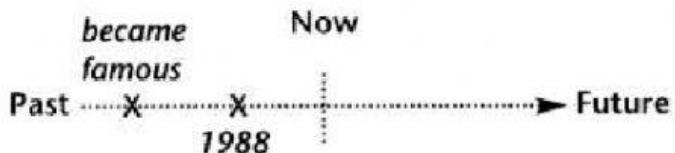


## PAST PERFECT AND PAST SIMPLE

### 1.- EXPLANATIONS

a) Use the Past Perfect tense to show that something happened before a specific time in the past.

*By 1988 Cher had become famous.  
It was 1985. She had already been in a Hollywood film.*



b) The Past Perfect always shows a relationship with another past event. Use the Past Perfect for the earlier event (1). Use the Simple Past tense for the later event (2).

*When I turned on the TV, the movie had finished.*

Past Simple (2)      Past Perfect (1)

### 2.- EXERCISES

1) Read the sentences and decide which event happened first (1) and which event happened later (2). Write 1 or 2 to order the events.

*Ex.: By the time I got to the airport, the plane had already taken off.*

*( 2 ) I got to the airport. ( 1 ) The plane took off.*

1. Lucy had already left when I arrived home.	(   ) Lucy left.	(   ) I arrived home.
2. When they arrived at the stadium, the game had already started.	(   ) They arrived at the stadium	(   ) The game started.
3. I hadn't finished my homework by the time my father arrived.	(   ) I was trying to finish my homework	(   ) My father arrived.
4. Had you cleaned your room when your mother came in?	(   ) You cleaned your room.	(   ) Your mother came in.

2) Fill in the blanks with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets. Use Past Perfect.

1. They \_\_\_\_\_ (finish) answering the questions before the bell rang.
2. When Matthew arrived at home, his wife \_\_\_\_\_ (cook) the meal.
3. Mrs. Lawrence \_\_\_\_\_ (open) the window before she went to bed.
4. Dexter \_\_\_\_\_ (not see) a skeleton before he visited the museum with his friends.
5. When the earthquake happened, we \_\_\_\_\_ (not finish) our work at the office.
6. I \_\_\_\_\_ (not watch) a horror film before we went to the cinema last Wednesday.
7. Mrs. Reid \_\_\_\_\_ (work) for the company for 30 years when she got retired last year

3) Past Simple or Past Perfect? Read the sentences carefully and circle the correct options.

1. The robbers **left / had left** the bank when the policemen finally **arrived / had arrived**.
2. When the rain **started / had started**, the Atkinsons **finished / had finished** planting trees.
3. Mr. Palmer **didn't speak / hadn't spoken** any Chinese before he **moved / had moved** to Beijing.
6. Jane **refused / had refused** to drive the car because she **had / had had** an accident a year ago.
7. My uncle **didn't try / hadn't tried** Japanese food before he **went / had gone** to that restaurant.
8. When we **arrived / had arrived** in Spain the airport management told us that they **lost / had lost** our luggage.
9. The shoes **were / had been** very clean because I **had spent / spent** hours cleaning them.
10. My neighbour **had told / told** me that she **bought / had bought** a new car a month before.
11. I **was / had been** happy because I **finished / had finished** my first lesson as an instructor.
12. Everyone **left / had left** the house by the time I **had come / came** home.