

PAST PERFECT TENSE

The **PAST PERFECT TENSE** indicates that an action was completed (finished or "perfected") at some point in the **past** before something else happened. This **tense** is formed with the **past tense form** of "to have" (HAD) plus the **past participle** of the verb (which can be either regular or irregular in **form**):

PAST PERFECT TENSE

POSITIVE FORM			NEGATIVE FORM		
Sbj + had + V3			Sbj + had NOT + V3		
I You He She It We You They	+ had	+ started	I You He She It We You They	+ had not hadn't	+ started
+ Ex: I had completed it.			- Ex: I had not (hadn't) completed it.		
QUESTION FORM					
Had + Sbj + V3					
Had	+ Sbj	started			
	I You He She It We You They				
? Ex: You had completed it. → Had you completed it?					

Past Perfect Tense

Fill in the blank spaces using past perfect tense.

1. The race _____ (already/finish) by the time the last person arrived.
2. Steve had a gold medal because he _____ (win) the marathon.
3. Maria fed her dog after she _____ (walk) her dog in the evening.
4. Uncle Sam bought a new motorbike after he _____ (ride) it a few times.
5. By the time Alan and Jane had got to the restaurant, everyone _____ (begin) eating.
6. Pablo _____ (break) the vase while trying to put flowers in it.
7. There were a lot of people in the park because _____ (was) a very sunny day.
8. We were burgled because my dad _____ (not lock) the bathroom window.
9. My car wasn't there because my husband _____ (take) it without asking me.
10. Our grandmother _____ (die) because of old age.

Put the verbs into the correct form (past perfect simple).

1. The storm destroyed the sandcastle that we (build) .
2. He (not / be) to Cape Town before 1997.
3. When she went out to play, she (do / already) her homework.
4. My brother ate all of the cake that our mum (make) .
5. The doctor took off the plaster that he (put on) six weeks before.
6. The waiter brought a drink that I (not / order) .
7. I could not remember the poem we (learn) the week before.
8. The children collected the chestnuts that (fall) from the tree.
9. (he / phone) Angie before he went to see her in London?
10. She (not / ride) a horse before that day.

Exercises – Past Perfect Simple

Fill in the correct form of the past perfect simple or past simple as in the examples.

1. After Loren had turned on the alarm, she locked the door. (turn on)
2. By the time Simone arrived, the police had already left. (arrive)
3. Had you known about the contract they signed? (know)

1. After the company _____ Joe, he began to work on his first project. (hire)
2. _____ you _____ the news before you saw it on TV? (hear)
3. Michael didn't want to see the movie because he _____ the book yet.
(not read)
4. The concert _____ already _____ when we _____ the stadium.
(begin/ enter)
5. Until Anne _____ Mark, she _____ never _____ in love. (meet, be)
6. Bill _____ for years before he finally _____. (smoke/ quit)
7. _____ Sara ever _____ to London by herself before then? (drive)
8. How many fish _____ the boys _____ by the time it started raining?
(catch)

9. You _____ them to go to the beach, hadn't you? (forbid)
10. The girls _____ in weeks? That's why they _____ so much afterwards. (exercise / hurt)

Past Perfect Simple

Complete the sentences below with the simple form of past perfect.

Example: He _____ (leave) when I arrived.

He had left when I arrived.

1.	I thought I knew her. I thought I _____ (see) her before.
2.	He _____ (drive) only twice in his life before the accident.
3.	Bonny no longer had her car. She _____ (sell) it.
4.	I saw Annabel last week. She _____ (change) a lot.
5.	Terry wasn't at home He _____ (just go) out.
6.	I tried to find Mr Jones but he wasn't around. Then I found out he _____ (die).
7.	He didn't need to borrow the car because he _____ (have) his bike repaired.
8.	Jenny _____ (just get) home when the phone rang.
9.	The new restaurant wasn't open any longer. It _____ (close) down.
10.	He fed the cat because no-one _____ (feed) it for days.