

# Past perfect with past simple

We use these two tenses when we talk about **two actions or situations in the past** but we want to make it clear that **one action happened before the other**, that it is further back in the past.

- We use the **past perfect** with the **action that happened first**, that is further **back in the past**.
- We use the **past simple** with the other action, the one that is **more recent**.

## Example:

When Lina **discovered** the truth about Looper, she **realized** that she **had bought** stolen pencils.

## "What happened first?"

First, Lina bought the pencils and then she realized they were stolen.

To **form** the past perfect we need **had** or **hadn't** (for the negative) and a **past participle** verb.

## Affirmative:

"Granny knew that **her grandfather** **had lost** something important."

## Negative:

"Lina didn't know why **she** **hadn't recognized** Looper in the pipeworks."

## Question:

"Doon was bewildered! **Why** **had** the mayor **lied** at the Assembly?"

# Past perfect practice

## What happened first?

Write **1** in front of the first action and **2** in front of the later action.

- a) Doon finished fixing the clog. He went to see the locked door.
- b) Doon found the Mayor in the room. Mayor Cole fell asleep.
- c) Lina was dissapointed. Lina thought the door led out of Ember.
- d) They didn't considered that the river could be the way out of Ember. Doon and Lina were surprised.
- e) Lina tried to push and pull the door. She didn't notice it was a sliding door.
- f) They didn't know how to use a candle. The never saw a candle before.

## Now, write sentences.

Use the information above and make sentences using the **past simple for the later action** and the **past perfect for the earlier action**.

- a) When Doon ..... he .....
- b) The Mayor ....., when Doon .....
- c) Lina ..... because she .....
- d) Lina and Doon ....., so they .....
- e) Lina ..... because she .....
- f) They reason why they ..... was because .....

## Past simple or past perfect?

Select the best option for each part of the sentence.

1. Mrs. Murdo **was/had been** worried because Lina **was/had been** out for many hours.
2. Once his father **left/had left**, Doon **started/had started** packing his things for the adventure.
3. When Doon **checked/had checked** on his green worm, it **completed/had completed** its metamorphosis.
4. Now, the city guards **were/had been** looking for Doon but he **didn't lie/hadn't lied** to them about the mayor!
5. After a tiring day, Lina **just fell/had just fallen** asleep when Poppy **woke/had waken** her up.

## Past participle verbs!

Let's revise: Choose the correct form of the verb for each sentence.

- 1) Lina was terrified of the river! She had never ..... something so violent.

see

seed

saw

seen

- 2) Doon couldn't believe that the guards hadn't ..... the Mayor after everything they had ..... them.

arrest

arrested

arrougt

arresting

tell

telled

told

stollen

- 3) Doon went to Mrs. Murdo's house to warn Lina that the guards had ..... to his house to arrest him.

come

comed

came

caught

- 4) When they left Mrs. Murdo's house they saw that the Guards had ..... notices all over the city.

post

posted

posting

poster

- 5) They were bewildered! They had ..... very close to saving Ember!

be

were

been

was

- 6) Lina stopped suddenly. She had ..... about Poppy!

forget

forgotten

fogetting

forgetted