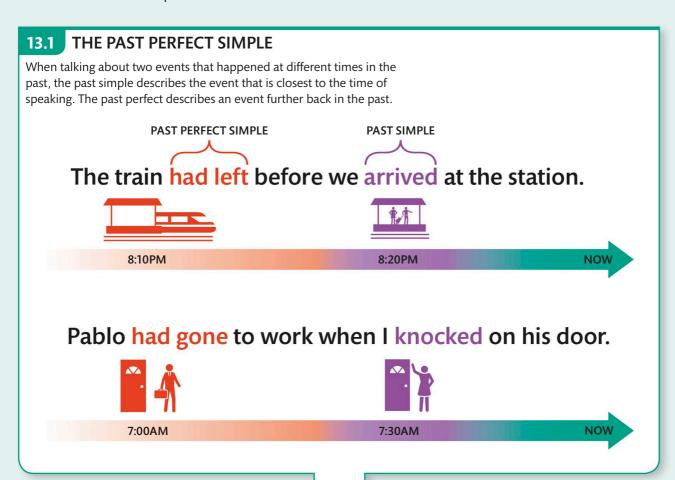
13 The past perfect simple

English uses the past perfect simple with the past simple to talk about two or more events that happened at different times in the past.

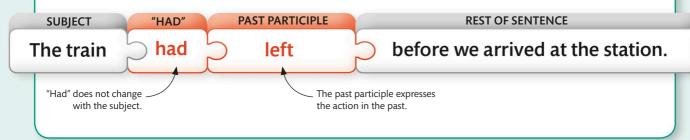
ee also:

Past simple **7** Present perfect simple **11**Past perfect continuous **14** Participles **51**



HOW TO FORM

Use "had" followed by the past participle to form the past perfect.



FURTHER EXAMPLES

He had cooked dinner before Sally got back from work.





She had already read the play by the time she went to see it.





Even if the past simple action is first in the sentence, it still happened later.

The traffic was bad because a car had broken down on the road.



When we arrived at the stadium, the game had already started.





THE PRESENT PERFECT AND PAST PERFECT 13.2

PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE

The present perfect is used to talk about an action that took place in the recent past and is still relevant to the present moment.



ONE HOUR AGO



I'm so excited. I have just passed my driving test.

PAST PERFECT SIMPLE

The past perfect is used to talk about an action that took place before another moment in the past.



ONE HOUR BEFORE

I was so excited. I had just passed my driving test.

