

Past Tense

1) Fill in the spaces with the correct form of the verb in parentheses in simple past perfect tense.

Note: All of the past participles used in this exercise are regular.

Example: Vikings (invade) had invaded England long before the Angles and Saxons arrived.

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- 1) Tonya (work) _____ as a decorator before she opened her shop.
 - 2) My daughter and I (enjoy) _____ the ballet so much that we wanted to see it again.
 - 3) The power supply (fail) _____ during the night, so the house got cold.
 - 4) You (call) _____ earlier in the day, so we knew you were on your way.
 - 5) The cat (scratch) _____ a hole in the sofa before its owner noticed.
 - 6) John and Nikki (start) _____ their bakery long before the big one came to town.
 - 7) The alligators at the edge of the pond (scare) _____ us until we realized they were behind a fence.
 - 8) The defense attorney (argue) _____ before Judge Sanchez prior to last June's trial.
 - 9) The trumpet player (finish) _____ his solo before the trombonist stood up.
 - 10) Mark (behave) _____ well at the playground, so his mother bought him a treat.

2. - Complete the sentences using the past perfect tense simple. In negative form

1. We weren't all happy because we _____ in our homework in time. (not had)
2. Mrs Shilton _____ a primary school teacher before she became headmaster of the school. (not be)
3. When we got there, we saw that they _____ for over 20 minutes. (not rest)
4. We _____ dance moves for over two hours, so you can imagine we were not very tired. (not Practice)
5. The film _____ when we finally got to the cinema. (not start)

6. By the time I get to school the lesson _____ started. (not start)
7. He _____ about the accident before he saw it on TV. (not hear)
9. I _____ the office after I had finished writing my last email. (not leave)

3) Change the affirmative sentences into questions in the past perfect tense

- 1) She had written six letters before she got a response.

_____?

- 2) It had snowed here before 1978.

_____?

- 3) Dan had been sick for three days before he got better.

_____?

- 4) Li and Susan had tried four times before they gave up.

_____?

- 5) We had taken the test before.

_____?