

GRAMMAR WORKSHEET

PAST PERFECT

had not = hadn't

I			
You			
He			
She	had	eaten	(before the taxi arrived).
It			
We			
They			

I				
You				
He				
She	had	not	eaten	(before the taxi arrived).
It				
We				
They				

Had	I you he she it we they	eaten	(before the taxi arrived)?
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Yes,	No,		
I you he she it we they	had.	I you he she it we they	had not.

- Study the boxes above. Then, complete the sentences.

- A: Had Jim ever **(fly)** flown before his flight last week?
B: Yes, he _____.
- A: _____ your sister **(eat)** _____ breakfast before she left?
B: No, she _____.
- James said he _____ already **(see)** _____ the movie last year.
- I got lost because I **(forget)** _____ to bring a map.
- They **(not study)** _____ English before last year.
- She **(live)** _____ in Leeds before she moved to London.
- The baby **(fall asleep)** _____ before eight o'clock.
- I **(not think)** _____ of that question before.

Past Perfect Practice



We use the **past perfect** to talk about a past situation or activity that happened before another past situation or activity, or before a particular moment in the past.

e.g. *I had passed my driving test by the time I finished university.*

We form the past perfect with **had** and the **past participle** form of the verb.

We use the **past simple** instead of the past perfect when we talk about a single activity or event in the past.

e.g. *While I was at university, I passed my driving test.*

The **present perfect** is used to speak of an action that has finished in a time or moment that hasn't finished.

e.g. *I have had 2 cups of coffee today, (today is not finished).*

Read the sentences below and then write or say what people had done by the times indicated.

0. (Example) They went to the cinema and ate 2 bags of popcorn before the film finished.

They had eaten 2 bags of popcorn by the time the film finished.

1. I wrote 7 reports before finishing work.

2. She drank a whole bottle of wine before going to bed.

3. We ate 5 sandwiches before arriving in Scotland.

4. He qualified as a teacher before getting married.

5. He stole more than 500,000 euros before the police caught him.

6. They manufactured more than 1,000,000 cars before the factory closed.

7. She wrote 95 books before dying.

8. He visited France before finishing his classes.

Past Perfect Continuous

We use the **past perfect continuous** to talk about something that was in progress recently before or up to a past point in time or activity that happened over a period up to a particular past time, or until shortly before it, and the **past perfect** when we talk about a finished activity before a past time:

e.g. *He'd been playing tennis so when he got home he took a shower.*

We can also use it to indicate continuous activities and evidence to support the idea that they happened

e.g. *Although she was smiling she had clearly been crying.* (perhaps her eyes were wet and red)

If we talk about how long something went on up to a particular past time or the duration of the time we did something, we prefer the **past perfect continuous** although the **past perfect** isn't incorrect:

e.g. *We had been driving for 6 hours when we stopped, or We had driven for 6 hours when we stopped.*

Read the sentences below and then write or say what the people had been doing.
Don't forget to use the correct time clauses where necessary.

0. (Example) When I walked into the room he was sitting next to an empty plate looking content.

He had been eating pizza.

1. The children looked very furtive and the room smelled of cigarettes.

2. She was running for 20 minutes and then she saw an accident.

3. We travelled more than 10 hours before arriving in Scotland.

4. He was covered in mud and was wearing a bicycle helmet.

5. They were watching the film for nearly an hour and then the electric was cut off.

6. She was asleep for more than 3 hours when the alarm went off.

7. He was sitting at the table with two empty bottles of whisky next to him and an unusual smile on his face.