**TRIGGER WORDS FOR THE PRETERIT TENSE (S3)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **A esa hora** | *At that time* | **Ayer por la tarde** | *Yesterday afternoon* | **Hace (dos) días/meses/años** | *(Two) days/months/ years ago* |
| **Anoche** | *Last night* | **Ayer por la noche** | *Last night* | **Hoy por la mañana** | *This morning* |
| **Ante anoche** | *The night before last* | **El año pasado** | *Last year* | **La semana pasada** | *Last week* |
| **Ante ayer** | *The day before yesterday* | **El (lunes) pasado** | *Last (Monday)* | **Una vez** | *One time* |
| **Ayer al mediodía** | *Yesterday at noon* | **El mes pasado** | *Last month* | **Esa semana** | *One week* |
| **Ayer por la mañana** | *Yesterday morning* | **El otro día** | *The other day* | **Esta tarde** | *This afternoon* |
| **Ayer** | *Yesterday* | **Entonces** | *Then* |  |  |
| **Desde el primer momento** | *From the first moment* | **En ese momento** | *In/at that moment* |  |  |

**General Preterit Uses**

Generally, the preterit is used for actions considered **completed**, actions that have **definite** **beginning** and **end** points. These can be actions that can be viewed as single events, actions that were part of a chain of events, actions that were repeated a very specific number of times, or actions that specifically state the beginning and end of an action.

**Ejemplos:**

**Fui** al baile anoche.

**Caminé** al mercado, compré huevos y leche y después **regresé** a mi casa.

**Te llamé** tres veces esta mañana.