

Lesson Plan:

Past perfect tense

LEVEL Intermediate (B1)	TIME 60 minutes
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Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Understand the structure of the past perfect tense.
2. Recognize the use of the past perfect tense in storytelling, sequencing, and explaining actions completed before another past event.
3. Use the past perfect tense in speaking and writing activities.

Materials:

- Whiteboard and markers
- Handouts with practice exercises
- A projector (optional for showing examples)
- Flashcards (optional)

Lesson Procedure:

1. Warm-Up (5-10 minutes)

Objective: Activate prior knowledge and introduce the topic.

- Ask students to brainstorm events that have happened in the past. Write a few examples on the board.
- Then, introduce a scenario with two actions in the past. For example:

"I went to the store, but it was closed."

Ask: "What happened first? What happened second?"

- Encourage the students to discuss the sequence of events and transition into the past perfect tense.

2. Presentation: Past Perfect Structure (10-15 minutes)

Objective: Teach the structure and usage of the past perfect tense.

Introduce the structure:

- **Affirmative:**

Subject + had + past participle

Example: *She had finished her homework before she went out.*

- **Negative:**

Subject + had + not + past participle

Example: *They had not (hadn't) seen that movie before.*

- **Interrogative (question form):**

Had + subject + past participle?

Example: *Had you ever been to Paris before your trip last year?*

Usage:

- Use the past perfect tense to talk about an action that was completed before another past action.
- Key signal words: before, after, by the time, when (used to indicate the relationship between two past events).
- Emphasize that the past perfect shows the "earlier" event in a sequence.

3. Guided Practice: Sentence Construction (10-15 minutes)

Objective: Provide practice in forming and using the past perfect tense.

Give students several incomplete sentences and ask them to complete them using the past perfect tense. For example:

- *I _____ (eat) breakfast when he called me.*
- *By the time we arrived, they _____ (leave).*

Correct and discuss the answers as a class.

4. Listening & Comprehension Activity (10-15 minutes)

Objective: Practice listening for the past perfect in context.

- Play a short audio or video clip (or read a short story) with multiple examples of the past perfect tense used.
- After listening, ask the students to answer comprehension questions that focus on the use of the past perfect. For example:
- What had happened before the main event in the story?

- When did the action in the past perfect take place in relation to the other action?

5. Production: Role-Play or Writing Activity (10-15 minutes)

Objective: Apply the past perfect tense in conversation or writing.

Option 1 (Role-Play):

Have students work in pairs. One student tells a short story (using the past perfect tense), and the other student asks questions to find out more details. Afterward, they switch roles.

Option 2 (Writing):

Ask students to write a short story or a personal anecdote that uses the past perfect tense. Encourage them to include at least two actions with the correct sequence.

6. Conclusion & Recap (5 minutes)

Objective: Review key points and reinforce learning.

- Summarize the lesson by reviewing the structure and usage of the past perfect tense.
- Ask students to share examples they've created (from the role-play or writing activity) with the class.
- Give a quick exit quiz or poll where students write one sentence using the past perfect tense.

Homework (optional):

- Assign a short writing exercise where students describe a sequence of events in their life using the past perfect tense.
- Example: "Write about the last time you went on a trip. What had you done before you left? What had you forgotten to do?"

Assessment:

- Formative assessment through participation in guided practice and roleplay activities.
- Observation of student usage of the past perfect tense during writing or speaking tasks.
- Exit quiz to check understanding of the past perfect tense.