

Grammar Review

Past Perfect Tense

The past perfect tense is used to talk about the first of two past events and with stative verbs.

Subject	Verb to Have	Past Participle
1	had	walked
you	had	walked
he/she/it	had	walked
we	had	walked
they	had	walked

In the affirmative, we use the SuHaP structure: subject, verb to have in the past (affirmative) and the past participle. We can also contract the verb to have and the subject together.

Subject	Verb to Have (-)	Past Participle
1	hadn't	walked
you	hadn't	walked
he/she/it	hadn't	walked
we	hadn't	walked
they	hadn't	walked

In the negative, we use the same SuHaP structure, but the verb to have is used in the negative form. We can also contract the negative form of the verb to have.

Verb to Have	Subject	Past Participle	
Had		walked?	
Had	you	walked?	
Had	he/she/it	walked?	
Had	we	walked?	
Had	they	walked?	

There are two question forms Question | Verb to Have | Subject | Past Participle in the past perfect. QuHaSuP, if you use a question word, and HaSuP, without a question word.

d	1	walked?
	•	walkeu:
d	you	walked?
d	he/she/it	walked?
d	we	walked?
d	they	walked?
	d d	d he/she/it d we

The short response is yes or no, plus the subject and then the verb to have.

Jubject	verb to nave
1	had
you	had
he/she/it	had
we	had
they	had
	he/she/it we

Response Subject Verb to Have

Response	Subject	Verb to Have
		hadn't
No	you	hadn't
	he/she/it	hadn't
	we	hadn't
	they	hadn't

PAST PARTICIPLE

- Normal rule (+ED): talk → talked
- CVC rule (double last consonant +ED): stop > stopped

Exceptions: last letter W, X or stress on first syllable (+ED only) *visit* → *visited*

- E rule (+D only): dance → danced
- C rule (+ K + ED): picnic \rightarrow picnicked
- Consonant + Y rule (Eliminate Y + IED): **study** → studied
- Vowel + Y rule (+ ED): $play \rightarrow played$

PRONUNCIATION of ED

Pronunciation of words ending in ED can be /t/, /d/ or /Id/. If the penultimate sound is an unvoiced sound, then ED is pronounced /t/. If the penultimate sound is a voiced sound then the ED is pronounced /d/. If the penultimate sound is the letter T or D, then ED in pronounced /Id/.



Stress of Past Perfect Phrases



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Past Perfect Continuous

The past perfect continuous tense is used to talk about the first of two past events (the most past event). Normally, this event has happened for a long period of time and continued right up until the second event. It can also be used to explain a cause and effect relationship between two past events.

Subject	Have Been	Present Participle
1	had been	walking
You	had been	walking
he/she/it	had been	walking
we	had been	walking
they	had been	walking

In the affirmative, we use the *SuHaBEP* structure: subject, verb to have (had), verb to be (been), present participle. We can also contract had with the subject.

Subject	Have Been (-)	Present Participle
1	hadn't been	walking
You	hadn't been	walking
he/she/it	hadn't been	walking
we	hadn't been	walking
they	hadn't been	walking

In the negative, we use the same *SuHaBEP* structure, but the verb to have is used in the negative form. We can use the long form (had been) or the contracted form (hadn't) in the negative.

Question	Have	Subject	Been	Present Participle
Where	had	1	been	walking?
	had	You	been	walking?
	had	he/she/it	been	walking?
	had	we	been	walking?
	had	they	been	walking?

There are two question forms in the past perfect continuous. QuHaSuBEP, if you use a question word, and HaSuBEP, without a question word.

Have	Subject	Been	Present Participle
Had	1	been	walking?
Had	You	been	walking?
Had	he/she/it	been	walking?
Had	we	been	walking?
Had	they	been	walking?

The short response is yes or no, plus the subject and then the verb to have.

PRESENT PARTICIPLE

- Normal rule (+ING): drink → drinking
- CVC rule (double last consonant +ING): cut → cutting
 Exceptions: last letter W, Y or stress on first syllable
 (+ING only) draw → drawing
- E rule (eliminate E +ING): drive → driving
 Exceptions: EE Ending (+ING only) see → seeing
- IE rule (eliminate IE + Y +ING): die → dying
- C rule (+ K + ING): picnic → picnicking

Subject	Have
1	had
you	had
he/she/it	had
we	had
they	had
	you he/she/it we

Response	Subject	Have
No	1	hadn't
	you	hadn't
	he/she/it	hadn't
	we	hadn't
	they	hadn't

KEYWORDS

Before → with second event **For** (+time) → with first event **Since** (+time) → with first event **When** → with second event

Pronunciation can be /ɪŋ/ /ɪn/ or /ən/. The ING is never stressed, always the infinitive part.

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Past Perfect v Past Perfect Continuous

The past perfect and past perfect continuous tenses are used in slightly different ways. It depends on whether the event is finished or unfinished.

Past Perfect	Past Perfect Continuous
First Event of Two in the Past	Started and Finished in the Past
The first event has finished before the second event. There is some time in between the two events.	The first event is still happening and slightly overlaps with the second event.
When we arrived at the cinema, the film had already started.	I had been learning English for 3 years before I took my exam.
film started arrive at the cinema	learn English take exam NOW
Stative Verbs	Cause of Past Event
I had known her for a long time before she died.	We were tired because we had been studying all day.