

Test Your Grammar Skills

Past Perfect & Past Simple – Sentence Models

Past Perfect describes a finished past action which takes place before another past action – usually in **Past Simple**. This worksheet practises 12 different sentence models with Past Perfect and Past Simple working together. You should learn the different models so that you can use Past Perfect confidently.

Write two verb phrases. It helps if they are in a logical order, e.g. 'had eaten dinner' and 'went out':

earlier = Past Perfect

later = Past Simple

Write sentences with Past Perfect and Past Simple using your phrases with the models below. Note the pairs of sentences marked with } They mean the same thing:

A. with before and after:

Example: 1. I had eaten dinner before I went out.

1. pp | before | ps/gerund

} _____

2. ps | after | pp/gerund

} _____

3. before | ps/gerund | pp

} _____

4. after | pp/gerund | ps

} _____

B. with when:

5. pp (just) | when | ps

6. ps | when/once/as soon as | pp

} _____

7. when/once/as soon as | pp | ps

} _____

8. when | ps | pp (already)

C. with conjunctions:

9. ps | because/as/since | pp (reason)

10. pp | so | ps (result)

D. with by the time:

11. pp (already) | by the time | ps

} _____

12. by the time | ps | pp (already)

} _____

Extension 1: Write 12 more sentences with the sentence models and a variety of phrases.

Extension 2: Write each sentence in negative form, then question form with a short answer.

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Answers:

Answers will vary. Sample answers:

A. *with* before and after:

1. pp | before | ps/gerund } I had eaten dinner before I went out / going out.
2. ps | after | pp/gerund } I went out after I had eaten dinner / eating dinner.
3. before | ps/gerund | pp } Before I went out / going out I had eaten dinner.
4. after | pp/gerund | ps } After I had eaten dinner / eating dinner I went out.

B. *with* when:

5. pp (just) | when | ps } I had (just) eaten dinner when I went out.
6. ps | when/once/as soon as | pp } I went out when/once/as soon as I had eaten dinner.
7. when /once/as soon as | pp | ps } When/once/as soon as I had eaten dinner I went out.
8. when | ps | pp (already) } When I went out I had (already) eaten dinner.

C. *with* conjunctions:

9. ps | because/as/since | pp (reason) } I went out because/as/since I had eaten dinner.
10. pp | so | ps (result) } I had eaten dinner so I went out.

D. *with* by the time:

11. pp (already) | by the time | ps } I had (already) eaten dinner by the time I went out.
12. by the time | ps | pp (already) } By the time I went out I had (already) eaten dinner.

Extension 1: Answers will vary.

Extension 2: Write each sentence in negative form, then question form with a short answer:

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A. *with* before and after:

1. I had eaten dinner before I went out / going out.
I had not eaten dinner before I went out / going out.
Had you eaten dinner before you went out / going out? | Yes, I had.
2. I went out after I had eaten dinner / eating dinner.
I didn't go out after I had eaten dinner / eating dinner.
Did you go out after you had eaten dinner / eating dinner? | Yes, I did.
3. Before I went out / going out I had eaten dinner.
Before I went out / going out I had not eaten dinner.
Had you eaten dinner before you went out / going out? | Yes, I had.
4. After I had eaten dinner / eating dinner I went out.
After I had eaten dinner / eating dinner I did not go out.
Did you go out after you had eaten dinner / eating dinner? | Yes, I did.

B. *with* when:

5. I had (just) eaten dinner when I went out.
I had not (just) eaten dinner when I went out.
Had you (just) eaten dinner when you went out? | Yes, I had.
6. I went out when/once/as soon as I had eaten dinner.
I didn't go out when/once/as soon as I had eaten dinner.
Did you go out when/once/as soon as you had eaten dinner? | Yes, I did.
7. When/once/as soon as I had eaten dinner I went out.
The negative form is not very likely, because it does not make sense:
~~When/once/as soon as I had eaten dinner I did not go out.~~
Did you go out when/once/as soon as you had eaten dinner? | Yes, I did.
8. When I went out I had (already) eaten dinner.
When I went out I hadn't eaten dinner (yet).
Had you (already) eaten dinner when you went out? | Yes, I had.

C. *with* conjunctions:

9. I went out because/as/since I had eaten dinner.
I did not go out because/as/since I had eaten dinner.
Did you go out because/as/since you had eaten dinner? | Yes, I did.
10. I had eaten dinner so I went out.
I had not eaten dinner so I went out.
Did you go out (because/as/since) you had eaten dinner? | Yes, I did.

D. *with* by the time:

11. I had (already) eaten dinner by the time I went out.
I had not (yet) eaten dinner by the time I went out.
Had you (already) eaten dinner by the time you went out? | Yes, I had.
12. By the time I went out I had (already) eaten dinner.
By the time I went out I had not (yet) eaten dinner.
Had you (already) eaten dinner by the time you went out? | Yes, I had.