

Names:

1. Santiago Andres Del Valle
2. Omar Nova
3. Miguel Mendoza Rojas

The past perfect is used to describe an action that was completed before another action in the past. It is often used with the past simple.

Past perfect structure: *Subject + had + past participle*

Sequence words are often used to help make the chronological order of these actions clearer.

Words and phrases like *after*, *by then* and *as soon as* are used before the past perfect. Phrases such as *by the time* are used before the past simple. Words like *before* and *when* can be used with both tenses.

Example: Silvia had cleaned her house **before** her guests arrived.

A. Complete the sentences with the past perfect or past simple form of the verbs in brackets.

1. After I had cut (cut), it started (start) to rain.
2. My boss asked me to e-mail a customer, but by then I had already turned off my computer.
3. By the time my husband got home, I had eaten dinner.
4. I had bought her a watch before I found out she wanted a bracelet.
5. Ann had already typed ten pages when her computer crashed.
6. As soon as the bar had closed, we went back to the hotel.
7. I arrived at class on time, but by then the professor had already started the lecture.
8. They restarted the game as soon as the rain had stopped.

B. Rewrite the sentence parts in the correct order.

1. my parents had already left / I got home / by the time

By the time I got home, my parents had already left.

2. before / I had cleared the snow off it / I started my car

Before I started my car, I had cleared the snow off it.

3. after / I went to the book club / I had finished the book

After I had finished the book, I went to the book club.

4. I bought the new iPhone / they had already released a new version / but by then

I bought the new iPhone, but by then they had already released a new version.

C. Match the past perfect and past simple sentence halves together.

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| 1. As soon as I had finished my sushi, | a. he fed the dog |
| 2. Before I made a dentist appointment, | b. as soon as I had landed on the island. |
| 3. After I had bought a new bed, | c. she made a short thank-you speech. |
| 4. After the man had come home, | d. before I saw it with my family. |
| 5. I had watched the film alone | e. before I got my license. |
| 6. When she had read all the greetings cards,..... | f. I had found 3 cavities. |
| 7. I had already bought a car | g. I realized I didn't have the space for it. |
| 8. I went straight to the beach | h. I felt sick. |

Answers

1->H

2->F

3->G

4->A

5->D

6->C

7->E

8->B

D. Answer the questions. Use sequence words in your responses.

1. How did you feel after your last vacation had ended?

I felt very tired since I wanted to continue

2. What interesting things had you already done by the time you reached 14 years old?

In that time I had visited venezuela

3. Which languages had you learnt before you started English lessons?

I had not study other language that english and Spanish

4. How many phones have you had before you bought your present one?

I have had 6 phones