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EL PASADO PERFECTO

Formación:

El pasado perfecto se forma con la forma pasada del verbo *to have* (HAD) seguido del participio pasado del verbo principal.

Ejemplos:

We had written two letters. *Habíamos escrito dos cartas*

They hadn't been in Oporto. *Ellos no habían estado en Oporto*

Had she seen the monster in the room? *¿Había visto al monstruo en la habitación?*

Usos del Pasado Perfecto

. El pasado perfecto sirve para describir una acción ocurrida o terminada antes que otra acción del pasado, con lo cual el pasado perfecto irá normalmente acompañado de acciones en pasado simple.

Ejemplos:

Roberto came to see us but we had gone out. *Roberto vino a vernos pero nosotros habíamos salido.*

We realized that we had taken the wrong way to go to Burgos. *Nos dimos cuenta que habíamos cogido el camino mal para ir a Burgos.*

. Al igual que en el Presente Perfecto, es común el uso de *just* que se traducirá por *acababa de*.

Ejemplo:

She had just arrived to Milano. *Acababa de llegar a Milán.*

EL PASADO PERFECTO CONTINUO

Formación:

El pasado perfecto continuo se forma con el pasado perfecto del verbo *to be* (HAD BEEN) seguido del verbo principal terminado en –ING.

Ejemplos:

He had been waiting for an hour before her phone call. *Había estado esperando durante una hora antes de su llamada.*

Mike hadn't been running for the marathon. *Mike no había estado corriendo para la maratón.*

Usos del Pasado Perfecto Continuo

. Se utiliza para hablar de una acción continua y que es anterior a un punto específico del pasado. Indica que la acción continuaba hasta el momento de la acción principal que suele ser otra oración en pasado simple.

Ejemplos:

He finally arrived after I had been waiting for 3 hours. *Finalmente llegó después de que había estado esperando durante 3 horas.*

It was now six and she was tired because she had been working since 5 am. *Eran las 6 y estaba cansado porque había estado trabajando desde las 5.*

EJERCICIOS

1. Complete with PAST PERFECT or PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

2. Astronauts (fly) through space for hours.
3. The boys (steal) the bicycles.
4. They (have) a long and uncomfortable trip.
5. The beggar (find) five bottles of beer.
6. He (show) me the content of the parcel.
7. My sister Ann (begin) her diet a week ago.
8. She (think) a good idea.
9. The postman (deliver) my letter.
10. He (retire) from political life.
11. Alice (leave) her bag on a chair.

2. Fill in the gaps with PAST PERFECT or PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

1. She (buy) a new pair of red shoes.
2. We (have) lunch at a village inn.
3. He (drink) whisky before dinner.
4. My sister (lose) U\$S 50 in the street.
5. The children (kick) a ball very hard.
6. My mother (receive) a letter from Canada.
7. My father (give) me some money.
8. Jenny (finish) her job at the office.
9. They (enjoy) Roy's party.
10. Pupils (learn) the English lesson.

3. Complete the following sentences with PRESENT PERFECT, PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS, PAST PERFECT and PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

1. It is already 9:30 and I (wait)..... here for over an hour. If Juan doesn't arrive in five minutes, I leave.
2. Did you hear that Ben was fired? He (work)..... for an important company for more than ten years and he (work).....in almost every department.
3. I (see)..... many pictures of the Pyramids before I went to Egypt. Pictures of the monuments are very misleading. Pyramids are quite small.
4. When Melanie came into the office yesterday, her eyes were red and watery. I think she (cry).....
5. Sarah (climb).....the Matterhorn, (sail).....around the world and (go).....on Safari in Kenya by the time she turned 25. She (experience).....more by that age than most people do in their entire lives.

4. Complete with PAST PERFECT or PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

I'm sorry I left without you last night, but I told you to meet me early because the show started at 8:00. I (try)..... to get tickets for that play for months, and I didn't want to miss it. By the time I finally left the coffee shop where we were supposed to meet, I (have)..... five cups of coffee and I (wait)..... over an hour. I had to leave because I (arrange)..... to meet Kathy in front of the theater.

When I arrived at the theater, Kathy (pick, already)..... up the tickets and she was waiting for us near the entrance. She was really angry because she (wait)..... for more than half an hour. She said she (give, almost)..... up and (go)..... into the theater without us.

Kathy told me you (be)..... late several times in the past and that she would not make plans with you again in the future. She mentioned that she (miss)..... several movies because of your late arrivals. I think you owe her an apology. And in the future, I suggest you be on time!

5. Complete with PAST SIMPLE or PAST PERFECT

1.- (immigrate) He _____ to Toronto five years ago.

2.- (look) When he finally found a good job there, he _____ for more than a year.

3.- (have) He was eventually able to find a good job because he _____ a good education in his native country.

4.- (be) His first day at work _____ very exciting.

5.- (see) I _____ a very good movie a couple of nights ago.

6.- (see) We didn't want to watch the late movie on TV last night because we _____ it already at the theater.

7.- (take) I _____ three aspirins an hour ago.

8.- (take) My headache went away because I _____
some aspirins.

9.- (eat) I _____ chicken for dinner last night.

10.- (eat) When I got home late last night, everyone in my family
_____ already.

11.- (do) I _____ my homework last night.

12.- (do) I was able to go to the game yesterday because I
_____ my homework the night before.