

"You Needed Me": The Simple Past Tense in Action

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APPENDIX: *Sample Handout for "You Needed Me"*

Part 1: Introduction

- A. Anne Murray is a famous Canadian singer. She sang many songs for Canadians and for people around the world. "You Needed Me" is one of her many popular songs. Discuss the following questions with a partner.
- Who are your favorite singers?
 - Why do you like them?
 - Are they popular in your country?
- B. The title of the song is "You Needed Me." What does it mean? Scan the lyrics. What do you think the song is about?
- C. The verbs below are in Anne Murray's song, "You Needed Me." Circle the regular verbs and underline the irregular verbs.

is cry hold are give put buy call wipe clear turn need take sell can find

Part 2: Listen to the first verse and circle the past tense verbs.

I cried a tear, you wiped it dry
I was confused, you cleared my mind
I sold my soul, you bought it back for me
And held me up and gave me dignity
Somehow you needed me

Part 3: Listen to the rest of the song and circle the past tense verbs.

You gave me strength to stand alone again
To face the world out on my own again
You put me high upon a pedestal
So high that I could almost see eternity
You needed me, you needed me

And I can't believe it's you
I can't believe it's true
I needed you and you were there
And I'll never leave, why should I leave?
I'd be a fool 'cause I finally found someone who really cares

You held my hand when it was cold
When I was lost you took me home
You gave me hope when I was at the end
And turned my lies back into truth again
You even called me "friend"

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You gave me strength to stand alone again
To face the world out on my own again
You put me high upon a pedestal
So high that I could almost see eternity
You needed me, you needed me; You needed me, you needed me

Part 4: Put the verbs in the correct columns below.

"Be" Verbs	Regular Verbs			Irregular Verbs
	<i>-ed</i>	<i>-d</i>	<i>-ied</i>	
	needed			held