

GRAMMAR

Past Perfect; Past Perfect and Past Simple

We use the Past Perfect for actions that happened at a specific time in the past.

*I **had seen** the poster.*

*She **hadn't acted** before.*

***Had** they **read** the rules? Yes, they **had**./No, they **hadn't**.*

Past Perfect and Past Simple

We use these tenses to show that one event happened before another.

We link the Past Simple and Past Perfect with *because*, *before*, *by the time*, *when* and *after*.

***By the time** his friends **arrived**, Jim **had tidied up** his bedroom.*

*Abe **rang** Carla **after** he'd **spoken** to Bea.*

1 ● Complete the sentences with the Past Perfect form of the verbs in brackets.

- I **had bought** (buy) a new dress before I went to the opera.
- She was disappointed because she _____ (not watch) the livestream.
- The band _____ (learn) the lyrics before they sang on stage.
- _____ you _____ (act) in any films before this one?
- _____ you ever _____ (write) a film review before today?
- David _____ (be) a dancer before he was a teacher.

2 ● Match the sentence halves.

- ☒ d Sheila was happy
 - ☐ I hadn't seen an elephant
 - ☐ By the time I got up,
 - ☐ We had never been abroad before
 - ☐ John read the book after
 - ☐ We were tired because
- a he'd seen the film.
b we went to France.
c we had walked for hours.
d ~~because she'd passed her exam.~~
e my parents had had breakfast.
f before I went to the zoo.

3 ● Write the part of the sentence which happens first. Then write the linking word.

- I was hungry because I hadn't had breakfast.
*I **hadn't had breakfast** - **because***
- We had waited for an hour before he arrived.

- James got up after Sally had left the house.

- By the time they arrived at the theatre, the play had already started.

- Nigel had done a lot of research before he made the documentary.

- I had already finished the series when Carl told me about it.

4 ● Choose the correct option to make sentences with the Past Perfect and Past Simple.

- I studied / **had studied** a lot of thrillers before I wrote / *had written* one.
- Vicky *had made* / *made* the video before she *entered* / *had entered* the competition.
- The show *had already started* / *already started* when we *had switched* / *switched* on the TV.
- He *acted* / *had acted* in many films after he *had become* / *became* famous.

5 ● Complete the text with the correct Past Perfect form of these verbs. There is one extra verb.

buy entertain leave not eat not see pack ~~plan~~

Last summer, we flew to Scotland. Mum
1 **had planned** to go to Edinburgh Castle to watch the fireworks. We took a taxi to the airport, but there was a lot of traffic. By the time we got there, the plane 2 _____. Fortunately, Mum 3 _____ tickets which we could use on a later flight. We arrived that evening. It was raining, but luckily we 4 _____ our umbrellas. We climbed up to the castle. I 5 _____ a firework display live before, so it was a new experience. After that, we went for fish and chips. We were hungry because we 6 _____ lunch.