


**Verb Tenses:**

# Past Perfect

The past perfect verb tense is the past participle tense used with the past tense of an auxiliary verb *to have*.

**Past tense:** She *ate*.

**Past perfect tense:** She *had eaten*.

The past perfect tense is used for showing an action that was finished in the past before another action.

**Example 1:** Past tense - She *ate* dinner when the show began.

In this example she did not start eating until the show began.

**Example 2:** Past perfect - She *had eaten* dinner when the show began.

In this example she had finished dinner before the show began.

**Part I:** Circle the past perfect verb tense in each of the following sentences.

1. They had collected all the money for the field trip when the bell rang.
2. I had dreamt of monsters before I woke up.
3. Before the dog came to live with us, he had belonged to my grandmother.
4. When he entered the house, Carlos had removed his hat.
5. If she had looked closely, she would have seen the lost key.

**Part II:** Fill in the blank with the past perfect form of the verb in parentheses.

1. She \_\_\_\_\_ (enjoy) her lunch before the waiter brought the bill
2. Walter \_\_\_\_\_ (ask) Rosemary to the dance six times before she said yes.
3. Alice \_\_\_\_\_ (return) to the house by the time her cousins arrived.
4. He \_\_\_\_\_ (fall) three times since he started wearing his new shoes.
5. Before he rode the pinto, the cowboy \_\_\_\_\_ (ride) only black horses.


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**Part II:** Fill in the blank with the past perfect form of the verb in parentheses.

1. She \_\_\_\_\_ **had enjoyed** \_\_\_\_\_ (enjoy) her lunch before the waiter brought the bill
2. Walter \_\_\_\_\_ **had asked** \_\_\_\_\_ (ask) Rosemary to the dance six times before she said yes.
3. Alice \_\_\_\_\_ **had returned** \_\_\_\_\_ (return) to the house by the time her cousins arrived.
4. He \_\_\_\_\_ **had fallen** \_\_\_\_\_ (fall) three times since he started wearing his new shoes.
5. Before he rode the pinto, the cowboy \_\_\_\_\_ **had ridden** \_\_\_\_\_ (ride) only black horses.