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SCIENCE AND NATURE

PAST PERFECT SIMPLE

We use the past perfect simple to talk about a past action that happened before another past action when we want to make the order of events clear. We use the past perfect for the action that happened first and the past simple for the action that happened second, or later.

She needed her umbrella when the storm hit, but she'd left it at home.

I wanted to help, but they'd already finished.

We form the past perfect simple with *had* and the past participle of the verb. Remember that some verbs have irregular past participles.

	Positive	Negative	Question
I / You / We / They	<i>I'd left the house.</i>	<i>They hadn't left the house.</i>	<i>Had you left the house?</i>
He / She / It	<i>He'd arrived on time.</i>	<i>She hadn't arrived on time.</i>	<i>Had it arrived on time?</i>

In spoken English and informal written English, we use *'d* instead of *had*, especially after pronouns. *I'd already gone to bed by the time my friends got home.*

We use the past simple to talk about more than one action in the past if the order of events is obvious or when we describe the actions in the order they happened in.

I conducted the experiment carefully. After I finished the experiment, I wrote the report.

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

➡ After reading the first page, I realised (realise) that I'd read (read) the book before.

- By the time John _____ (get up), Emily _____ (leave).
- I _____ (never go) abroad until I _____ (go) to France.
- _____ (you / eat) horse meat before you _____ (try) it last night?
- He _____ (cannot pay) for the drinks because he _____ (lose) his wallet.
- _____ (they / study) Danish before they _____ (move) to Denmark?
- We _____ (not be able) to get a table because we _____ (not book) in advance.
- As soon as I walked into the room, I _____ (know) that I _____ (be) there before.
- He had a party when he _____ (hear) he _____ (get) the job.

PASSIVES

We use the passive when we don't know who does an action. We also use the passive when it isn't important to say or when it's obvious who does an action.

*Olives **are grown** in Mediterranean countries.*

*He **was awarded** a prize.*

We make passive verbs with a form of *be* + past participle.

	Subject	be	Past participle	
Present simple	I	'm (not)	employed	by the government.
	He / She / It	's (not)	paid	low wages.
	You / We / They	're (not)	trained	to give first aid.

	Subject	be	Past participle	
Past simple	I	was (not)	born	in Australia.
	He / She / It	was (not)	given	much help.
	You / We / They	were (not)	made	to do the test.

	Question word	be	Subject	Past participle
Present	Who	are	you	employed by?
		is	he	paid well?
Past	Where	were	they	arrested?
		Was	she	stopped?

We use *by* with the passive to say who or what does the action.

*A Brief History of Time **was written by** Stephen Hawking.*

We can use modal verbs in the passive. We use the infinitive form of *be* + past participle after the modal verb.

*This book **could be made** into a good film.*

Passives are often used in formal writing. We can use a general subject such as *you*, *they* or *people* in speech and informal writing.

*The sea **should be cleaned up**. (= They should clean up the sea.)*

1 Complete the sentences. Use the correct passive form of the verbs in brackets.

➔ Some animals are trained (train) to detect diseases in humans.

- Many houses _____ (destroy) by the storm last week.
- A shark _____ (see) swimming near the coast yesterday afternoon.
- The factory _____ (close) this week.
- The experiment _____ (not repeat) because it failed the first time.
- Smoking _____ (not allow) here any more.
- The scientists should _____ (give) more funding for their research.
- Who _____ (you / employ) by at the moment?
- New genes _____ (discover) by the researchers last year.

2 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Use the passive.

➡ A famous architect designed this building.

➡ This building was designed by a famous architect.

1 Someone stole his bag.

His _____

2 In the 1906 earthquake, fire did most of the damage.

In the 1906 earthquake, most of the _____

3 Someone gave her a nice birthday present.

On her birthday, she _____

4 They produce champagne in France.

Champagne _____

5 Someone completed the Eiffel Tower in 1889.

The Eiffel Tower _____

6 Alexandra Adornetto wrote *The Shadow Thief*.

The Shadow Thief _____

7 They grow pistachio nuts in Iran.

Pistachio nuts _____

8 Someone planted that tree 100 years ago.

That tree _____

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➡ After reading the first page, I realised (realise) that I'd read (read) the book before.

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2 I 'd never been (never go) abroad until I went (go) to France.

3 Had you (ever) eaten (you / eat) horse meat before you tried (try) it last night?

4 He couldn't pay (cannot pay) for the drinks because he 'd lost (lose) his wallet.

5 Had they studied (they / study) Danish before they moved (move) to Denmark?

6 We weren't able (not be able) to get a table because we hadn't booked (not book) in advance.

7 As soon as I walked into the room, I knew (know) that I 'd been (be) there before.

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In the 1906 earthquake, most of the damage was done by fire.

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Champagne is produced in France.

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The Eiffel Tower was completed in 1889.

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The Shadow Thief was written by Alexandra Adornetto.

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That tree was planted 100 years ago.