

Ministry of Education
Secondary Engagement Programme
September 2020

WEEK NINE: Lesson Two

Subject: English A Grade: Eight

Topic: Grammar

Sub-Topic: The Past Perfect Tense

Objectives: After reviewing examples of the past perfect tense, Grade 8 students will correctly:

- (1) Define the term past perfect tense
- (2) Identify and discuss how to use the past perfect tense
- (3) Underline the use of the past perfect tense in given sentences

Content

WHAT IS THE PAST PERFECT TENSE?

The past perfect tense is a verb tense which is used to show that an action took place once or many times before another point in the past.

The past perfect tense makes it clear that one thing happened before another in the past. The order of events does not matter since the tense makes it clear which event happened first.

How to Form the Past Perfect Tense

To form the past perfect tense, you use the past tense of the verb "to have," which is had, and add it to the past participle of the main verb.

For example: subject + had + past participle = past perfect tense.

Some examples of the past perfect tense can be seen in the following sentences:

- (1) Had met: She had met him before the party.

- (2) Had left: The plane had left by the time I got to the airport.

- (3) Had written: I had written the email before he apologized.

- (4) Had wanted: Kate had wanted to see the movie, but she did not have money for the ticket.

ACTIVITY (1)

UNDERLINE THE USE OF THE PAST PERFECT TENSE IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES BELOW

- (1) I had never seen such a beautiful sunset before I went to the island.
- (2) We were not able to stay overnight at the hotel since we had not reserved a room in advance.
- (3) She had never been to the symphony before last night.
- (4) Marc knew Philadelphia so well because he had lived there for five years.
- (5) He understood the math test because he had been tutored all week.
- (6) I did not have any cash because I had lost my purse.
- (7) I had been to Mexico once before.
- (8) If I had seen him, I would have told him the news.
- (9) Before he did his homework, he had stayed after school for help.
- (10) She had lived in California before moving to Texas.
- (11) The cat had chased the bird before it flew out of the yard.
- (12) We had just called home when my mom texted us about returning the car.
- (13) She had visited several doctors before she found out what the problem was with her hand.
- (14) If we had called ahead, we would not have needed to wait so long for a table.
- (15) The bus had just left when we got to the stop.

ANSWERSHEET

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