

Present Perfect and Past 2 (I have done and I did)

A

We do not use the present perfect (**I have done**) when we talk about a *finished* time (for example, **yesterday** / **last year** / **ten minutes ago**, etc.). We use a past tense:

- ☐ It **was** very cold **yesterday**. (*not has been*)
- ☐ Nick and Rachel **arrived ten minutes ago**. (*not have arrived*)
- ☐ **Did you eat** a lot of candy **when you were a child**? (*not have you eaten*)
- ☐ I **got** home late **last night**. I **was** very tired and **went** straight to bed.

Use the past to ask **When ... ?** or **What time ... ?**:

- ☐ **When did** your friends **arrive**? (*not have ... arrived*)
- ☐ **What time did** you **finish** work?

Compare:

Present Perfect

- ☐ Tom **has lost** his key. He can't get into the house.
- ☐ Is Carla here or **has she left**?

Simple Past

- ☐ Tom **lost** his key **yesterday**. He couldn't get into the house.
- ☐ **When did** Carla **leave**?

B

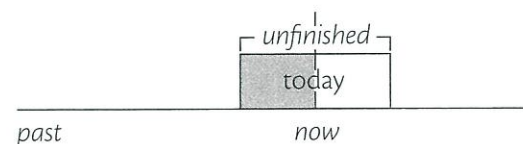
Compare:

Present Perfect (have done)

- ☐ I've **done** a lot of work **today**.

We use the present perfect for a period of time that continues *until now*. For example:

today / **this week** / **since 2010**.



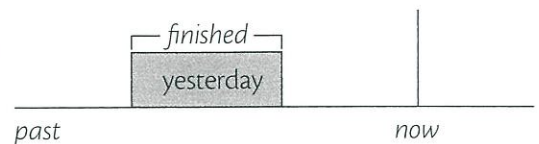
- ☐ It **hasn't** rained **this week**.
- ☐ **Have you seen** Anna **this morning**?
(it is still morning now)
- ☐ **Have you seen** Tim **recently**?
(in the last few days or weeks)
- ☐ I've **been working** here **since 2010**.
(I still work here now)
- ☐ I don't know where Emma is. I **haven't seen** her. (= I haven't seen her recently)
- ☐ We've **been waiting** for an hour.
(we are still waiting now)
- ☐ Jack lives in Los Angeles. He **has lived** there for seven years.
- ☐ I've **never ridden** a horse. (in my life)
- ☐ It's the last day of your vacation. You say: It's **been** a really good vacation. I've really **enjoyed** it.

Simple Past (did)

- ☐ I **did** a lot of work **yesterday**.

We use the simple past for a *finished* time in the past. For example:

yesterday / **last week** / **from 2010 to 2014**.



- ☐ It **didn't** rain **last week**.
- ☐ **Did you see** Anna **this morning**?
(it is now afternoon or evening)
- ☐ **Did you see** Tim **on Sunday**?
- ☐ I **worked** here **from 2010 to 2014**.
(I don't work here now)
- ☐ A: **Was** Emma at the party **on Sunday**?
B: I don't think so. I **didn't see** her.
- ☐ We **waited** (or **were waiting**) for an hour. (we are no longer waiting)
- ☐ Jack **lived** in New York for ten years. Now he lives in Los Angeles.
- ☐ I **never rode** a bike **when I was a child**.
- ☐ After you come back from a vacation, you say: It **was** a really good vacation. I really **enjoyed** it.

Exercises

13.1 Are the underlined parts of these sentences OK? Correct them where necessary.

- 1 I've lost my key. I can't find it anywhere.
- 2 Have you eaten a lot of candy when you were a child?
- 3 I've bought a new car. You have to come and see it.
- 4 I've bought a new car last week.
- 5 Where have you been yesterday evening?
- 6 Maria has left school in 2009.
- 7 I'm looking for Mike. Have you seen him?
- 8 "Have you been to Paris?" "Yes, many times."
- 9 I'm very hungry. I haven't eaten much today.
- 10 When has this bridge been built?

OK

Did you eat

13.2 Make sentences from the words in parentheses. Use the present perfect or simple past.

- 1 (it / not / rain / this week) It hasn't rained this week.
- 2 (the weather / be / cold / recently) The weather
- 3 (it / cold / last week) It
- 4 (I / not / eat / any fruit yesterday) I
- 5 (I / not / eat / any fruit today)
- 6 (Emily / earn / a lot of money / this year)
- 7 (she / not / earn / so much / last year)
- 8 (you / have / a vacation recently?)

13.3 Put the verb into the correct form, present perfect or simple past.

- 1 I haven't been (I/not/be) to France, but I'd like to go there.
- 2 Aaron and Emily arrived (arrive) about ten minutes ago.
- 3 I'm tired. (I/not/sleep) well last night.
- 4 (There/be) a bus drivers' strike last week, so
..... (there/be) no buses.
- 5 Michael (work) in a bank for 15 years.
Then (he/give) it up. Now he works as a gardener.
- 6 Mary lives in Toronto. (She/live) there all her life.
- 7 My grandfather (die) before I was born.
..... (I/never/meet) him.
- 8 I don't know Jessica's husband. (I/never/meet) him.
- 9 It's nearly lunchtime, and (I/not/see) Matt all morning. I wonder
where he is.
- 10 A: (you/go) to the movies last night?
B: Yes, but the movie (be) awful.
- 11 A: (It/be) very warm here since we arrived.
B: Yes, (it/be) 95 degrees yesterday.
- 12 A: Where do you live?
A: How long (you/live) there?
A: Where (you/live) before that?
A: And how long (you/live) in Chicago?

B: In Boston.

B: Five years.

B: In Chicago.

B: Two years.

13.4 Write sentences about yourself using the ideas in brackets.

- 1 (something you haven't done today) I haven't eaten any fruit today.
- 2 (something you haven't done today)
- 3 (something you didn't do yesterday)
- 4 (something you did last night)
- 5 (something you haven't done recently)
- 6 (something you've done a lot recently)

→ Additional Exercises 2–4 (pages 297–298), 14–15 (pages 304–305)

Past Perfect (I had done)

A

Study this example situation:



Sarah and Nick went to the same party last week, but they didn't see each other. Nick left the party at 10:30 and Sarah arrived at 11:00.

So when Sarah arrived at the party, Nick wasn't there.

He **had gone** home.

had gone is the *past perfect*:

I/we/they/you he/she/it	had	(= I'd, etc.) (= he'd, etc.)	gone seen finished , etc.
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The past perfect (simple) is **had** + *past participle* (**gone/seen/finished**, etc.).

Sometimes we talk about something that happened in the past:

- ☐ Sarah **arrived** at the party.

This is the starting point of the story. Then, if we want to talk about things that happened *before* this time, we use the past perfect (**had** ...):

- ☐ **When Sarah arrived** at the party, Nick **had** already **gone** home.

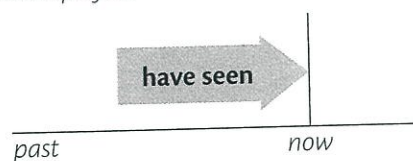
Some more examples:

- ☐ When we got home last night, we found that somebody **had broken** into the apartment.
- ☐ Lauren didn't come to the movies with us. She'd already **seen** the movie.
- ☐ At first I thought I'd **done** the right thing, but I soon realized that I'd **made** a big mistake.
- ☐ The people sitting next to me on the plane were nervous. They **hadn't flown** before.
or They'd never **flown** before.

B

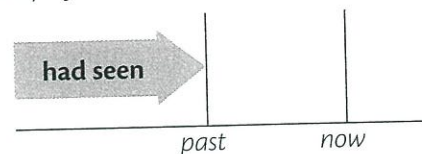
Compare the *present perfect* (**have seen**, etc.) and the *past perfect* (**had seen**, etc.):

Present perfect



- ☐ Who is that woman? I've **seen** her before, but I can't remember where.
- ☐ We aren't hungry. We've just **had** lunch.
- ☐ The house is dirty. They **haven't cleaned** it for weeks.

Past perfect



- ☐ I wasn't sure who she was. I'd **seen** her before, but I couldn't remember where.
- ☐ We weren't hungry. We'd just **had** lunch.
- ☐ The house was dirty. They **hadn't cleaned** it for weeks.

C

Compare the *simple past* (**left, was**, etc.) and the *past perfect* (**had left, had been**, etc.):

Simple past

- ☐ A: Was Tom there when you arrived?
B: Yes, but he **left** soon afterwards.
- ☐ Kate **wasn't** at home when I called.
She **was** at her mother's house.

Past perfect

- ☐ A: Was Tom there when you arrived?
B: No, he'd already **left**.
- ☐ Kate **had** just **gotten** home when I called.
She'd **been** at her mother's house.

14.1 Read the situations and write sentences with the words in parentheses.

- There was a picture lying on the floor.
(It / fall / off the wall) It had fallen off the wall.
- You went back to your hometown recently after many years. It wasn't the same as before.
(It / change / a lot) It
- I invited Rachel to the party, but she couldn't come.
(She / arrange / to do something else)
- You went to the movies last night. You got to the movie theater late.
(The movie / already / start)
- I saw Daniel last week. It was good to see him again after such a long time.
(I / not / see / him for five years)
- I offered my friends something to eat, but they weren't hungry.
(They / just / have / lunch)

14.2 For each situation, write a sentence ending with **before**. Use the verb in parentheses.

- The people sitting next to you on the plane were nervous. It was their first flight.
(fly) They'd never flown before or They hadn't flown before.
- Somebody sang a song. I didn't know it.
(hear) I before.
- Sam played tennis yesterday. He wasn't very good at it because it was his first game ever.
(play) He
- Last year we went to Mexico. It was our first time there.
(be) We

14.3 Use the sentences on the left to complete the paragraphs on the right. These sentences are in the order in which they happened – so (a) happened before (b), (b) before (c), etc. But your paragraph begins with the underlined sentence, so sometimes you need the past perfect.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 (a) Somebody broke into the office during the night.
(b) <u>We arrived at work in the morning.</u>
(c) We called the police. | } We arrived at work in the morning and found that <u>somebody had broken</u> into the office during the night. So <u>we called</u> the police. |
| 2 (a) Laura went out this morning.
(b) <u>I rang her doorbell.</u>
(c) There was no answer. | |
| 3 (a) Joe came back from his vacation a few days ago.
(b) <u>I met him the same day.</u>
(c) He looked great. | } I met Joe a few days ago. <u>.....</u> just <u>.....</u> his vacation. <u>.....</u> great. |
| 4 (a) James sent Amy lots of emails.
(b) She never replied to them.
(c) <u>Yesterday he got a phone call from her.</u>
(d) He was surprised. | |
| | } Yesterday James <u>.....</u> from Amy. <u>.....</u> surprised. <u>.....</u> lots of emails, but <u>.....</u> |

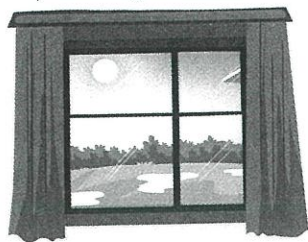
14.4 Put the verb into the correct form, past perfect (**I had done**) or simple past (**I did**).

- David wasn't at the party when I arrived. He'd gone (He/go) home.
- I felt very tired when I got home, so (I/go) straight to bed.
- The house was very quiet when I got home. Everybody (go) to bed.
- John travels a lot. When I first met him, (he/already/travel) around the world.
- Sorry I'm late. The car (break) down on my way here.
- We were driving along the road when (we/see) a car that (break) down, so (we/stop) to help.

A

Study this example situation:

yesterday morning



Yesterday morning I got up and looked out the window.
The sun was shining, but the ground was very wet.

It **had been raining**.

It was *not* raining when I looked out the window.
The sun was shining. But it **had been** raining before.

had been -ing is the *past perfect continuous*:

I/we/you/they he/she/it	had	(= I'd, etc.) (= he'd, etc.)	been	doing working playing, etc.
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Some more examples:

- ☐ My hands were dirty because I'd **been repairing** my bike.
- ☐ Tom was tired when he got home. He'd **been working** hard all day.
- ☐ I went to Mexico City a few years ago and stayed with a friend of mine. **She hadn't been living** there very long, but she knew the city very well.

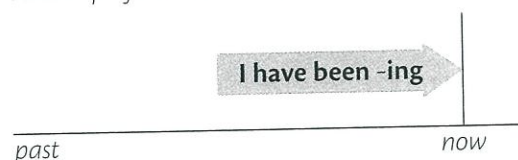
You can say that something **had been happening** before something else happened:

- ☐ We'd **been playing** tennis for about half an hour when it **started** to rain heavily.

B

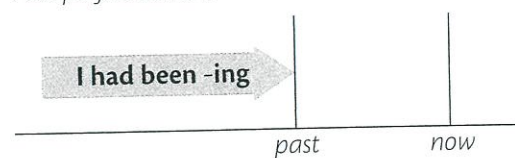
Compare **have been -ing** (*present perfect continuous*) and **had been -ing** (*past perfect continuous*):

Present perfect continuous



- ☐ I hope the bus comes soon. I've **been waiting** for 20 minutes. (*before now*)
- ☐ James **is** out of breath. He's **been running**. (= he **has** been ...)

Past perfect continuous



- ☐ The bus finally came. I'd **been waiting** for 20 minutes. (*before the bus came*)
- ☐ James **was** out of breath. He'd **been running**. (= he **had** been ...)

C

Compare **was -ing** (*past continuous*) and **had been -ing**:

- ☐ It **wasn't raining** when we went out. The sun **was shining**. But it **had been raining**, so the ground was wet.
- ☐ Katherine **was lying** on the sofa. She was tired because **she'd been working** hard.

D

Some verbs (for example, **know**) are not normally used in continuous forms (**be + -ing**):

- ☐ We were good friends. We **had known** each other for years.
(*not had been knowing*)
- ☐ A few years ago Lisa cut her hair really short. I was surprised because **she'd** always **had** long hair.
(*not she'd been having*)

For a list of these verbs, see Unit 4A. For **have**, see Unit 16.

15.1 Read the situations and make sentences with the words in parentheses.

- Tom was very tired when he got home.
(He / work / hard all day) He'd been working hard all day.
- The children came into the house. They had a football and they were both very tired.
(They / play / football) _____
- I was disappointed when I had to cancel my vacation.
(I / look / forward to it) _____
- Anna woke up in the middle of the night. She was frightened and didn't know where she was.
(She / have / a bad dream) _____
- When I got home, Mark was sitting in front of the TV. He had just turned it off.
(He / watch / a movie) _____
- The people waiting at the bus stop were getting impatient. The bus was very late.
(They / wait / a long time) _____

15.2 Read the situations and complete the sentences.

- We played tennis yesterday. We didn't finish our game.
We'd been playing (We/play) for half an hour when it started (it/start) to rain.
- I had arranged to meet Tom in a restaurant. I arrived and waited for him to come.
_____ (I/wait) for 20 minutes when _____ (I/realize) that _____ (I/be) in the wrong restaurant.
- Sarah worked for a company for a long time. The company no longer exists.
At the time the company _____ (go) out of business, Sarah _____ (work) there for twelve years.
- I went to a concert. Soon after the orchestra began playing, something strange happened.
The orchestra _____ (play) for about ten minutes when a man in the audience suddenly _____ (start) shouting.

Now make your own sentence:

- I began walking along the road. I _____ when _____

15.3 Which is right?

- It was noisy next door last night. Our neighbors were having / ~~had been having~~ a party.
(were having is correct)
- At the end of our trip, we were extremely tired. We were traveling / We'd been traveling for more than 24 hours.
- James was on his hands and knees on the floor. He was looking / He'd been looking for his contact lens.
- Sue was sitting on the ground. She was out of breath. She was running / She'd been running.
- John and I went for a walk. He was walking / He'd been walking very fast, and I had difficulty keeping up with him.
- I was sad when I sold my car. I've had it / I'd had it for a very long time.
- I was sad when my local coffee shop closed. I was going / I'd been going there for many years.
- I'm running a marathon next month. I've been training / I'd been training for it every day.
- I had arranged to meet Kate, but I was late. When I finally arrived, she was waiting / she'd been waiting for me. She was annoyed because she was waiting / she'd been waiting such a long time.
- a Joe and I work for the same company. He joined the company before me. When I started a few years ago, he was already working / he'd already been working there.
b I started working at the company a few years ago. At the time I started, Joe was already working / had already been working there for two years.
c Joe still works for the company. He's been working / He'd been working there a long time now.