MET Education Name: _____ Date: _____

FREE GRAMMAR PRACTICE · FORMS 1–3

The Past Perfect

The earlier of two past actions: had + past participle



Form	Example
had + past participle	Look back from a past event: When we arrived, the film **had** already **started**.
after · because	With *after* and *because*, the simple past can also work if the order is clear.
not · question	I **had not seen** it. · **Had** you **eaten**?

PART A Fill in

Fill in the past perfect form of the verb in brackets.

1. When Lucy got to the station, the train _____ (leave).
2. Paul was hungry because he _____ (not eat) all day.
3. By the time the firemen arrived, the fire _____ (go) out.

PART B Past perfect or simple past?

Fill in the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

1. After Amy _____ (clean) her room, she _____ (watch) TV.
2. When I _____ (open) the box, the cake was already gone. It _____ (disappear) before I got there.

PART C Join

Join the two sentences. Use the word in brackets and the past perfect.

1. The match finished. Then we got to the stadium. (When)

_____

_____

2. Tom lost his key. Then he climbed in through the window. (because)

_____

_____

Answers **A** 1 had left · 2 had not eaten / hadn't eaten · 3 had gone **B** 1 had cleaned / cleaned; watched · 2 opened; had disappeared **C** 1 When we got to the stadium, the match had finished. · 2 Tom climbed in through the window because he had lost his key.

Want more practice? Tense Booklet 7 – Past Perfect has short notes, many more exercises and an answer key. It is one of ten **Single-Tense Booklets**. **myenglishtutorhk.com**

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