Lesson 11: The Big Snow

Kelly: Hi, Anna. Why do you have all this weather stuff?

Anna: I love weather.

Kelly: Me too! Weather is so important.

Anna: It is. It **affects** people's lives!

Kelly: Have you ever reported on a big weather **event**?

Anna: I have. I've reported on a **blizzard**.

Kelly: Do mean the one last weekend?

Anna: Yes! I had been waiting for that blizzard for years. When it came, I was ready.

Prof. Bot: Welcome to our most perfect lesson! Why is it perfect? Today we are reviewing the present perfect and past perfect verb tenses. These show that an action is completed. Kelly uses the *present* perfect when she says,

Kelly: Have you ever reported on a big weather event?

Anna uses the *past* perfect when she says,

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Anna: I had been waiting for that blizzard for years. Listen for "have" or "had" and the past participle to find more sentences with the perfect tense. I'll color those words to help you.
Anna: I have wanted to report on a big weather event my whole life.
Kelly: Who hasn't? Did you report all weekend ... by yourself?
Anna: No, no. I **volunteered** Pete to help me.
Pete: Why am I here on a Saturday? Why are you carrying things? Why? Why?
Anna: Pete, these are my supplies – food, a blanket; warm clothing. Where are your supplies?
Anna: Pete, Pete, Pete. This could be the "blizzard of the **century."**
Pete: It'll be fine.
Kelly: How else had you prepared?
Anna: Well, I had just bought the latest weather **forecasting software**. So, I brought it!
Kelly: Do you mean The Weather Genie Pro?
Anna: You know it. Pete thought it was pretty great too.
Pete: Do you have any games on that thing?
Anna: Yes! I have the best weather **survival** game. Boom!
Pete: Sounds fun.
Anna: It is. But right now, Pete, this computer is a work tool. It will give us the temperature, wind speed, wind direction and **amount** of snowfall … in real time! Boom, boom!
Pete: I can't wait.

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Anna: Pete, we need a name for this blizzard.
Pete: No, we don't.
Anna: All the great storms have names.
Pete: No, they don't.
Anna: I know -- "The Big Snow!"

Pete: I am *not* saying "The Big Snow."
Pete: Welcome to "The Big Snow."
Kelly: The Big Snow broke all kinds of records, didn't it?
Anna: Yes it did. And every time a record was broken, we celebrated!
Anna: So far, in Washington, D.C. 29 inches of snow has fallen. That, my dear listeners, is a **record**! *(Honks horn)*
Anna: We just broke the wind speed record! *(Honks horn)*
Anna: Snow has been falling for 30 hours **straight**! That's another record! *(Honks horn. Pete comes into room and breaks the horn.)*
Kelly: By Saturday night, stores and restaurants had closed. Did you bring enough food?
Anna: I thought I had brought enough food. But I ran out.
Anna: Hey, Pete, where is my bag of popcorn?

Pete: Maybe you ate it already.
Anna: No, I didn't.
Pete: I haven't seen it. *(Pete has popcorn in his beard. Anna tries to hit him.)*
Anna: We had reported together for 48 hours straight!
Kelly: Wow. That must have been a great team-building exercise for you and Pete.
Anna: Yeah. You - you could say that.
Prof. Bot: I hope you found all the sentences with perfect tenses. Learn more on our website!

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