

Past simple

- ➔ an action that happened at a definite time in the past
Last year we bought a dog.
- ➔ actions that happened immediately one after the other in the past
Lou took a shower, brushed his teeth and went to bed.



Past Perfect

an action that happened before another action in the past
Before we left, we had booked a hotel room.

complete past action that had visible results in the past
We felt relieved after they had arrived safely.



Past continuous

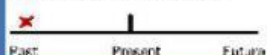
- ➔ an action that was in progress at a stated time in the past
Yesterday at 4 I was talking to Meg on the phone.
- ➔ two actions that were happening at the same time
Liz was vacuuming while her sons were tidying their room.
- ➔ an action that was in progress (longer action) when another action interrupted it
When I came in, Sue was reading.



Past Perfect continuous

- an action continuing over a period up to a specific time in the past
Pete had been working as a doctor for 25 years before he retired last year.
- action of certain duration that had visible results in the past
Mark had been studying Spanish for five years before he moved to Toledo.



Past Simple

Finished Action in the Past
I went there last week.

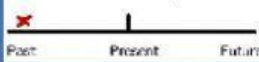
Past Perfect (Simple)

Repeated actions
In longer periods of time.
me

TENSES**Past or Present Perfect Tense – Simple form**

1. The weather _____ (**be**) awful in the past few days.
2. We _____ (**wash**) the dishes all week. They _____ the house.
3. _____ (**your course, start**) yet?
4. Emma _____ (**pack**) her suitcase last night.
5. A: They _____ (**close**) the factory a month ago.
B: Really? When _____ (**that happen**) ?
6. Shall we play tennis? We _____ (**not play**) since we were children.
7. The airplane _____ (**land**) . The pilot _____ . (just /get out)
8. Prices _____ (**go**) up. Everything is more expensive this year.
9. I'm tired. We _____ (**walk**) 10 miles.
10. The Queen _____ (**arrive**) in an RAF helicopter last night.

Past Simple



Finished Action in the Past
I went there last week.



Action that started in the past for a longer period of time. (use to report an event)
We were playing video games all afternoon



Past Tense – Simple or Progressive: Fill in the correct form.

- George _____ off the ladder while he _____ the ceiling. (fall, paint)
- Last night I _____ in bed when I suddenly _____ a scream. (read, hear)
- _____ TV when I _____ you? (you watch, phone)
- Ann _____ for me when I _____. (wait, arrive)
- Maisie _____ up the kitchen when John _____ her to marry him. (clean, ask)
- The house _____ £ 150,000 in 2003. (cost)
- The fire _____ at six in the morning. (still burn)
- My brother _____ a new job a week ago (get).
- Columbus _____ America over 500 years ago (discover)
- She _____ not interested in the book because she _____ it (be ,not understand)



Complete the conversations with positive and negative forms of the past perfect continuous.

A - Sam, how long the laptop before it started working? (you | repair)

B - The laptop? It took me five hours to repair it.

A - I was so tired at the end of the hike!

B - But so much. (we | not walk)

A - Why was your shirt full of stains?

B - my car. (I | clean)

A - You looked so exhausted.

B - Really? But so hard. (I | not work)

A - Why did Sarah get sunburnt?

B - Because on the beach all day. (she | lie) Mr. Clark, why were you so annoyed?

B - Because to my arguments at all. (they | not listen)

- for a long time when you saw the doctor? (you | cough)

Not really. For two or three days.

A Miss Jones, how long French when you moved to France? (you | learn)

B To tell the truth I'd never learned French before that.

WHAT DO WE USE ?

To report something that happened a few minutes ago using “just” we use:

To report to refer to actions that were completed already we use

To show the order of two past events or to describe an earlier action and the past we use: _____

To indicate that something began in the past, continued in the past, and also ended at a defined point in the past we se _____

To describe actions that began in the past and often continued for a short period of time after the action started we use:

To report something that is finished “already” or hasn’t been finished using “yet” we use:

Past Perfect Simple

Past Perfect Continuous

Past Perfect Simple

Simple Past

Past Continuous

Past Perfect Simple

1

Unscramble the words to form a sentence.

put plaster that took weeks The on off had before. the he six doctor

2

weeks Fiona Two ago leg. broke her

3

so any didn't far. He lose games

4

been doctor waiting for Smith for has four Mr. hours. the

5

a brought waiter we The didn't order drink

What tense was used on the first sentence or sentences on the previous exercise ?

1

2

3

4

5

