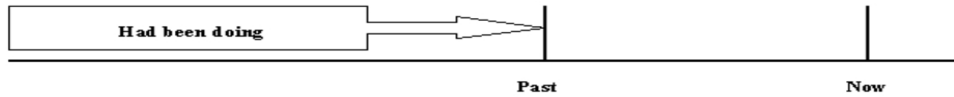


Past perfect explanation and exercises

The past perfect continuous tense is used to talk about longer situations that continued up to the moment in the past we are talking about.

Past Perfect Continuous Timeline



For example:

"By the time I left England we had been living in Bristol for five years."

"Her back was sore because she had been sitting at the computer all day."

It is also used to say how long something went on for, up to a time in the past.

!Note It is always **for** a length of time and **since** a point in time.

The Past Perfect Continuous Exercise

A Fill the gaps with the verb in brackets using **the past perfect continuous** or **the past perfect simple**.

- 1 When the student revolution came, I _____ there for 6 months. (work)
- 2 Before Jim finally decided to go to Thailand, he _____ about it for months. (think)
- 3 They _____ all the chocolate cake by the time Michael got to the party. (eat)
- 4 I _____ Scarlett Johansson on three previous occasions. Lucky me! (met)
- 5 The forensic evidence shows that he _____ his nose just before he was murdered. (pick)
- 6 When the doctor told him his liver was seriously bad, he _____ hamburgers for a month. (eat)
- 7 Prior to the explosion, the fat man _____ seven large chocolate cakes. (eat)
- 8 When they cancelled the flight to Alicante, the storm _____ all afternoon with no sign of abating. (rage)