

This is a story for younger learners. There is an equivalent story for older learners within Racing to English. The story introduces narrating using the simple past tense.

For most learners it is useful to **introduce** the past tense before reading a story. One method I often use is to ask individual pupils/students to do different actions, for example, stand up, write your name, go to the door, draw a picture, add two numbers, break a stick, throw a ball, etc. I then ask 'What did X do?' 'What did Y do?' etc.



I use irregular verbs stand/stood draw/drew go/went etc. as it is much easier to hear the difference between '*stand*' and '*stood*' than it is to hear the difference between '*look*' and '*looked*'. In most English sentences the difference between '*look*' and '*looked*' is almost impossible to hear. Other classroom instructions can be used in a similar manner, including instructions on how to make a model or how to do a science experiment, etc.

After this introduction, use the story. It can be used in a number of ways depending on the age, language level and literacy level of the learners. It is vital to ensure understanding and, when I am working with a small group of learners, I usually start by looking at the pictures or at some real objects I've taken into class to ensure they understand the key vocabulary. Then I read the story -- acting it out, miming different actions etc.

Ask learners to read the story aloud in pairs either in unison or ask one learner to read to the other. Acting out the story is also a very valuable way of ensuring repetition of the target language.

The **worksheets** his designed to be done orally first. It is important that learners work in pairs to practise the language orally before they are asked to write the answers.





Racing to English  
Activity 9a

**Eek-eek-eek (1)**  
**the television**

Once upon a time there was a zoo keeper called Miss Keep. She had lots of animals in her zoo. She had a lion called Log and a tiger called Tog. She had a camel called Cog and a zebra called Zog. She had a monkey called Mog and a horse called Hog. And she had a mouse called Eek-eek-eek. Miss Keep worked very hard.



Mog the monkey

Every day she swept the animals' cages, she bought the animals' food, she cooked the animals' food, she took the food to the animals, she collected the empty dishes and she washed the dishes.

"This is hard work," she said, "but it's easier than being a teacher."

But one day poor Miss Keep got very tired.

"This isn't fair," she said, "I do all the work. Today I want the animals to do the work."

"Log the lion," she said, "I want you to go and sweep the animals' cages."	<b>So</b>	Log the lion went and swept all the animals' cages.
"Tog the tiger," she said, "I want you to go and buy the animals' food."	<b>So</b>	Tog the tiger went and bought all the animals' food.
"Cog the camel," she said, "I want you to go and cook the animals' food."	<b>So</b>	Cog the camel went and cooked all the animals' food.

"Zog the zebra," she said, "I want you to go and take the food to the animals."	So	Zog the zebra went and took all the food to the animals.
"Mog the monkey," she said, "I want you to go and collect the empty dishes."	So	Mog the monkey went and collected all the empty dishes.
"Hog the horse," she said, "I want you to go and wash the dishes."	So	Hog the horse went and washed all the dishes.

"What do you want me to do?" asked Eek-eek-eek the mouse.

"You're too little to work," said Miss Keep. "I want you to sit down and watch television with me."	So	Eek-eek-eek the mouse sat down and watched television with Miss Keep.
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But Log and Tog and Cog and Zog and Mog and Hog all saw Eek-eek-eek sitting down and watching television.



"This isn't fair," they said. "We are doing all the work and Miss Keep and Eek-eek-eek the mouse are just sitting down and watching television."

What do you think happened next?





Work with a friend to fill in the missing words:

<p>"Log the lion," said Miss Keep, "I want you to _____ and _____ the animals' cages." So Log the lion _____ and _____ all the animals' cages.</p>	<p>go went sweep swept</p>
<p>"Tog the tiger," she _____, "I want you to _____ and _____ the animals' food." So Tog the tiger _____ and _____ all the animals' food.</p>	<p>said go went buy bought</p>
<p>"Cog the Camel," she _____, "I _____ you to _____ and _____ the animals' food." So Cog the camel _____ and _____ all the animals' food.</p>	<p>want went go said cook cooked</p>

<p>"Zog the zebra," she _____,          "I _____ you to _____ and          _____ the food to the animals."          So Zog the zebra _____ and          _____ all the food to the          animals.</p>	<p>said          go          went          want          took          take</p>
<p>"Mog the monkey," she _____,          "I _____ you to _____ and          _____ the empty dishes."          So Mog the monkey _____ and          _____ all the empty dishes.</p>	<p>want          went          go          collected          collect          said</p>
<p>"Hog the horse," she _____,          "I want you to _____ and          _____ the dishes."          So Hog the horse _____          and _____ all the dishes.</p>	<p>washed          wash          go          went          said</p>

<p>"What do you _____ me to do?" asked Eek-eek-eek the mouse.</p> <p>"You're too little to work," _____ Miss Keep. "I _____ you to _____ down and _____ television with me."</p> <p>So Eek-eek-eek the mouse _____ down and _____ television with Miss Keep.</p>	<p>watch watched sat want sit said want</p>
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Look at this:

Did Eek-eek-eek go and cook the food?

No he didn't, Cog went and cooked the food.

Now ask your friend these questions. Your friend must answer the question like the example.

1. Did Eek-eek-eek go and wash the dishes?
2. Did Log go and take the food to the animals?
3. Did Tog go and sweep the cages?
4. Did Cog go and buy the food?
5. Did Zog go and cook the food?
6. Did Hog go and collect the empty dishes?
7. Did Mog sit and watch television with Miss Keep?



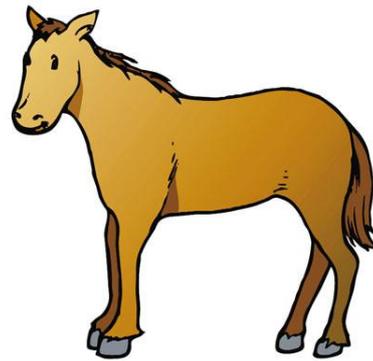
**Tog the tiger**



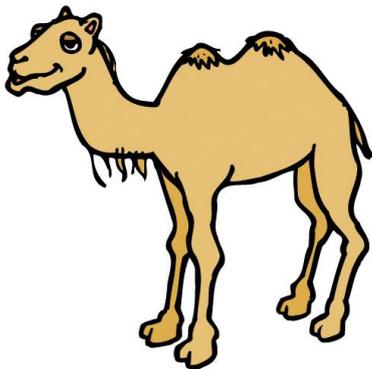
**Log the lion**



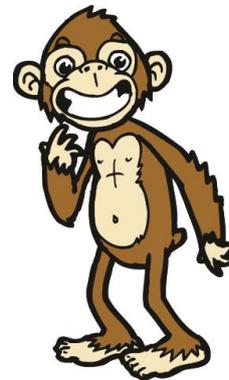
**Zog the zebra**



**Hog the horse**



**Cog the camel**



**Mog the monkey**



**Eek-eek-eek the mouse**



**Miss Keep the zoo keeper**