

# Tell me why I don't like Mondays

 EAE Learning objectives for this lesson   
**Objectives - Practice talking in the simple past and learn some past participles.**  
**Talk about the days of the week.**

**Activity One** - Ask and answer the following questions with a partner:

1. What's your favourite day of the week and why?
2. What day were you born on?
3. What day is it today?
4. What day was it the day before yesterday?
5. What day was it two weeks ago exactly?
6. What is your least favourite day of the week and why?
7. What was the best day ever for you?
8. What day will it be in three days?

**Activity Two** - **Listen** to the song and label the images in the order you hear them:

The Boomtown Rats - Tell me why I don't like Mondays.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o2l84-A9duY>



### Activity three - Irregular past participles

To form the past simple tense, we usually add 'ED' to the verb, but of course it is not as simple as that. We also have irregular verbs that have their own rules.

Have a look at some of the most used irregular past participles below

**Go - Went**

**See - Saw**

**Have - Had**

**Be - Was / Were**

**Do - Did**

Change the verbs below into their regular or irregular past participles. How many irregular verbs can you find?

☐ Feed

☐ Steal

☐ Speed

☐ Sell

☐ Mistake

☐ Swim

☐ Wear

☐ Win

☐ Hit

☐ Shoot

### Activity Four - Tell me why you don't like Mondays.

**As a group.** The first person has to say why they don't like Mondays, or why they do like Mondays. Then the second person has to repeat what the first said and add what they like or dislike about Mondays. After that the third person has to repeat what both the others said and add their own like or dislike.. carry on until someone can't remember everything...

### Activity Five - Song facts

- Did you know what the song was about from listening to it?
- Read the paragraph about the song and identify the past participles

This is about Brenda Spencer, a 16-year-old San Diego high school student who lived across from an elementary school. On Monday, January 29, 1979, she opened fire on the school with a rifle, killing 2 adults (including the principal) and injuring 9 kids before going back to her home. Police surrounded her home and waited for 7 hours until she gave herself up. In that time, she spoke with a reporter on the phone. When asked why she did it, she replied, "I just started shooting, that's it. I just did it for the fun of it. I just don't like Mondays. I just did it because it's a way to cheer the day up. Nobody likes Mondays."

While in Atlanta touring, Bob Geldof heard the news story about Brenda Spencer. Geldof composed the song on the spot, originally as a reggae number. Back in Los Angeles after the tour, a studio demo was recorded with grand piano and vocals. By the time 'I Don't Like Mondays' was introduced onstage in Loch Lomond, Scotland, the song had been transformed dramatically.

### **Activity Six - What did you do last Monday?**

Tell your partner all about what you did last Monday. Your partner will write down all the past participles you used. Then we will see if those past participles were correct.

### **Activity Seven - I got up on Monday morning and... (As a group or two groups).**

Each person has to say one thing which happened in a sequence of events on a Monday morning, the next person has to carry on telling the story. Let's invent a story together about last Monday morning! Be creative!

### **Activity Eight - Days of the week**

- What are the days of the week and the months and seasons in English? Can you spell them all? (Do you know alphabet in English?).
- Explain to your partner what one thing you did on each day of the week last week?

### **Activity Nine - Dialogues**

Fill in the gaps in the dialogues with past participles

**Fred:** What \_\_\_\_\_ you do at the weekend? (do)

**Nicola:** I \_\_\_\_\_ to the cinema with my sister, and you? (go)

**Fred:** I \_\_\_\_\_ tennis on Saturday and \_\_\_\_\_ at home on Sunday (play) (stay)

**Nicola:** That sounds great!

**Fred:** What \_\_\_\_\_ you watch at the cinema? (do)

**Nicola:** I \_\_\_\_\_ Harry Potter (watch)

**Fred:** But I \_\_\_\_\_ you couldn't see Harry Potter at the cinema anymore? (think)

**Nicola:** It \_\_\_\_\_ a special viewing (be)

**Fred:** Ah ok, that sounds like fun

**Nicola:** It \_\_\_\_\_ excellent! (be)

### **Activity Ten - Role plays**

With a partner, act out one of the following role plays

1. A friend visited a haunted house and got very scared, he tries to explain to you what happened but you are not sure you understand
2. Your friend is very angry because you didn't come to meet him at the weekend when you said you would. You have to try and explain what happened to you. The reason you couldn't be there
3. You are confused about which day of the week something happened and you have an argument with your sister as she is sure it was on a different day!

