drank tea and talked about our families. I felt happy because we finished everything before lunch."**

**Key Features:**

* **Uses common regular and irregular verbs: woke, helped, cleaned, planted, drank, talked, finished.**
* **Includes time markers: yesterday, after that, before lunch.**
* **Provides a clear sequence of events.**

**Past Tense Controlled Practice Worksheet**

**Instructions:** Match the verbs to the sentences by writing the correct verb in the blank. Use the Past Simple tense.

**Verbs:**

1. went
2. saw
3. ate
4. visited
5. watched
6. stayed
7. enjoyed

**Sentences:**

1. Yesterday, I \_\_\_\_\_\_ to the park.
2. Last weekend, we \_\_\_\_\_\_ a great movie.
3. I \_\_\_\_\_\_ my grandparents two days ago.
4. She \_\_\_\_\_\_ a delicious pizza for dinner.
5. They \_\_\_\_\_\_ at home because it was raining.
6. He \_\_\_\_\_\_ a beautiful sunset during his trip.
7. We \_\_\_\_\_\_ the concert last night; it was amazing!

**Instructions for Teacher:**

* Elicit answers from students through the chat feature on their phones.
* Read each sentence aloud and ask students to type their answers in the chat box.
* Provide feedback on their answers verbally or in the chat.

**Answers:**

1. went
2. watched
3. visited
4. ate
5. stayed
6. saw
7. enjoyed