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Difference Between Past Participle and Past Perfect

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Main Difference – Past Participle vs Past Perfect

The past perfect tense is used to indicate an action that happened in the past before another action happened. This compound tense is formed by adding the past participle to the auxiliary verb had. The main difference between past participle and past perfect is that **past participle is a verb form whereas past perfect is a tense**. It is not possible to form a past perfect tense sentence without using a past participle.

In this article, we'll look at,

1. What is Past Participle? – Grammar, Formation, Uses with Examples
2. What is Past Perfect? – Grammar, Formation, Uses with Examples
3. Difference Between Past Participle and Past Perfect

PAST PARTICIPLE VERSUS PAST PERFECT

Past Participle is a
verb form

Past Perfect is
a tense

Used as an
adjective and as a
part of compound

Formed by adding
a past participle
to the auxiliary

What is Past Participle

There are two kinds of participles in the English language,: present participles and past participles. Past participles, as its name suggests, indicates past or completed action or time.

Formation

The past participles of regular verbs are easy to form since they take the same form as their past form. For example,

Verb: talk

Past: talked

Past Participle: talked

However, the past participles of **irregular verbs** are different. English learners have to learn them by heart. The following chart shows the conjugation of some common irregular verbs.

Infinitive	Past	Past Participle
Be	Was/Were	Been
Have	Had	Had
Go	Went	Gone
Eat	Ate	Eaten
Sing	Sang	Sung

Usage

Past participles have two uses: they can be used as **adjectives** or as parts of compound verbs.

Adjectives:

Be careful: the glass is broken.

The abandoned house was rumored to be haunted.

He was interested in buying that house.

Compound Verbs:

Past participle can be used in several situations. It is used in the formation of present and past perfect tenses:

She had lived in France for 10 years.

He has already eaten his share.

Past participle can also be used in the past form of modal verbs:

I should have gone with him.

You could have cleaned the house.



Broken Glass

What is Past Perfect

Past perfect tense is used to indicate that an action that has started and finished in the past. It is formed by adding the past participle of the verb to the auxiliary verb (had).

Noun/Pronoun + Auxiliary Verb + Past Participle....

The teacher had corrected her mistake.

The terrorists had killed many civilians .

Past perfect tense emphasizes that one action was finished before another took place.

For example,

I called my sister to tell her that I had passed the exam.

First: I passed the exam.

Next: I called my sister.

Her grandmother had died before the ambulance reached their house.

First: Her grandmother died.

Next: Ambulance came.

This tense can also be used for things that were done several times in the past and continued to do after that point.

She had already eaten 10 bananas; she is eating her 11th.



Type

Past Participle is a verb form.

Past Perfect is a tense.

Interrelation

Past Participle is used as an adjective and as a part of compound verbs.

Past Perfect is formed by adding a past participle to the auxiliary verb.

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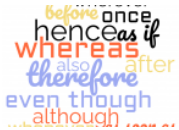
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I was not in the city (negative) + C	She was not alone	We were not alone
Was I right? Was I wrong?	Was it true? Was he there?	Was she there?

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