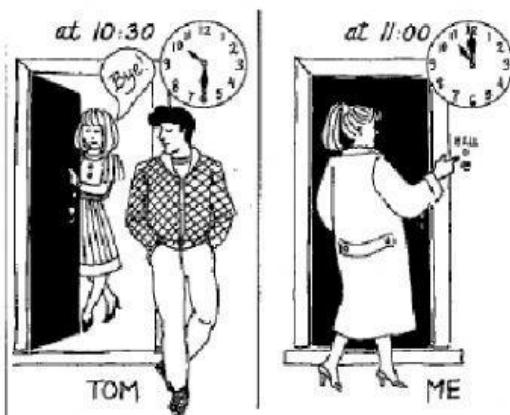


PAST PERFECT

Study this example situation:



I went to a party last week. Tom went to the party too. Tom went home at 10:30. So, when I arrived at 11:00, Tom wasn't there.

When I arrived at the party, Tom wasn't there. He **had gone** home.

This is the *past perfect (simple)* tense:

I/he/she (etc.) **had** (= I'd / he'd / she'd, etc.) **gone**
I/he/she (etc.) **hadn't gone**
had you/he/she (etc.) **gone**?

We form the past perfect with **HAD + VERB (past participle)**

Sometimes we talk about something that happened in the past:

- I **arrived** at the party.

We use the past perfect to say that something had already happened before this time:

- When I **arrived** at the party, Tom **had** already **gone** home.

Here are some more examples:

- When I **got** home, I found that someone **had broken into** my apartment and **had stolen** my fur coat.
- George **didn't want** to come to the movies with us because he **had** already **seen** the film twice.
- It **was** my first time in an airplane. I **was** very nervous because I **had** never **flown** before.

The past perfect (*I had done*) is the past of the present perfect (*I have done*). Compare these situations:

Present	Past
I'm not hungry. I've just had lunch. The house is dirty. We haven't cleaned it for weeks.	I wasn't hungry. I'd just had lunch. The house was dirty. We hadn't cleaned it for weeks.

Compare the past perfect (*I had done*) and the past simple (*I did*):

1. "Was Tom there when you **arrived**?" 'No, he **had** already **gone** home.'
2. "Was Tom there when you **arrived**?" 'Yes, but he **went** home soon.'



PRACTICE

1. Complete the sentences using the verbs in brackets. Imagine you went back to your home town after many years, and you found many things different.

- My best friend, Kevin, was no longer there. He _____ (go) away.
- The local movie theatre was no longer open. It _____ (close) down.
- Mr. Johnson was no longer alive. He _____ (die).
- I didn't recognize Mrs Johnson. She _____ (change) a lot.
- Bill no longer had his car. He _____ (sell) it.

2. Complete the sentences as in the example. Use the verbs in brackets.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis were in an airplane. They were nervous as the plane took off because they (never/fly) had never flown before.

- The woman was a complete stranger to me. I (never / see) _____ before.
- Margaret was late for work. Her boss was very surprised because she (never / be / late) _____ before.
- Jane played tennis yesterday – at least she tried to play tennis. She wasn't very good at it because she (never / play) _____ before.
- It was Carl's first driving lesson. He was very nervous, and he didn't know what to do. He (never / drive) _____ before.

3. Put the verbs into the correct form: Past simple or Past perfect.

- The house was very quiet when I got home. Everybody _____ (go) to bed.
- I felt very tired when I got home, so I _____ (go) straight to bed.
- Sorry I'm late. The car _____ (break) down on my way here.
- There was a car by the side of the road. It _____ (break) down and the driver was trying to repair it. So we _____ (stop) to see if we could help.
- I _____ (be) in London two years ago. I thought it was beautiful. I _____ (be) to England before.

4. Supply the correct past simple or past perfect form of the verbs in brackets. Which action happened first?

They had locked the gates before I got there. (lock, get)

- a. By the time we _____, the party _____. (arrive, finish)
- b. I _____ the shop as soon as I _____. (call, check)
- c. When she _____ the office this morning, Jim _____. (ring, already go out)
- d. Before we _____ Tim to the theatre, he _____ a stage play before. (take, see)
- e. I _____ the carpet when the dog _____ in and _____. (just clean, come, shake)

5. You are going to watch a video. This is the story of Jake and Ann. Decide if the following statements are true (T) or false (F)

- a. Jake accidentally used the aftershave after he had brushed his teeth. _____
- b. When Jake went to get dressed, he realized he had left his best shirt in the washer. _____
- c. By the time Jake went to the dryer, the shirt had already shrunk. _____
- d. It was the third time Jake had worn his shirt inside out. _____
- e. Ann didn't see Jake because she had waited at a different taqueria. _____
- f. Jake and Ann had seen the same movies when they were teenagers. _____
- g. Jake and Ann had played the same sport when they were younger. _____
- h. Ann leaned to reach for Jake's key that had started to slip out of his jacket. _____