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Past Perfect Continuous

AFFIRMATIVE

I
HE\SHE\IT
YOU\WE\THEY

had *been finishing.*

INTERROGATIVE

Had

I
he\she\it
we\you\they

been finishing ?

NEGATIVE

I
HE\SHE\IT
YOU\WE\THEY

hadn't *been finishing.*

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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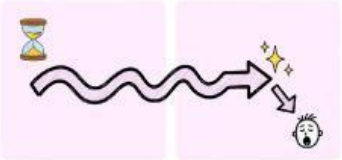
Past Perfect Continuous – Use

We use the Past Perfect Continuous to talk about an action that started in the past and continued for some time before another action in the past.

Duration before a past moment



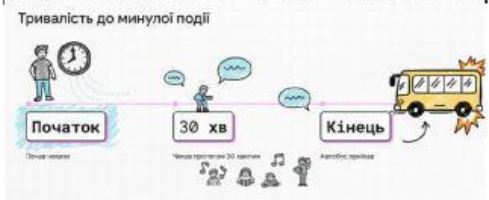
It is the past equivalent of the Present Perfect Continuous.

The Past Perfect Continuous emphasizes how long an action had been happening before something else happened in the past.

Past Perfect Continuous вживається, щоб показати дію, яка почалася в минулому і тривала певний час до іншої дії в минулому.

Тривалість дії до певного моменту в минулому

Цей час є минулим відповідником Present Perfect Continuous і підкреслює тривалість дії перед іншою минулою подією.



Приклад:

- He had been waiting for the bus for half an hour before it came.
- (Очікування тривало деякий час і закінчилося до іншої дії в минулому.)

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Past Perfect Continuous – Use

Visible result in the past

We also use the Past Perfect Continuous when the result of an action was evident at a specific moment in the past.

Помітний результат у минулому

Past Perfect Continuous також вживається, коли результат дії був помітний у минулому.

Приклад:

- She was tired. She had been working hard all day yesterday.
- (Втома була очевидною саме в той момент у минулому.)

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Time Expressions (Past Perfect Continuous)

for — протягом (періоду часу)

👉 використовується з тривалістю

Example: for two hours, for a long time

since — з (певного моменту в минулому)

👉 показує початкову точку дії

Example: since morning, since 2018

how long — як довго

👉 ставиться у запитаннях про тривалість дії

Example: How long had you been waiting?

before — перед тим як / до того як

👉 показує, що одна дія відбулася раніше за іншу

Example: before she arrived

until / till — до (певного моменту)

👉 показує, до якого часу тривала дія

Example: until midnight

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Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form of the Past Perfect Continuous

Sophie _____ (paint) the walls all day before she finished them.

Tom _____ (wait) long when the boss announced that he couldn't see you?

Tom _____ (look) for a job for six months when he found one.

We _____ (watch) TV for half an hour when the doorbell rang.

They _____ (sunbathe) for an hour when it started to rain.

Stan _____ (work) as a postman for forty years when he retired.

I _____ (live) in France for ten years when I met my husband.

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Put the verbs in brackets into the past perfect simple or the past perfect continuous.

Yesterday was a bad day for Andrew. He 1._____ (not / sleep) well because there was a terrible storm in the night.

After he 2) _____ (have) a shower, he made breakfast.

After he

3) _____ (eat), he got into his car and drove to work.

He

4) _____ (only / drive) for five minutes when he remembered that he

5) _____ (leave) his briefcase at home.

He turned the car around and went home again. Then, he realised that he

6) _____ (lock) himself out. The keys were still inside the house!

Andrew was already late for work, so he decided to leave the briefcase and go to work.

When he arrived, his secretary told him that his boss

7) _____ (try) to call him at home.

Andrew went to find his boss. When he asked his boss why he

8) _____ (call), he told him that it hadn't been necessary for him to come to work that day after all!

Poor Andrew drove all the way home again.

LIVEWORKSHEETS