

Past Perfect vs Past Simple

The past perfect tense is for talking about something that happened before something else.

The formula for the past perfect tense is **had + [past participle]**. It doesn't matter if the subject is singular or plural; the formula doesn't change.

Tip: Remember to identify which action happened first.

1. I (didn't study / hadn't studied) Japanese before I (went / had gone) to Japan.
2. She (baked / had baked) a lot before she (opened / had opened) her shop.
3. We (had / had had) a lot of trouble because we (lost / had lost) our passports.
4. Brian (knew / had known) many people at the club because he (was / had been) there many times.
5. They (didn't study / hadn't studied) English before they (moved / had moved) to Canada.
6. You (didn't enjoy / hadn't enjoyed) the movie because you (read / had read) the book.
7. She really (liked / had liked) him because he (helped / had helped) her.
8. The policeman (arrested / had arrested) the man who (stole / had stolen) the money.
9. Before Henry (came / had come) home, his friend (took / had taken) the dog for a walk.
10. Margaret (was / had been) upset because her husband (forgot / had forgotten) her birthday.