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Effective way of learning irregular verbs

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ABSTRACT

The main purpose of article is to introduce different and easier way of learning irregular verbs of English language.

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In English grammar irregular verb is a verb which doesn't follow any usual rules of forming verbs. They are also called "Strong verbs"(1). Verbs that don't include -ed ending in past simple and past participle forms are irregular verbs of English(2). Learning irregular verbs is one of the most essential points of English language especially, for students who study English as foreign language since several tenses such as past tenses, perfect tenses and passive voice are formed by using irregular verbs. "The top 10 verbs in the English language are all irregular, even though irregular verbs make up only 3 percent of the language," said Erez Lieberman, a graduate student in applied mathematics at Harvard University's Program for Evolutionary Dynamics(3). By this the real importance of irregular verbs and learning them can be obvious.

Irregular verbs have three forms: base form, past form and past participle form(4). The forms of these verbs change in different forms: past simple form or past participle form. They are sometimes completely different in three forms, sometimes they have the same

past simple and past participle forms or they just do not change.

Usually, learning new words, irregulars or just new information is much easier when the order of words has a rhythm. Rhymes are one of the simplest ways to boost memory(5). So, it would be comfortable to learn irregular verbs by grouping them according to the rhythm or endings.

- **Group 1** includes irregular verbs which don't change in all three forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
bet	bet	bet
cast	cast	cast
cost	cost	cost
cut	cut	cut
hit	hit	hit
hurt	hurt	hurt
let	let	let
put	put	put
quit	quit	quit
set	set	set
shed	shed	shed

shut	shut	shut
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- **Group 2** includes irregular verbs in which base form of the verb ends with “d” and it changes to “t” in past simple and past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
bend	bent	bent
build	built	built
lend	lent	lent
send	sent	sent
spend	spent	spent

- **Group 3** includes irregular verbs in which “t” is added to the base form in past simple and past participle.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
burn	burnt	burnt
learn	learnt	learnt
spell	spelt	spelt
smell	smelt	smelt
spill	spilt	spilt

- **Group 4** includes irregular verbs which contain “-ept” ending in past simple and past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
keep	kept	kept
sleep	slept	slept
creep	crept	crept
sweep	swept	swept
weep	wept	wept

- **Group 5** includes irregular verbs which contain “[e]...t” in past simple and past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
deal	dealt	dealt
dream	dreamt	dreamt
feel	felt	felt
leave	left	left
mean	meant	meant
kneel	knelt	knelt

- **Group 6** includes irregular verbs which contain “-o-” sound in past simple and past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
get	got	got
lose	lost	lost
shoot	shot	shot
win	won	won

- **Group 7** includes irregular verbs which contain “-en” ending in past participle form.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
beat	beat	beaten
bite	bit	bitten
hide	hid	hidden

- **Group 8** includes irregular verbs which contain “-eid” sound in past simple and past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
lay	laid	laid
make	made	made
pay	paid	paid

- **Group 9** includes irregular verbs which contain “-stood” ending in past simple and past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
stand	stood	stood
understand	understood	understood

- **Group 10** includes irregular verbs which contain “-ew” ending in past simple and “-own” ending in past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
blow	blew	blown
fly	flew	flown
grow	grew	grown
Know	knew	known
throw	threw	thrown

- **Group 11** includes irregular verbs which contain “-o/- aught” ending in past simple and past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
bring	brought	brought
buy	bought	bought
fight	fought	fought
think	thought	thought
seek	sought	sought
catch	caught	caught
teach	taught	taught

- **Group 12** includes irregular verbs in which “i” vowel changes to “a” in past simple and to “u” in past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
begin	began	begun
drink	drank	drunk
ring	rang	rung
run	ran	run
sing	sang	sung
swim	swam	swum

- **Group 13** includes irregular verbs which contain “-ound” ending in past simple and past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
find	found	found
bind	bound	bound
grind	ground	ground
wind	wound	wound

- **Group 14** includes irregular verbs which contain “-ed” ending in past simple and past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
feed	fed	fed
lead	led	led
read	read	read
bleed	bled	bled
breed	bred	bred
speed	sped	sped

- **Group 15** includes irregular verbs which end with “-d” or “-t” sound in past simple and past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
have	had	had
hear	heard	heard
say	said	said
Sit	sat	sat
spit	spat	spat

- **Group 16** includes irregular verbs which contain “-ook” ending in past simple and “-aken” ending in past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
shake	shook	shaken
take	took	taken
mistake	mistook	mistaken

- **Group 17** includes irregular verbs which contain “-en” ending in past participle form.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
eat	ate	eaten
fall	fell	fallen
forbid	forbade	forbidden
forget	forgot	forgotten
forgive	forgave	forgiven
give	gave	given

- **Group 18** includes irregular verbs which contain “-o” sound in past simple and “-i...en” ending in past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
drive	drove	driven
ride	rode	ridden
rise	rose	risen
write	wrote	written

- **Group 19** includes irregular verbs which contain “-o” sound in past simple and “-o...en” ending in past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
break	broke	broken
choose	chose	chosen
freeze	froze	frozen
speak	spoke	spoken

steal	stole	stolen
wake	woke	woken

- **Group 20** includes irregular verbs which contain “-old” ending in past simple and past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
sell	sold	sold
tell	told	told

- **Group 21** includes irregular verbs which contain “-ore” ending in past simple and “-orn” ending in past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
tear	tore	torn
wear	wore	worn
swear	swore	sworn

- **Group 22** includes irregular verbs in which “i” vowel changes to “u” in past simple and past participle forms.

Base form	Past simple	Past participle
dig	dug	dug
hang	hung	hung
stick	stuck	stuck
sting	stung	stung
strike	struck	struck

By using this technique English learners would find learning new foreign language easier and more interesting. This method not only can be effective to adult learners, but it also can make enjoyable and fascinating to learn irregular verbs for children and teenagers. Because, learners with young ages usually have difficulties in studying grammar especially, irregulars of English language.

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