
Past and Past Perfect Tense

Complete the sentences using the past or past perfect tense simple. Use the past perfect progressive if necessary.

1. We were all happy because we _____ in our homework in time. **(HAND)**
2. Mrs Shilton _____ a primary school teacher for twenty years before she became headmaster of the school. **(BE)**
3. When we got there, we saw that they _____ for over 20 minutes. **(REST)**
4. We _____ dance moves for over two hours, so you can imagine we were very tired. **(PRACTICE)**
5. The film _____ when we finally got to the cinema. **(ALREADY START)**
6. By the time I _____ to school the lesson had already started. **(GET)**
7. I _____ up for a few minutes when the doorbell rang and our friends arrived. **(ONLY WASH)**
8. He _____ about the accident before he saw it on TV. **(HEAR)**
9. I _____ the office after I had finished writing my last email. **(LEAVE)**
10. The car _____ down shortly after we had got on the motorway. **(BREAK)**
11. We _____ for an hour when we finally arrived at the remote village. **(WALK)**
12. I saw the film after I _____ the book. **(READ)**
13. I had already thought of that before you _____ it up. **(BRING)**
14. She was so tired because she _____ football the whole afternoon. **(PLAY)**
15. As soon as the girls had cleaned the house the visitors _____. **(ARRIVE)**
16. By the time I was 16 I _____ to become a scientist. **(ALREADY DECIDE)**
17. Suddenly I realised that I _____ at the wrong person. He was absolutely innocent. **(SHOUT)**
18. I _____ from my job because I had received an offer from another company. **(RESIGN)**
19. The teacher gave us a break because we _____ on the project for several hours. **(WORK)**
20. After dad had finished mowing the lawn, he _____ repairing the car. **(START)**

KEY

1. We were all happy because we **had handed** in our homework in time. **(HAND)**
2. Mrs Shilton **had been** a primary school teacher for twenty years before she became headmaster of the school. **(BE)**
3. When we got there, we saw that they **had been resting** for over 20 minutes. **(REST)**
4. We **had been practicing** dance moves for over two hours, so you can imagine we were very tired. **(PRACTICE)**
5. The film **had already started** when we finally got to the cinema. **(ALREADY START)**
6. By the time I **got** to school the lesson had already started. **(GET)**
7. I **had only been washing** up for a few minutes when the doorbell rang and our friends arrived. **(ONLY WASH)**
8. He **had heard** about the accident before he saw it on TV. **(HEAR)**
9. I **left** the office after I had finished writing my last email. **(LEAVE)**
10. The car **broke** down shortly after we had got on the motorway. **(BREAK)**
11. We **had been walking** for an hour when we finally arrived at the remote village. **(WALK)**
12. I saw the film after I **had read** the book. **(READ)**
13. I had already thought of that before you **brought** it up. **(BRING)**
14. She was so tired because she **had been playing** football the whole afternoon. **(PLAY)**
15. As soon as the girls had cleaned the house the visitors **arrived**. **(ARRIVE)**
16. By the time I was 16 I **had already decided** to become a scientist. **(ALREADY DECIDE)**
17. Suddenly I realised that I **had been shouting** at the wrong person. He was absolutely innocent. **(SHOUT)**
18. I **resigned** from my job because I had received an offer from another company. **(RESIGN)**
19. The teacher gave us a break because we **had been working** on the project for several hours. **(WORK)**
20. After dad had finished mowing the lawn, he **started** repairing the car. **(START)**