



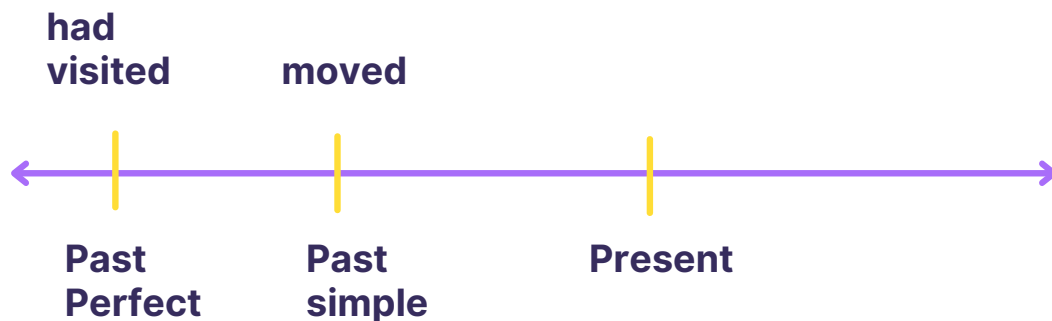
## Past Perfect

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We use the **past perfect** to show that **one past action happened before another past action**. We form the past perfect by conjugating the auxiliary verb **have** to the past simple **had**.

Let's look at some examples.

Jack and Amanda **had visited** Italy every summer before they **moved** there.



The past perfect tells you which action happened first.

**1st action**      Jack and Amanda visit Italy

**2nd action**      Jack and Amanda move to Italy

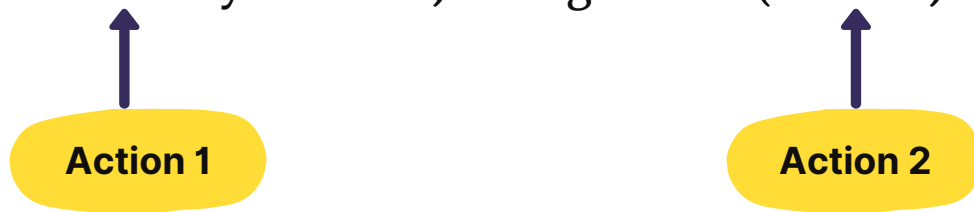
You can change the order of the sentence but the past perfect still happens first.



When I (**arrived**) to the restaurant they (**had** already **finished**) eating.

or

They (**had** already **finished**) eating when I (**arrived**).



The past perfect is also used in the third conditional to talk about an unreal past action with an imagined result.

### Examples:

If I **had studied** for the exam, I would have passed.

If I **hadn't cut** my hair, it would have been longer.

If I **had known** you were in town, I would have met with you.

## The construction of the past perfect

In the affirmative, the past perfect is formed by using subject + had + past participle. To make a question, we put the *auxiliary* verb before the *subject*.

### subject + had + past participle

I	had hadn't	eaten.
you		
we		
they		
he		
she		
it		

### had + subject + past participle

Had	I	eaten?
	you	
	we	
	they	
	he	
	she	
	it	

## Contractions

Contract the **subject** and the auxiliary verb in **positive sentences**.

I had	I'd
You had	You'd
He had	He'd
She had	She'd
It had	It'd
We had	We'd
They had	They'd

She'd been to that restaurant before.

He'd lived there for five years.

✴ In **negative sentences**, we contract the *auxiliary verb and "not"*.

I hadn't seen the movie before.

He hadn't lived there for five years.

They hadn't visited many countries.