

Clue/Trigger Words- Preterite vs. Imperfect

Preterit	Imperfect
Some words and phrases indicate specific time frames, and therefore signal the use of the preterite .	Other words and phrases indicate repetitive, vague or non-specific time frames, and therefore signal the use of the imperfect .
<p>ayer (yesterday)</p> <p>anteayer (the day before yesterday)</p> <p>anoche (last night)</p> <p>desde el primer momento (from the first moment)</p> <p>durante dos siglos (for two centuries)</p> <p>el otro día (the other day)</p> <p>en ese momento (at that moment)</p> <p>entonces (then)</p> <p>esta mañana (this morning)</p> <p>esta tarde (this afternoon)</p> <p>la semana pasada (last week)</p> <p>el mes pasado (last month)</p> <p>el año pasado (last year)</p> <p>hace dos días, años (two days, years ago)</p> <p>ayer por la mañana (yesterday morning)</p> <p>ayer por la tarde (yesterday afternoon)</p>	<p>a menudo (often)</p> <p>a veces (sometimes)</p> <p>cada día (every day)</p> <p>cada semana (every week)</p> <p>cada mes (every month)</p> <p>cada año (every year)</p> <p>con frecuencia (frequently)</p> <p>de vez en cuando (from time to time)</p> <p>en aquella época (at that time)</p> <p>frecuentemente (frequently)</p> <p>generalmente (usually)</p> <p>muchas veces (many times)</p> <p>mucho (a lot)</p> <p>nunca (never)</p> <p>por un rato (for awhile)</p> <p>siempre (always)</p> <p>tantas veces (so many times)</p> <p>todas las semanas (every week)</p> <p>todos los días (every day)</p> <p>todo el tiempo (all the time)</p> <p>varias veces (several times)</p>