

Spanish

Talking about who you admire [1/3]

The imperfect tense vs the preterite tense

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Loss of accents in the plural form

Nouns and adjectives ending in **-n** or **-s** that **stress the final syllable** in the **singular lose the accent in the plural** form:

Examples:

1. la organizaci**ó**n > las organizaci**o**nes
2. la religi**ó**n > las religi**o**nes
3. el ingl**é**s > los ingl**e**ses
4. el holand**é**s > los holand**e**ses



El vocabulario

seguir	to follow, following
luchar	to fight, fighting
recaudar	to raise, raising
los derechos	rights
los fondos	funds
la pobreza	poverty
la organización benéfica	charity
el modelo	role model



The preterite tense...

denotes a completed action in the past. There is often reference to a specific time, e.g., last month.

The imperfect tense ...

often describes a habitual action in the past. There is often reference to non-specific time, e.g. always.



Recognising the tense by verb endings

The preterite tense verb endings

	AR verbs	ER/IR verbs
I	é	í
He/she	o	ió

The imperfect tense verb endings

	AR verbs	ER/IR verbs
I	aba	ía
He/she	aba	ía



Práctica

	The imperfect (meaning 'used to')	The preterite (‘completed action’)
1. En el pasado yo seguía a Shakira.		
2. El año pasado Shakira visitó Colombia para trabajar con una organización benéfica.		
3. El mes pasado Shakira recaudó dinero para Colombia.		
4. Yo siempre admiraba a Shakira.		



Irregular verbs

The preterite of *ser*

fue = he/she/it was

The imperfect of *ser*

era = I was (used to be)
he/she/it was (used to be)



Verb conjugation

1. I used to admire Ed Sheeran. **(Yo admiré/yo admiraba)**
2. My role model fought ten years for women's rights. **(luchó/luchaba)**
3. I used to follow Shakira on social media. **(yo seguí/yo seguía)**
4. Rosalia worked with a charity last month. **(trabajó/trabajaba)**
5. My favourite singer was Taylor Swift. **(fue/era)**
6. Camila Cabello was my role model. **(fue/era)**
7. J Balvin raised a lot of money for charity last year. **(recaudó/recaudaba)**



Verb conjugation

1. I used to admire Ed Sheeran. **(Yo admiré/yo admiraba)**
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Shakira

Cuando **era** pequeña, mi modelo favorito a seguir era Shakira. Ella siempre **luchaba** por los derechos de los niños en Colombia. Ella **recaudaba** fondos para mejorar la educación de los jóvenes colombianos. Su organización benéfica **fue** establecida en 1997 y ella **construyó** dos escuelas en 2004 para realizar su misión. Ahora **es** tan simpática como **era** en el pasado.

it was built

she was

I was

she used to raise

it was

she used to fight

she is



Shakira

Cuando **era (I was)** pequeña, mi modelo favorito a seguir era Shakira. Ella siempre **luchaba (she fought / used to fight)** por los derechos de los niños en Colombia. Ella **recaudaba (she raised / used to raise)** fondos para mejorar la educación de los jóvenes colombianos. Su organización benéfica **fue (it was)** establecida en 1997 y ella **construyó (it was built)** dos escuelas en 2004 para realizar su misión. Ahora **es (it is)** tan simpática como **era (she was)** en el pasado.



Cuando era pequeña, mi modelo favorito a seguir era Shakira. Ella siempre luchaba por los derechos de los niños en Colombia. Ella recaudaba fondos para mejorar la educación de los jóvenes colombianos. Su organización benéfica fue establecida en 1997 y ella construyó dos escuelas en 2004 para realizar su misión. Ahora es tan simpática como era en el pasado.

1. What did she (use to) fight for?
2. What did she (use to) do and why?
3. What was established in 1997?
4. What did she build in 2004?
5. Finish the sentence: 'now she is as as she was in the past'.



ANSWERS

1. What did she (use to) fight for?

Children's' rights in Colombia.

2. What did she (use to) do and why?

Raise money to improve the education of young colombians.

3. What was established in 1997?

Her charity.

4. What did she build in 2004?

2 schools

5. Finish the sentence: 'now she is as **kind** as she was in the past'.



Summary: the imperfect tense vs the preterite tense

1. The imperfect tense is used to describe 'what you used to do habitually' in the past.
2. To refer to 'he/she' in the imperfect tense you would use 'aba/ía'
3. The verb endings for 'I' and 'he/she' in the imperfect tense are the same. TRUE
4. 'Ella luchaba por los derechos de los niños' in English is 'she used to fight for the rights of children.'

