



PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS TENSE

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PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Definition

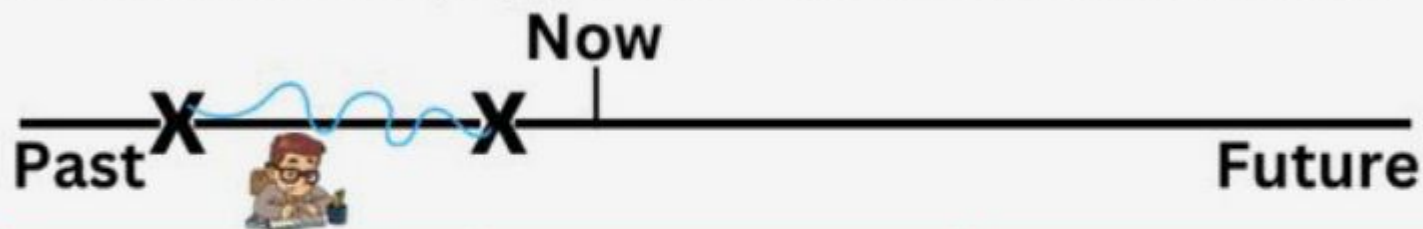
It is used to express ongoing nature of an action that occurred continuously before another event in past. It is formed by combining "had been" with the present participle (verb-ing) of the main verb.



PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS TENSE

Timeline

He had been studying for hours before the exam started.



He	had been	studying
Subject	had (been)	V-ing

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AFFIRMATIVE SENTENCES

Subject + had been + present participle + time reference

EXAMPLES

→ They **had been living** in Glasgow **since** 1990.

→ I **had been attending** the office **for** one week.

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NEGATIVE SENTENCES

Subject + had +not+ been + present participle + time reference

EXAMPLES

→ They **had not been living** in Glasgow **since** 1990.

→ I **had not been attending** the office **for** one week.

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INTERROGATIVE SENTENCES

Had + subject + present participle + time reference+?

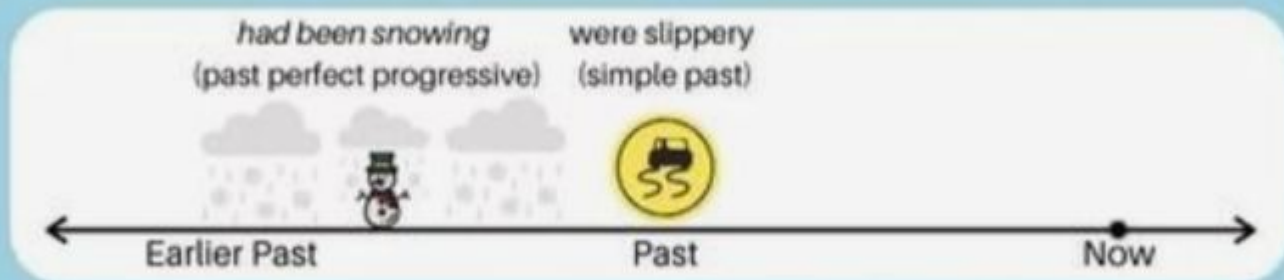
EXAMPLES

- Had they **been living** in Glasgow **since** 1990?
- Had I **been attending** the office **for** one week?

PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS TENSE

Ongoing Past Actions that Started Before Other Past Events

The roads were slippery because it had been snowing.



When Riku finished the story, he realized they hadn't been listening.

The class had been studying job skills, so they practiced writing resumes.

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Unreal Ongoing Past Events

If it hadn't been raining, we would have eaten lunch outside.

I wish you had been practicing piano instead of playing video games.



Duration of Ongoing Past Actions

We 'd been hiking since noon, so we stopped to rest.

Eva had been working on her dissertation for six years when she finished it.



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Time Words

For

Since

Lately

Recently

All week

This month

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SINCE

**from the starting point in the past
it is used with the present perfect simple and
continuous**

FROM

**over a period of time
it is used with the present perfect simple and
continuous**