



## PAST PERFECT. SU FORMA y USO

- El Past Perfect Simple , o pretérito pluscuamperfecto, se forma con el pasado del verbo have + Participio Pasado.

### **had + Past Participle**

*“Frank was really excited because **he had won** the tournament”.*

*“ After we **had finished** the housework, we sat down and watched a film”*

*“ Before I knew it, **they had all left** the party.*

- Como puedes ver en los ejemplos, el past perfect no aparece solo, sino que va acompañado de otra acción también en pasado. El pasado perfecto no tiene significado completo por sí mismo, y necesita una segunda acción para adquirir su sentido real.

Ambas oraciones hacen referencia a acciones pasadas, pero una es anterior en el tiempo a la otra. Fíjate en el ejemplo siguiente:

*“I was really worried after I had heard the news”*

Acción 1

Acción 2

( Estaba preocupado después de que hubiera escuchado la noticia). ¿Cuál de las dos acciones o proposiciones sucede antes en el tiempo?. La respuesta es clara: primero escuchó las noticias, y como consecuencia de ello se sintió a continuación preocupado.

- Por tanto, el Past perfect se usa para indicar **una acción en el tiempo anterior a otra.**

**PRACTICE.**

1.- You will find pairs of actions. Find out which happens first and then join them by using the past perfect tense. You can also use after, before, because, etc. Follow the example:

*“Susan went to the employment office. Susan lost her job last month”.*

*After Susan had lost her job last month, she went to the employment office.*

- a) They celebrated they victory / They won the tournament.
- b) Marta was very worried /The doctor told Marta had meningitis.
- c) The potato was brought to Europe/ Columbus discovered America
- d) He could buy a car then /. He found a good job.
- e) Raymond was very angry with me / I was late for our meeting.
- f) He was given a promotion / He worked hard and efficiently for many years
- g) Marta behaved very bad yesterday. Her mother punished her.

## 2.- Reading comprehension.



A man was tired of living in his old house in the country. He had lived in it over 30 years and said to himself he had had enough; therefore, he decided to sell it and buy a better one. He tried to sell it for a long time but was not successful as everyone who had gone to see the house hadn't liked it at all. He finally decided to solve the problem by using an estate agent.

The agent promptly advertised the house and few days after he had done it, the owner saw a very attractive photograph of it, with a wonderful description of its gardens, in an expensive magazine.



After the house owner had read the advertisement through, he hastened to telephone the state agent and said to him, : “ I’m sorry, Mr Jones, but I’ve decided not to sell my house after all. After reading your advertisement in that magazine, I can see it is just the kind of house I’ve wanted to live in all my life”.

( text taken from **Advanced Stories for Reproduction. L.A. Hill. Oxford Univ. Press**)

**A.- Answer these questions ( write complete sentences)**

- 1.- Why did the man want to sell his house?**
- 2.- Why did he finally go to an estate agent?**
- 3.- What did the estate agent do about selling the house?**
- 4.- Was the estate agent good at his job?**
- 5.- Why did the estate agent lose a sale?**

**B.- Underline the verbs in the Past Perfect tense.**