

Mr. Hundhausen's *Magic* Past Tense System

75% 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) 15% PŘEDPŘÍTOMNÝ ČAS

(present perfect) for things connected to the present (e.g. they started in the past and are still happening, OR 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.

II) 5% PŘEDMINULÝ ČAS (past perfect) together with PAST SIMPLE to say which past event happened first. 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.” = současně ☹~~

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

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

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

**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.