# PAST SIMPLE or PAST PERFECT?

## SIMPLE PAST TENSE

We use Simple Past Tense to express action or actions started and finished at a specific time in the past.

**Examples:**
- I watched TV last night.
- Henry painted the fence all day long yesterday.

## PAST PERFECT TENSE

We use Past Perfect Tense to express that an action or actions happened before something else happened.

**Examples:**
- I had eaten dinner before they came.
- Tilly had seen that film before it was on TV.

### A) Fill in the blanks with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets. Use Past Simple.

1. We _______ (go) on a cruise holiday last June. It _______ (be) really fantastic.
2. Logan _______ (collect) all the rubbish in the school garden and _______ (throw) it into the litter bin.
3. Florence _______ (eat) two sandwiches and _______ (drink) two glasses of lemonade at lunch.
4. Mr. Edwards _______ (drive) to the city center and _______ (buy) a new leather bag.
5. Benjamin hadn't known the answer to the question so he _______ (not raise) his hand up.
6. Teresa _______ (write) a letter for her aunt in Whales and _______ (put) it in an envelope yesterday afternoon.
7. James _______ (get up) early, _______ (wash) his face and _______ (brush) his teeth.

### B) Fill in the blanks with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets. Use Past Perfect.

1. They _______ (finish) answering the questions before the bell rang.
2. When Matthew arrived at home, his wife _______ (cook) the meal.
3. Mrs. Lawrence _______ (open) the window before she went to bed.
4. Before Darcy entered this competition she _______ (practise) for two months.
5. Dexter _______ (not see) a skeleton before he visited the museum with his friends.
6. When the earthquake happened, we _______ (not finish) our work at the office.
7. Simon _______ (take) a shower before the guests arrived for the party.
8. The thief _______ (jump) out of the window by the time the ambulance opened the door.
9. I _______ (not watch) a horror film before we went to the cinema last Wednesday.
10. Mrs. Reid _______ (work) for the company for 30 years when she got retired last year.

### C) Past Simple or Past Perfect? Read the sentences carefully and circle the correct options.

1. The robbers left / had left the bank when the policemen finally arrived / had arrived.
2. When the rain started / had started, the Atkinsons finished / had finished planting trees.
3. By the time Rebecca went / had gone into the store, she got / had got soaked.
4. Darcey saw / had seen this castle before she came / had come again last Sunday.
5. Mr. Palmer didn't speak / hadn't spoken any Chinese before he moved / had moved to Peking.
6. Sonny got / had got faintened by the time the ambulance reached / had reached the hospital.
7. When my mother brought / had brought me an apple, I finished / had finished my homework.
8. Mrs. Wilkinson refused / had refused to drive the car because she had / had had a terrible accident on the highway about a year ago.
9. I didn't think / hadn't thought of having a new house before I saw / had seen that ad on TV.
10. My uncle didn't try / hadn't tried Italian food before he went / had gone to that restaurant.
A) Fill in the blanks with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets. Use Past Simple.

1. went - was
2. collected - threw
3. ate - drank
4. drove - bought
5. didn’t raise
6. wrote - put
7. got up - washed - brushed

B) Fill in the blanks with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets. Use Past Perfect.

1. had finished
2. had cooked
3. had opened
4. had practised
5. hadn’t seen
6. hadn’t finished
7. had taken
8. had jumped
9. hadn’t watched
10. had worked

C) Past Simple or Past Perfect? Read the sentences carefully and circle the correct options.

1. had left - arrived
2. started - had finished
3. went - had got
4. had seen - came
5. hadn’t spoken - moved
6. had got - reached
7. brought - had finished
8. refused - had had
9. hadn’t thought - saw
10. hadn’t tried - went

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