

# Past Perfect Tense

## Chapter 7

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# We use Past Perfect Tense with;

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- WHEN
- AFTER
- BEFORE
- BY THE TIME
- AS SOON AS

We use past perfect to show that something happened before another action in the past.

# WHEN

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- When he **left** home, I **washed** the dishes.
- When he **left** home, I **had washed** the dishes.

# THE DIFFERENCE

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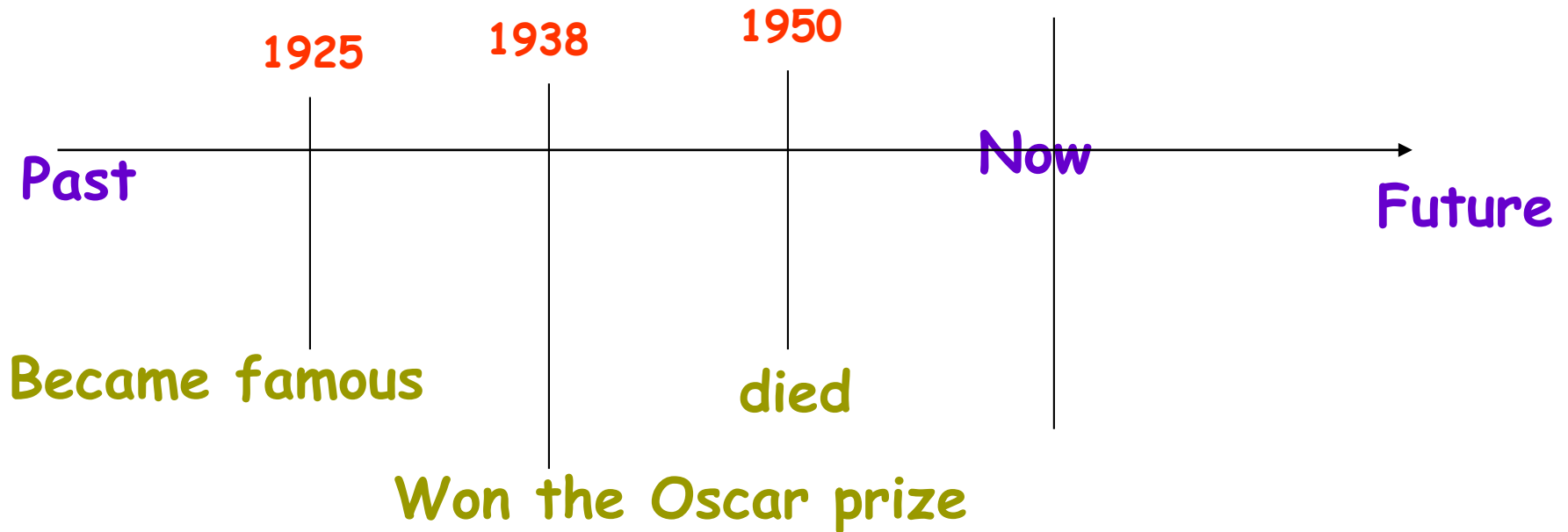
- When he left home, I washed the dishes.

**First, he left home then I started to wash the dishes.**

When he left home, I had washed the dishes.

**I started to wash the dishes and finished them before he left home.**

# AFTER / BEFORE



*After* George Bernard Shaw had become famous, he *won* the Oscar prize.

*Before* he died in 1950, he had won the Oscar prize

# AFTER

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**After** she **had graduated** from university,  
she went to England.

She felt better **after** she **had taken** a tablet.

**AFTER + PAST PERFECT , SIMPLE PAST**  
**SIMPLE PAST**

# BEFORE

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- I **had finished** my exam paper **before** the bell rang.
- **Before** she **came**, the teacher **had entered** the classroom

**BEFORE+ SIMPLE PAST, PAST PERFECT**  
**SIMPLE PAST**

# BY THE TIME

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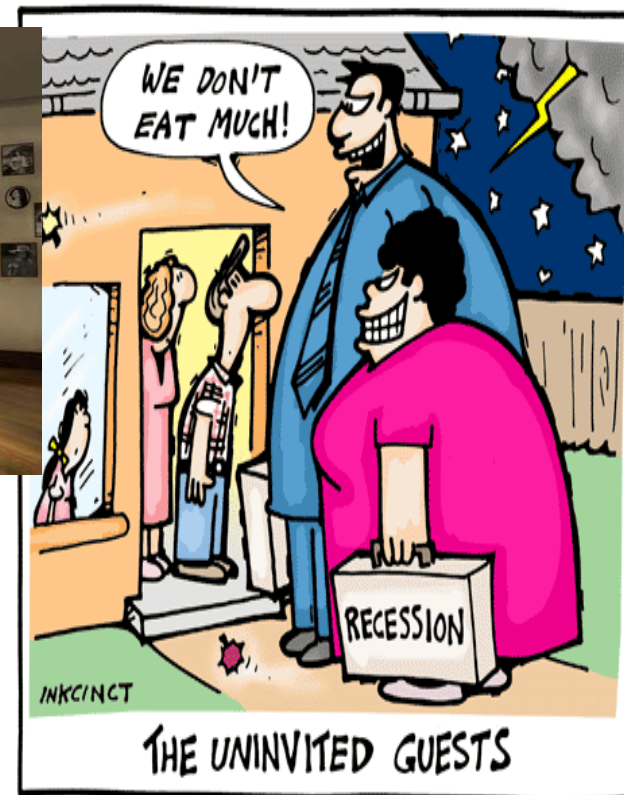
□ By the time I arrived at the station, the train had left.

By the time they came, I had finished cleaning.



# BY THE TIME

□ \_\_\_\_\_ \* \_\_\_\_\_ \* \_\_\_\_\_ \* \_\_\_\_\_ \*  
Past I finished cleaning they came now



# AS SOON AS

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As soon as the guests had left, I went to bed.

09.00

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the guests left

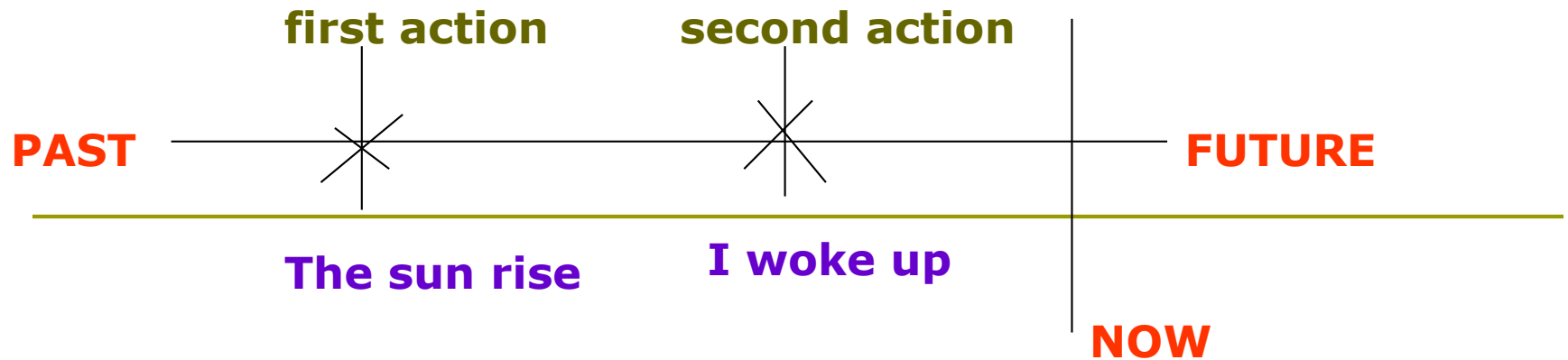
09.05

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I went to bed

As soon as they had found a new house, they sold their old one.



The sun had risen when I woke up.

First: he ate his lunch.

Then: he lit a cigarette.

After he had eaten his lunch, he lit a cigarette.

First: The plane took off. ( 7.30)

Then: We arrived at the airport. ( 8.00)

By the time we arrived at the airport, the plane had taken off.

First	Then
1) Sue / pack/ her suitcase	→ call / a taxi
2) Bob/drink/some beer	→ pay/ the bill
3) Mary /read /the contract	→ sign/ it
4) The show / finish	→ the boys/ leave/ there

- 1) After Sue had packed her suitcase, she **called** a taxi.
- 2) After Bob had drunk some beer, he **paid** the bill.
- 3) After Mary had read the contract, she **signed** it.
- 4) As soon as the show had finished, the boys **left** there.

First	Then
1) Sue / already/pack/ her suitcase	→ call / a taxi
2) Bob/drink/some beer	→ pay/ the bill
3) Mary /read /the contract	→ sign/ it
4) The show / already /finish	→ the boys/ leave/ the theatre

- 1) Before Mary **called** a taxi, she had already packed her suitcase
- 2) Before Bob **paid** the bill, he had drunk some beer
- 3) Before Mary **signed** the contract, she had read it.
- 4) When the boys **left** the theatre, the show had already finished.

# CONJUNCTIONS



AFTER  
AS SOON AS

had+v3, v2  
past perf., past tense

Eg: After the doctor had examined me, he wrote a prescription.

BEFORE  
BY THE TIME  
WHEN

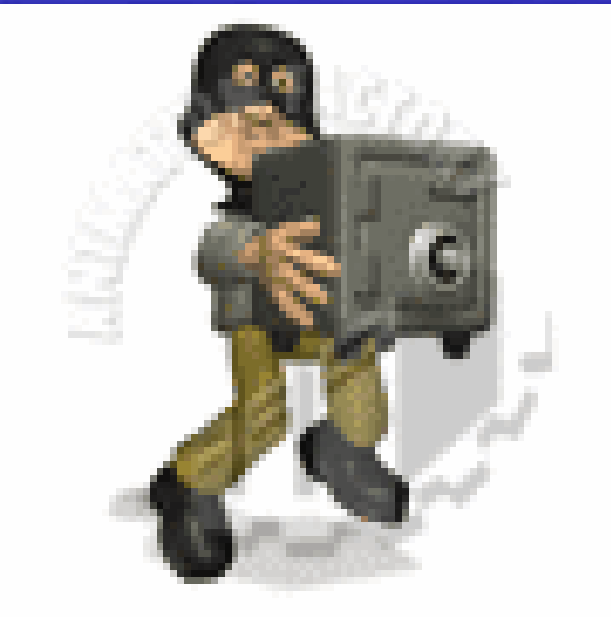
v2 , had+ v3  
past tense, past perf.

Eg: Before the doctor wrote a prescription, he had examined me.

# The End



See You In **The Next Chapter**



First the burglars left the building. Then the police arrived.

After the burglars had left the building, the police arrived.

By the time the police arrived, the burglars had left.





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I read the book, then I watched its film.

After I had read the book, I watched its film.

Before I watched the film, I had read its book.

I had read the book before I watched the film.

I watched the film after I had read the book.

## OPEN THE BRACKETS

1) Sam (be) had been a newspaper reporter before he (become) became businessman.

2) I (feel) felt a little better after I (take) had taken the painkiller.

3) I was late. The teacher (give/already) had already given a quiz when I (get) got to class.

1) It was raining hard, but by the time the course (be) was over, the rain (stop) had stopped.

2) I (see/never) had never seen any of Picasso's paintings before I (visit) visited the art museum.

3) Yesterday at a restaurant, I (see) saw Pam Donnelly, an old friend of mine. I (not/see) haven't seen her for years. At first, I (not/recognize) didn't/ couldn't recognize her because she (lose) had lost a great deal of weight.