

Past Perfect Keywords

| Keyword | Use | Position | Example Sentence |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| After | | With the past perfect part of the sentence | I got home after they had finished their homework. finish get home NOW homework |
| Before | | With the past simple part of the sentence | The shop had closed before we arrived. shop we arrive NOW closes |
| By the time | | With the past simple part of the sentence | By the time I finished my degree, I had learnt a lot. |
| For | Plus a countable time phrase | With the past perfect part of the sentence | He I had been at university for 4 years when I left. 4 years Start Leave university NOW |
| When | | With the past simple part of the sentence | Mary had left work when I arrived. Mary larrive NOW leaves |

Past Perfect Continuous Keywords

| Keyword | Use | Position | Example Sentence |
|---------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Before | | With the second past event | Her sale numbers had been improving before she got fired. |
| For | Countable time phrase after | With the past perfect part (the first event) | He had been practising for 5 hours before he did his audition. |
| Since | Set time phrase after | With the past perfect part (the first event) | We had been reading that book since December, but we finished it last night. |
| When | | With the second past event | We had been going out for 5 years when he asked me to marry him. |

