

PAST PERFECT

B1 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Question Practice | 20-30 minutes

Explain what had happened before another past event.

1. GET STARTED

Take turns asking and answering. Give details and ask a follow-up. You can invent personal details.

A: Did you get to the cinema in time?

B: No. I went to the wrong one. I **hadn't checked** the address.

A: Oh, no. How much of the film had you missed when you finally arrived?

2. BEFORE THAT MOMENT

1. When you last arrived late, what **had happened** before you left home?

2. Before your last trip, what **had you prepared** or booked?

3. Before starting a new job or course, what **had you heard** about it?

4. When you last felt proud, what **had you achieved**?

5. Before meeting a friend recently, **had you made** any plans together?

6. When you last lost something, where **had you put** it?

Keep talking: What had happened before that? / What did you do next? / Did it work out?

3. EARLIER EVENTS

Choose real or invented situations. Keep the earlier event and the later event clear.

7. You arrived at a party and knew nobody. Who **had you expected** to see?

8. You missed a train. **Had you left** home too late, or was there another reason?

9. You returned to a familiar town. What **had changed** since your last visit?

10. You enjoyed a course. **Had you studied** the subject before you joined?

4. THE MISSING PREPARATION

Invent a small problem caused by something you hadn't done earlier.

Explain the earlier omission, the later problem and how you solved it.

Example: I **hadn't charged** my phone, so I **couldn't call** for a taxi.

Your partner asks what had happened before the problem. Swap roles.

Answer help: Before I ..., I had ... / I hadn't ..., so ... / By then, ... had ...

Remember: Use had + past participle for the earlier event; use past simple for the later one.