




Past Perfect Progressive Practice **Answer Key**

 **Forming the Past Perfect Progressive.** Fill in the missing words with the past perfect progressive. Use the verb in the parentheses () after the blank.

1. By 2:00 yesterday, John had been working (work) on his homework for ten hours.
2. When the earthquake happened, I had been sleeping (sleep) for over an hour.
3. Joe had been driving (drive) for three hours when his car ran out of gas.
4. By last summer, Maria had been building (build) her new house for 3 years.

 **Past Perfect or Past Perfect Progressive?** In the video lesson, you heard and read some sentences with *unfinished* or *finished* actions in the past. The *unfinished actions* were expressed using the **past perfect progressive (PPP)** and the *finished actions* used the **past perfect (PP)**. Read the sentences below and decide if the action is **finished** or **unfinished** and if the verbs are **PPP** or **PP**.

Finished or unfinished?	PPP or PP?	
unfinished	PPP	1. At 10:00 last night, it had been raining for an hour.
finished	PP	2. It had already rained by the time I arrived at home at 10:00.
finished	PP	3. The kids had already eaten dinner when their grandmother finally rang the doorbell.
unfinished	PPP	4. The kids had been eating dinner for a while when their grandmother finally rang the doorbell.
unfinished	PPP	5. The prisoner had been trying to escape for two hours by the time they saw that he was gone.
finished	PP	6. The prisoner had escaped in his underground tunnel by the time they saw that he was gone.

 **Road Trip, Part 1: Mixed Verb Practice, Part 1.** Read the story below about two ESL students who decided to go on a cross-country road trip. Decide if each blank needs *past perfect*, *past simple*, *past perfect progressive*, *past progressive*. Write the missing verbs.

By the first day of spring break in 1995, Taka and Mohammed ⁽¹⁾ had packed (pack) their bags for their coast-to-coast American road trip and were ready to go. By the time they crossed the state line for Arizona, Taka ⁽²⁾ had been driving (drive) and Mohammed ⁽³⁾ had been snoring (snore) for over four hours. Taka was tired and annoyed, so he ⁽⁴⁾ decided (decide) to stop at a Burger



Past Perfect Progressive Practice

Queen to take a break. Mohammed entered the restaurant, but Taka stayed outside. While Mohammed ⁽⁵⁾ was ordering (order) food, Taka jumped in Mohammed's car and sped down the highway. He wanted to scare Mohammed a little in order to teach him a lesson. He ⁽⁶⁾ was driving (drive) down the road for about three minutes when he heard a loud siren and saw flashing lights behind him. It was the police!



Road Trip Part 2: Mixed Verb Practice. Read on to find out what happens to Taka and Mohammed on their road trip. This time in each blank write a verb using *past perfect progressive*, *past simple*, *present perfect progressive*, or *present perfect*.

The police officer said that Taka ⁽⁷⁾ had been driving (drive) 20 miles over the speed limit when he passed the officer's car. Taka told the officer that he didn't have a driver's license, so the officer said that Taka would need to ride with him back to the Burger Queen. At the restaurant, Mohammed ⁽⁸⁾ had been enjoying (enjoy) his burger for ten minutes when he looked out the window and saw that his car was no longer outside. When Taka and the police officer arrived at the restaurant, Mohammed ⁽⁹⁾ had been waiting (waiting) for such a long time that he ⁽¹⁰⁾ exploded (explode) in anger. "What were you thinking?" he shouted. "I ⁽¹¹⁾ have been waiting (wait) for you for 30 minutes!" Taka ⁽¹²⁾ apologized (apologize) to Mohammed, and after they got Mohammed's car, they ⁽¹³⁾ continued (continue) on their road trip.

Now, it ⁽¹⁴⁾ has been (be) more than twenty years since Taka and Mohammed took that road trip together. The men ⁽¹⁵⁾ have continued (continue) to keep in touch, and every time they talk, they laugh about that silly start to their amazing American road trip.

Notes: Answers 1-10 are all about actions that happened in the past. Numbers 11 and 12 are in quotation marks because they are dialogue. This means they are the exact words that Taka used at that time, so they relate to the present. Numbers 12 and 13 return to the past. Numbers 14 and 15 refer to the present.