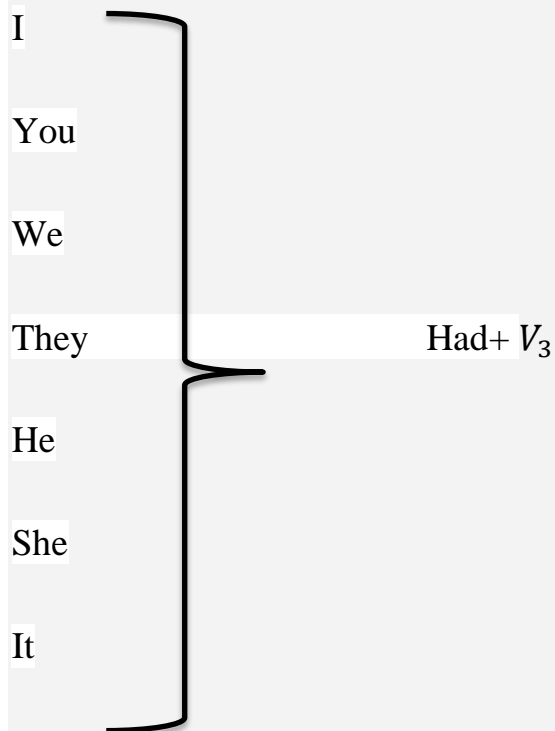


## PAST PERFECT TENSE

The past perfect refers to a time **earlier than before now**. It is used to make it clear that **one event happened before another** in the past. It does not matter which event is mentioned first - the tense makes it clear which one happened first.



- I had gone before you came.
- My aunt had married before I borned.

(-) S+ hadn't+V<sub>3</sub>

- My friend hadn't eaten my birthday cake.
- The teacher hadn't come late to the school before.

(?) Had+S+V<sub>3</sub>

- Had they arrived?
- Had you read that book before?

1. The past perfect tense is used to indicate a past action completed before another past action:

- By the time I returned home, he had already left.
- When/after he had completed his project, he took his annual leave.
- She had been married for three years when her son was born.
- Until he went to Japan, he had never drunk rice wine.
- She told me that she hadn't been there before.

2. The past perfect tense is used with the following structures when the time references is past:

Wish clauses: It's a pity you were absent from the meeting. I wish you had been present.

If only: If only he had studied his lesson instead of wasting his time.

Would rather+sb.+had done sth.: My friend took me to the student opera. I'd rather he had taken me to the theater.

If clauses: If he had studied hard last year, he could have passed all his exams.

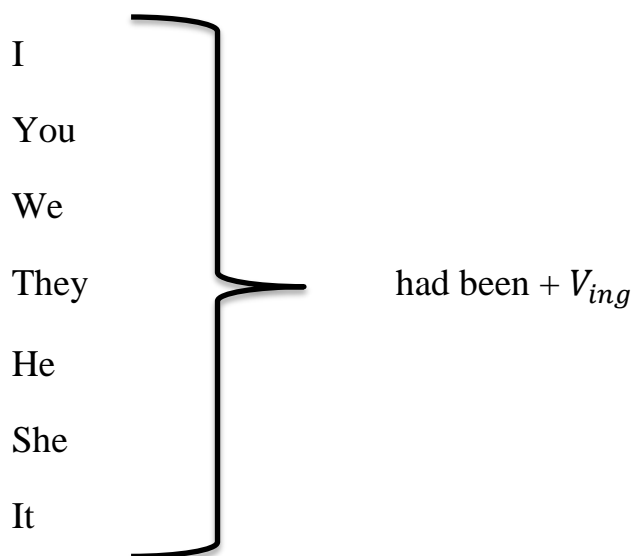
As if/As though: She acts as if nothing had happened yesterday.

Hardly/scarcely. When: He had hardly reached London when he was called back.

No sooner ... than: He had no sooner reached London than he was called back.

## PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS TENSE

The past perfect continuous corresponds to the present perfect continuous, but with reference to a time earlier than 'before now'. As with the present perfect continuous, we are more interested in the **process**.



- I had been walking.
- I had been waiting there for two hours before she finally arrived.

(-) S+ had not been + *V<sub>ing</sub>*

- She hadn't been sleeping.
- They hadn't been playing volleyball.

(?) Had + S+ been + *V<sub>ing</sub>*

- Had you been eating ?
- Had she been working at that company for three years when it went out of business?

- 1.** **Since:** He finally arrived at 6 o'clock. I had been waiting for him since 3 o'clock.
  
- 2.** **Before:** Metin had been walking to school before his father bought him a bicycle.
  
- 3.** **When:** We had been planning to go to Antalya for our holiday, but changed our minds when we found a cheap motel Fethiye.