

The past perfect: affirmative



We use the past perfect to talk about something that happened at an earlier time in the past.

I'd spoken to him before.

We form the past perfect with subject + had + past participle. We often use the short form 'd. We'd eaten breakfast. We often use the past perfect with the past simple. Use the past simple to talk about a completed action in the past and the past perfect to talk about something that happened before that.

Past simple	Past perfect
I went to the cinema	because I'd heard the film was very good.

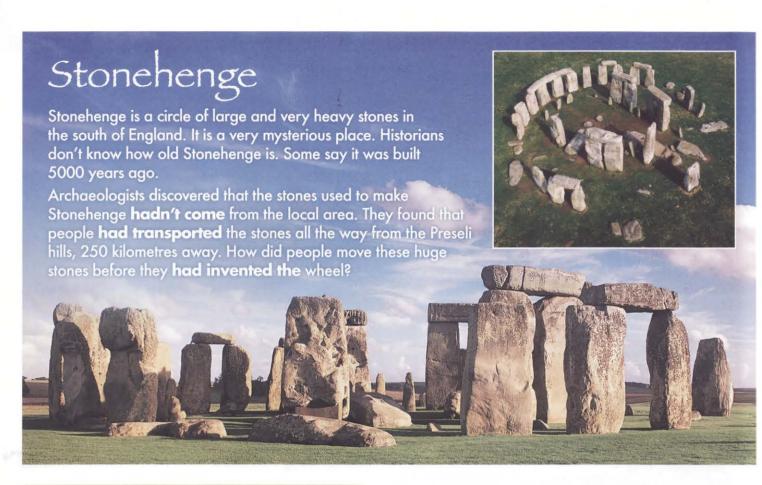
Circle the correct answers.

- 1 We met the man who had discover / had discovered the treasure.
- 2 Jenny felt ill because she 'd ate / 'd eaten too many olives.
- 3 Rob showed us the place where he 'd seen / 'd saw the horse.
- 4 The teacher told us that the island had changed / hadn't change since she was at school.
- 5 I couldn't remember his name, but I knew that I'd meet / 'd met him before.
- 6 We were happy that it had rained / had rain.
- 7 The reason we got lost is because we'd taken / 'd took the wrong path.
- 8 She didn't know that I 'd been / 'd gone ill.

- 2 Complete the sentences. Use the past perfect of the verbs in brackets.
 - 1 I came home after I 'd finished (finish) the shopping.
 - 2 We were happy because the museum _____ (be) so interesting.
 - The boys arrived home late after they _____ (miss) the school bus.
 - Everyone was hot because they _____ (put on) thick coats.
 - We didn't play for long as I ______ (tell) Mum I would be home early.
 - The shop _____ (deliver) Sally's present to the wrong address, but it arrived in time.
- Look at the picture. Sidney was getting ready for a camping trip. What had he done by midday? Write sentences with the past perfect.



- 1 buy / a new rucksack
 - He'd bought a new rucksack.
- 2 read / a book about camping
- prepare / some food and water
- borrow / Dad's compass
- clean / his boots
- look for / information on the Internet



The past perfect: negative and questions

We form the past perfect negative with subject + hadn't + past participle. Remember hadn't = had not.

I hadn't spoken to him before.

We form past perfect questions with had + subject + past participle. We form short answers with had or hadn't.

Had you eaten breakfast before your exam?

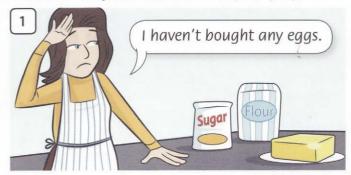
Yes, I had. OR No, I hadn't.

4 Tick (√) the sentences that are correct.

1	The car was in good condition because it hadn't been used much.
	The car had been in good condition because it didn't be used much.
2	Gary emailed George because he didn't write to him for a long time.
	Gary emailed George because he hadn't written to him for a long time.
3	Had you been to Stonehenge before today?
	Had you go to Stonehenge before today?
4	Penny was late for school because she hadn't left home on time.
	Penny was late for school because she didn't left home on time.
5	How long had you wait before the bus came?
	How long had you waited before the bus came?

•	ewrite the sentences. Use the negative form of the past perfect.
1	Jenny had left when we arrived.
	Jenny hadn't left when we arrived.
2	Charlie had run a long way to get to school.
3	Jasper and Edward had bought the last two concert tickets.
4	The weather had been sunny all week.
5	The builders had made a lot of mistakes.
5	The coins had been buried for thousands of years.
7	I'd spoken to the new boy.
•	The ship had sunk a hundred miles from the coast.
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7 Answer the questions. Use the past perfect.



Why didn't Mrs Robertson make the cake?

Because she hadn't bought any eggs.



Why didn't the children play football?

Because



Why didn't Olly finish his project?

Because



Why didn't the girls buy an ice cream?

Because



Why was George sad?

Because



Why was Fred late to school?

Because.



Why was Carla so hungry yesterday?

Because



Why did the journalist interview Ethan?

Because

8 Look at the table. Write the questions and short answers with the past perfect.

	use a compass	go rock climbing	look for treasure	see a shipwreck	meet an explorer
Ryan	X	X	1	X	/
Tommy	/	1	×	X	X
Martin	X	1	×	X	1
Maddy	1	X	✓	X	X
Beth	X	X	/	X	1

Before last summe	r.	
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1	Ryan / use a compass			
	Had Ryan used a compass?	No,	he	hadn't

2	Ryan /	look for treasure
4	Kyuii /	took joi treusur

3	Tommy /	look for treasure
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4	Martin ar	nd Beth	/	meet	an	exp	lorei	

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	12

6	Tommy	and	Martin	/ go	rock	clim	bin	C

7	Maddy	and	Beth	/	look for	treasure
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8 any of the children / se	e a shipwreck
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9 Look at exercise 8. Write true sentences for yourself. Use the past perfect.

Before last summer ...

1	use a compass	

2	go rock climbing _	
	go rock cambing _	

5	meet	an	exp	lorer