Step 2 Secret diary of a bullied

The text

The document is an extract from a **secret diary** written by a pupil who was **bullied** at school. He describes what happened during his first four days in his new school.

The main events

Day 1	He didn't have fun or make friends. He felt alone and sad.
Day 2	The bullies called him names and left him out of activities.
Day 3	They punched and kicked him. He felt scared.
Day 4	He stuck up for himself and made some friends. He wasn't alone anymore, but he didn't trust them.

Grammar focus – The simple past (prétérit)

→ We use the simple past to talk about finished actions or events in the past.

The verb BE in the simple past

Affirmative: He **was** / They **were**. **Negative:** He **wasn't** / They **weren't**. **Question:** **Was** / **Were** he ... ?

Affirmative sentences

- **Regular verbs:** verb + **-ed**
  → They **bullied** him.
- **Irregular verbs:** specific past form
  → He **felt** scared.
  → He **had** friends.

Negative sentences

Subject + **didn't** + base verb

→ He **didn't ignore** him.

→ They **didn't include** him.

Questions

Did + subject + base verb ... ?

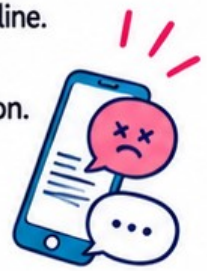
→ **Did** he **make** friends?

Remember! After **did** or **didn't**, always use the verb in its base form.
Example: He **didn't have** friends. / **Did** he **feel** scared?

Exercises – The simple past

1 A. Put the verbs in brackets in the simple past.

1. Some students ..... (spread) rumours about her online.
2. He ..... (receive) hurtful messages yesterday.
3. They ..... (take) pictures of him without permission.
4. She ..... (report) the bullying to her teacher.
5. He ..... (block) the bullies on social media.



2 B. Make these sentences negative.

1. He accepted the insults. → .....
2. They shared the video. → .....
3. She told her parents. → .....
4. The teacher punished the bullies. → .....

3 C. Turn the sentences into questions.

1. They ignored him in class. → ..... ?
2. She defended her friend. → ..... ?
3. He felt embarrassed. → ..... ?
4. It happened at school. → ..... ?

4 D. Rewrite the paragraph in the simple past.

Today, a new pupil is bullied. Some students ignore him, others laugh at him and take his things. He feels upset and stays alone at break. In the afternoon, he talks to a teacher and finds support.



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