

The Past Tense Forms



Level A

The Past Simple Tense	The Past Continuous Tense
I/You/He/She/It/We/They + V ₂ (V _{ed}). I/You/He/She/It/We/They + didn't + V. Did + I/you/he/she/it/we/they + V?	I/He/She/It + was (not) + V _{ing} . We/You/They + were (not) + V _{ing} . Was + I/he/she/it + V _{ing} ? Were + we/you/they + V _{ing} ?
The Past Perfect Tense	
I/You/He/She/It/We/They + had + V ₃ (V _{ed}). I/You/He/She/It/We/They + hadn't + V ₃ (V _{ed}). Had + I/you/he/she/it/we/they + V ₃ (V _{ed})?	

1 Circle the correct item.

- 1) Pam ... on the phone when somebody knocked at the door.
 a) spoke **b) was speaking** c) had spoken
- 2) Eddie ... the dog before we came home.
 a) walked b) was walking c) had walked
- 3) They ... to our town three years ago.
 a) moved b) were moving c) had moved
- 4) Mrs White was angry because her daughter ... her on time.
 a) didn't phone b) wasn't phoning c) hadn't phoned
- 5) You were peeling potatoes while I ... cheese.
 a) sliced b) was slicing c) had sliced
- 6) Jessica ... her bag and left the room.
 a) took b) was taking c) had taken
- 7) David had packed his suitcase before the taxi... .
 a) arrived b) was arriving c) had arrived

2 Put the verbs in brackets into the Past Simple, the Past Continuous or the Past Perfect Tense.

Amanda and Monica were doing⁽¹⁾ (to do) the shopping when they _____⁽²⁾ (to meet) their old friend Susan. The girls _____⁽³⁾ (to agree) that they _____⁽⁴⁾ (not to see) each other for a long time and _____⁽⁵⁾ (to decide) to go to some café for a talk. They _____⁽⁶⁾ (to order) coffee and ice cream and _____⁽⁷⁾ (to start) to tell their news. Susan _____⁽⁸⁾ (to graduate) from university and now she _____⁽⁹⁾ (to work) for a big and well-known corporation. Amanda _____⁽¹⁰⁾ (to get) married a few years before and now she _____⁽¹¹⁾ (to have) a baby. Monica _____⁽¹²⁾ (still to study). In her childhood she _____⁽¹³⁾ (to decide) to become a doctor and now she _____⁽¹⁴⁾ (to prepare) for her last exam. Monica _____⁽¹⁵⁾ (already to pass) three exams successfully and _____⁽¹⁶⁾ (to be) happy about it. The girls _____⁽¹⁷⁾ (to exchange) their phone numbers and _____⁽¹⁸⁾ (to promise) to be in touch with each other. They _____⁽¹⁹⁾ (to have) a wonderful time that day.

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3 Translate into English.

- 1) Коли вона поспішала до лікарні, вона пригадала, що залишила вдома деякі важливі документи. When she was hurrying to the hospital, she remembered that she had left some important documents at home.
- 2) Том вечеряв удома, коли зателефонував його партнер і сказав, що ще не отримав його електронний лист. _____

- 3) Куди він ішов, коли ви його зустріли? _____

- 4) Я ще не дочитав статтю, коли Джейн попросила повернути їй журнал.

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The Past Perfect Continuous Tense



Level B

The Past Perfect Continuous Tense is used to describe an action which was taking place for some time in the past and finished before another action or a stated time in the past.

- I/You/He/She/It/We/They + **had been** + V_{ing}.
- I/You/He/She/It/We/They + **hadn't been** + V_{ing}.
- Had** + I/you/he/she/it/we/they + **been** + V_{ing}?

Time adverbs: **for, since, before, until, how long, by the time.**

We **had been playing** for an hour before the rain started.
 We **hadn't been playing** for an hour before the rain started.
Had we **been playing** for an hour before the rain started? — Yes, we **had**./No, we **hadn't**.
 How long **had** we **been playing** before the rain started?

4 Complete the sentences using the verbs in brackets in the Past Perfect Continuous Tense.



- 1) He had been sleeping (to sleep) for nine hours before his mother woke him up.
- 2) They _____ (to wait) for half an hour when the taxi arrived.
- 3) Paul _____ (to watch) TV for two hours when his mother came home.
- 4) He _____ (to drive) all day before he reached Rome.
- 5) They _____ (to fish) for three hours before they caught a fish.
- 6) Kate _____ (to learn) French for six years before she went to Paris.

5 When the boss came to the office yesterday, he wanted to know what the staff had been doing. Use the information from the table to ask and answer the questions as in the example.

David	Sue and Pam	Bob	Molly
Do crosswords/ 50 minutes	Drink tea/ 40 minutes	Play a computer game/1 hour	Talk on the phone/30 minutes

- 1) David/play a computer game?
Had David been playing a computer game? — No, he hadn't. He had been doing crosswords for 50 minutes.
- 2) Sue and Pam/discuss a new film?

- 3) Bob/play a computer game?

- 4) Molly/drink tea?

The Past Perfect or the Past Perfect Continuous Tense?



Level B

The Past Perfect Tense

The Past Perfect is used:

1) For complete past actions which had a visible result in the past.
She was wet because she **had left** her umbrella at home.

2) For past actions which happened before another action or a stated time in the past.
We **had heard** the news before Fiona called us.
He **had returned** home by 6 o'clock yesterday.

The Past Perfect Continuous Tense

The Past Perfect Continuous is used:

1) To describe actions which were taking place for some time in the past and finished before another action or a stated time in the past.
They **had been driving** for two hours when they saw the town.

2) For actions which were taking place for some time in the past and whose result was visible in the past.
He was tired because he **had been working** all day.

6 Put the verbs in brackets into the Past Perfect or Past Perfect Continuous Tense.

