

Past perfect

Look at the underlined verbs. Which action happened first? Copy and complete the table.

- 1 Had you dreamed of becoming a detective before you got this job? Yes, I had.
- 2 I decided to become a lawyer because I hadn't realized that teenagers could be detectives!
- 3 I captured everything on video because I 'd put a secret camera in my purse.

First action (past perfect)	Second action (simple past)
Had ... dreamed	got

Read the sentences again. Copy and complete the rules.

affirmative before negative past participle

- 1 We use the past perfect to refer to actions that happened _____ a specific time or another action in the past.
- 2 We form the past perfect with *had* and the _____ of the main verb.
- 3 We often use *'d* (the short form of *had*) in the _____ and *hadn't* (the short form of *had not*) in the _____.

A woman e-mails Katie's agency about a new case. Choose the correct option to complete the text. Each sentence should include a simple past and a past perfect form.



I'm worried about my 16-year-old daughter, Meg. Last month, she (1 started / 'd started) going out with Steve, a college student that she (2 met / 'd met) at a party. One day, after Meg (3 left / had left) for school, I (4 went / 'd gone) into her room. I (5 found / 'd found) lots of smartphones that she (6 hid / 'd hidden) in her closet. I'm sure Steve is responsible for this. Please find out some information about him.

Katie has investigated Steve and now she's telling her boss, Mike, about the case. Complete the dialogue using the simple past and past perfect form of the verbs.

Mike What did you find out about Steve?

Katie A lot! I **1** (discover) that he
2 (lie) to Meg. His real name is Sam. And he **3** (leave) prison the week before he **4** (meet) Meg.

Mike So, he's not a student?

Katie No. Meg's mother was right to be suspicious. He's a thief. He **5** (ask) Meg to take care of the phones because he **6**
(rob) a phone store.

Mike Oh no. Poor Meg!



Complete the sentences with the correct phrases in the past perfect.

drink too much coffee go to bed late not charge my cell phone
not study enough steal it

- 1** I couldn't text you because I _____.
- 2** I couldn't get up this morning because I _____.
- 3** I couldn't answer all the questions because I _____.
- 4** I couldn't sleep because I _____.
- 5** I couldn't find my credit card because someone _____.