



## Past Perfect Continuous Interactive Worksheet

*In order to complete this worksheet, you should watch the series of grammar videos about the past perfect continuous tense in English. You should complete this worksheet at the same time as watching the videos.*

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### Video: Past Perfect Continuous Use

**EXERCISE A:** Complete the table below. In column 1, you should write the situation when the past perfect continuous tense can be used. In column 2, you should write an example sentence demonstrating this use.

Situation	Example Sentence
Started and finished in the past	I had been learning English for 3 years before I took my exam.
Cause of past event	We were tired because we had been studying all day



## Video: Past Perfect Continuous Present Participle

**EXERCISE A: Write down four situations when the present participle is used.**

- 1) Continuous tenses
  - 2) As an adjective
  - 3) Verb formation
  - 4) To express a verb as a noun
- .....

**EXERCISE B: What is the general rule for forming the present participle? Fill in the gaps to complete the sentences below.**

The general rule for forming the present participle is to add the letters **ING** to the end of the infinitive verb. For example, the verb to *drink* becomes **drinking** in the present participle and the verb to eat becomes **eating** in the present participle.

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**EXERCISE C: Fill in the table below to summarise the patterns and exceptions to the CVC rule. In column 1, you can see the pattern. In column 2, you should write an explanation describing what happens with this pattern and in column 3, you should write an example verb to demonstrate this pattern.**

Pattern	Explanation	Example Verb
CVC General Rule	When the last three letters are CVC, we double the last consonant then add ING	swim
Ending in W	Only add ING	draw
Ending in Y	Only add ING	play
Ending in X	Only add ING	relax
Stress is on First Syllable	Only add ING	visit

**EXERCISE D: What is the E rule for forming the present participle? Fill in the gaps to complete the sentences below.**

If a verb ends in the letter E, we must eliminate the letter E, then add ING to form the present participle. For example, the verb to drive becomes driving in the present participle. However, if the last two letters are EE, then we don't eliminate the E, we simply add ING to the end of the verb. For example, see becomes seeing.

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**EXERCISE E: What is the IE rule for forming the present participle? Fill in the gaps to complete the sentences below.**

If a verb ends in the letters IE, we must eliminate the letters IE, then add Y and ING. For example, the verb to die becomes dying in the present participle.

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**EXERCISE F: What is the C rule for forming the present participle? Fill in the gaps to complete the sentences below.**

If a verb ends in the letter C, we must add K and ING. For example, the verb to picnic becomes picnicking in the present participle.

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## Video: Past Perfect Continuous Affirmative

**EXERCISE A:** There are 3 main parts required to form the past perfect continuous tense in the affirmative because we push parts 2 and 3 together. Write these parts in the correct boxes below.

**PART 1**

**SUBJECT**

**PART 2**

**HAD BEEN**

**PART 3**

**PRESENT PARTICIPLE**

**EXERCISE B:** Fill in the table below showing the verb “to read” in the affirmative of the past perfect continuous tense. In column 1, you can see the subject. In column 2, you should write the full form of the past perfect continuous. In column 3, you should write the contracted form of the past perfect continuous.

TO READ	Full Form	Contracted Form
I	had been reading	I'd been reading
You	had been reading	you'd been reading
He/She/It	had been reading	he'd / she'd / it'd been reading
We	had been reading	we'd been reading
They	had been reading	they'd been reading

**EXERCISE C:** Fill in the gaps to complete the sentence.

The acronym we use to help us remember the past perfect continuous tense is **SuHaBEP**.



## Video: Past Perfect Continuous Negative

**EXERCISE A:** There are 3 parts required to form the past perfect continuous tense in the negative because we push parts 2 and 3 together. Write these parts in the correct boxes below.

**PART 1**

**SUBJECT**

**PART 2**

**HAD NOT BEEN**

**PART 3**

**PRESENT PARTICIPLE**

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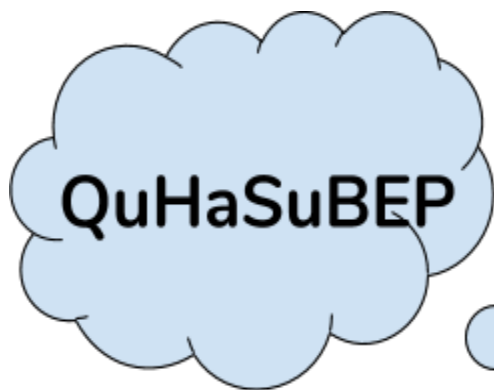
**EXERCISE B:** Fill in the table below showing the verb “to read” in the negative of the past perfect continuous tense. In column 1, you can see the subject. In column 2, you should write the full form of the past perfect continuous. In column 3, you should write the contracted form of the past perfect continuous.

TO READ	Full Form	Contracted Form
I	had not been reading	hadn't been reading
You	had not been reading	hadn't been reading
He/She/It	had not been reading	hadn't been reading
We	had not been reading	hadn't been reading
They	had not been reading	hadn't been reading



## Video: Past Perfect Continuous Questions

EXERCISE A: There are 2 question forms in the past perfect continuous tense. You can see the acronyms below. What does each part of the acronym stand for? Write this in the spaces provided.



Qu: Question Word  
Ha: Had  
Su: Subject  
BE: Been  
P: Present Participle

Ha: Had  
Su: Subject  
BE: Been  
P: Present Participle



EXERCISE B: Write a question in the space below in the past perfect continuous.

? What had you been reading?

EXERCISE C: Is the following statement true or false? Select the correct option.

We can use contractions in question forms in English.

TRUE

FALSE



## Video: Past Perfect Continuous Short Response

**EXERCISE A:** If I ask the question “had you been studying for long before your exam?” there are two possible ways to respond. Fill in the gaps below to show the possible responses.

Yes	Subject	Verb To Have
	I	had
	you	had
	he/she/It	had
	we	had
	they	had

No	Subject	Verb To Have
	I	hadn't
	you	hadn't
	he/she/It	hadn't
	we	hadn't
	they	hadn't

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**EXERCISE B:** Is the following statement true or false? Select the correct option.

You can contract both the affirmative and negative forms in the short responses of the past perfect continuous tense.

TRUE

FALSE



## Video: Past Perfect Continuous Keywords

EXERCISE A: Below is a set of words, including a keyword. Write this sentence in the correct order in the space provided.

him

asked

We

going

had

been

me

he

out

5 years

to

for

when

marry

CORRECT ORDER: We had been going out for 5 years when he asked me to marry him.

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EXERCISE B: Below is a set of words, including a keyword. Write this sentence in the correct order in the space provided.

we

December

We

since

been

reading

it

night

but

last

had

book

that

finished

CORRECT ORDER: We had been reading that book since December, but we finished it last night.



EXERCISE C: Below is a set of words, including a keyword. Write this sentence in the correct order in the space provided.

his

5 hours

for

did

been

had

practising

audition

before

he

He

CORRECT ORDER: He had been practising for 5 hours before he did his audition.

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EXERCISE D: Below is a set of words, including a keyword. Write this sentence in the correct order in the space provided.

fired

improving

Her

been

had

before

she

got

sale numbers

CORRECT ORDER: Her sale numbers had been improving before she got fired.



## Video: Past Perfect Continuous Common Mistakes

**EXERCISE A:** Below is a set of incorrect sentences. Identify the mistake and write this in the space provided, then rewrite this sentence correctly in the second space provided.

1) We had been knowing each other for a long time before she passed away.

MISTAKE: Using stative verbs in the past perfect continuous tense. They cannot be used in continuous forms.

CORRECTION: They had known each other for a long time before she passed away.

2) We had been working together since 5 years.

MISTAKE: Mixing up since and for. Since is used with a specific date or time whilst for is used with a quantity of time.

CORRECTION: We had been working together for 5 years.

3) She had swimming before she went to school.

MISTAKE: Using the incorrect auxiliary verbs. The structure for the past perfect continuous tense is subject + had been + present participle.

CORRECTION: She had been swimming before she went to school.