

*Tikrit University*

*College of Nursing*

*Basic Nursing Sciences*



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**English**

**( Past Perfect )**

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## Past Perfect

The **past perfect**, also called the pluperfect, is a verb tense used to talk about something that happened before something else that is also in the past. Imagine waking up one morning and stepping outside to grab the newspaper. On your way back in, you notice a mysterious message scrawled across your front door: “Tootles was here.” When you’re telling this story to your friends later, how will you describe this moment? You might say something like:

### The formula for the past perfect tense

*had* + [**past participle**]. It doesn’t matter if the subject is singular or plural; the formula doesn’t change.

### When to Use Past Perfect

So what’s the difference between the past perfect and the simple past? When you’re talking about some point in the past and want to reference an event that happened even earlier, using the past perfect allows you to convey the sequence of the events. It’s also clearer and more specific.

*We were relieved that doctors **used** new tools.*

*We were relieved that doctors **had used** new tools.*

## Negative

Making the past perfect negative is simple! The formula is ***had*** + ***not*** + [**past participle**].

*We looked for witnesses, but the neighbors **had not seen** Tootles in the act.*

*If Tootles **had not included** their own name in the message, we would have no idea who was behind it.*

## Questions

The formula for asking a question in the past perfect tense is ***had*** + [**subject**] + [**past participle**].

***Had** Tootles **caused** trouble in other neighborhoods before they struck ours?*

## Regular Verbs in the Past Perfect

<b>Infinitive</b>	<b>Past Perfect</b>	<b>Negative</b>
to ask	had asked	had not asked
to work	had worked	had not worked
to call	had called	had not called
to use	had used	had not used

## Irregular Verbs in the Past Perfect

<b>Infinitive</b>	<b>Past Perfect</b>	<b>Negative</b>
to be	had been	had not been
to have	had had	had not been
to do	had done	had not done
to say	had said	had not said
to get	had gotten*	had not gotten*
to make	had made	had not made
to go	had gone	had not gone
to take	had taken	had not taken
to see	had seen	had not seen
to come	had come	had not come