

Past Perfect

Name:

Date:



How to use past perfect?

The past perfect tense, also pluperfect tense, is used for actions that took place before a certain point in the past. It is often used together with the simple past tense.

We use this tense to express:

actions that took place before a certain time in the past

Example: Little Miss Muffet sat on her tuffet after she had made herself some porridge.
the third conditional

Example: If the spider had not frightened her, she would have finished her porridge sitting on her tuffet.

The signal words for the past progressive are listed below: already, just, never, not yet, once, until that day etc.

To conjugate the past perfect tense in English, we follow the rule: had + past participle.

Choose the correct answer

1. After I _ my homework, I played video games.

☐ have finished ☐ had finished ☐ finished

2. By the time we arrived at the cinema, the movie _ started.

☐ had already ☐ has already ☐ already

3. She _ seen snow until she went to Canada last winter.

☐ had never ☐ has never ☐ never

4. When I woke up, my sister _ for school.

☐ had already left ☐ has already left ☐ already left

5. The restaurant _ by the time we got there for dinner.

☐ has closed ☐ closed ☐ had closed

6. He _ his keys and couldn't get into his house.

☐ lost ☐ has lost ☐ had lost

7. After the party, the guests _ up all the decorations.

☐ have cleaned ☐ cleaned ☐ had cleaned

8. The football game _ before we arrived at the stadium.

☐ ended ☐ has ended ☐ had ended

Mark the words in the past perfect.

The school day had ended before she reached the bus stop. She had missed the bus and had decided to walk home. As she had walked through the park, she had seen a green ball in the bushes. She had picked it up and realized that it had belonged to her little brother. He had been playing soccer and had lost the ball. She had called her mom to tell her that she would be late and had returned the ball to her brother.

Write the past perfect form of the verb into the panels.

My parents were angry because I _____ (to forget) to clean up my room before they arrived.

The dog was tired because it _____ (to run) around the park for an hour.

I couldn't find my keys because I _____ (to misplace) them earlier.

The cake was burnt because I _____ (to leave) it in the oven for too long.

The students were happy because they _____ (to finish) their project before the deadline.

The flowers were dead because I _____ (not to water) them for a week.

The car wouldn't start because I _____ (not to charge) the battery.

The concert was over because the band _____ (to play) all of their songs.

Put the words in the right order

finished, had, TV., before, She, her, watching, homework

eaten, dinner, games., video, before, had, playing, his, He

before, math, studied, had, taking, They, test., the

arrived., The, dog, the, before, couch, company, on, slept, had, the

the, She, before, her, parents, home., had, came, cleaned, kitchen