

Mr. Hundhausen's *Magic* Past Tense System

**75% (UK) - 85% (US) PAST SIMPLE –
default tense (klasika / standardní
nastavení)**

**“Yesterday Bob ate 4 chocolate-covered
cockroaches. Yum.”**

Use PAST SIMPLE *unless* you have a special
situation:

3 special situations

**I) 5% PAST CONTINUOUS for the
background (zákulisí) to an event in
the PAST SIMPLE.**

**“While Bob was throwing up, his mum
called.”**

**II) 5% PŘEDMINULÝ ČAS (past
perfect) together with PAST
SIMPLE to explain why a past event**

happened (due to something earlier in the past). Can also be předminulý průběhový.

Tedy bojovali proti Madianským, jakož byl přikázal
Hospodin Mojžíšovi.

Antepreteritum ☺

~~“Bob threw up because he ate 4 chocolate-covered cockroaches.”~~ = soucasně ☹

“Bob threw up because he had eaten 4 chocolate-covered cockroaches.” = dřív snědl, a potom zvracel ☺

III) 5-15% PŘEDPŘÍTOMNÝ ČAS (US/UK) (present perfect) for timeframes which started in the past, and we are still in them (e.g. the event happened in the day/week/month that we are still in.) Can also be předpřítomný průběhový.

“So far this month I have eaten 18 chocolate-covered cockroaches.”

~~I live in Brno for 4 years~~ ☹

!!! I have lived in Brno for 4 years.

I have been living in B for 4 years.

**After Karel had bought a lot of textbooks,
he drank a lot of coffee.**

**While the runners were waiting for 30
minutes, they did stretching exercises.**

After the judges had finished counting down, the runners started.

While they were running, one of them fell down and broke his leg. The others got to the finish line healthy.