

PAST PERFECT SIMPLE / PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Exercise 1 – use the verb in bold to complete each pair of sentences. Use the past perfect simple and the past perfect continuous.

1. Look

a. Brad _____ for his sales receipt for an hour before he found it in the kitchen.
b. Brad _____ for his sales receipt in his wallet and in all the shopping bags before he found it in the kitchen.

2. Buy

a. Julia _____ rare books for ages, so she had a lot of them.
b. By the time Julia was twenty, she _____ more than fifty rare books.

3. Design

a. Kent _____ so many efficient gadgets by the time he retired that his company gave him an award.
b. Kent _____ efficient gadgets for a long time ,so he was very good at it.

4. Shop

a. Tina knew the flea market had good prices because she _____ there before.
b. Tina had no money left because she _____ at the flea market all morning.

Exercise 2 – complete the sentences. Use the past perfect simple or the past perfect continuous.

1. After the shoppers _____ (leave) the department store, the cleaners started to mop the floors.
2. The shop owners _____ (not open) his shop that day because it was a holiday.
3. Melanie _____ (search) for a special party dress for months before she found the perfect one online.
4. _____ (they / invent) the Blackberry by the year 2000?
5. My aunt _____ (read) traditional books for ages when she decided to buy an e-reader in 2010.
6. We _____ (just buy) a tablet when a newer design became available in shops.
7. _____ (you / use the smart phone for long when the screen went black?
8. My mum _____ (learn) how to sew while she was in school, so she was able to make all her own outfits.