

Past Perfect: Exercises

1. Past ⇨ Past Perfect

Example: Mr. Clark forgot to set the alarm clock ('den Wecker stellen'), so the clock did not ring.

→ The alarm clock did not ring because *Mr Clark had forgotten to set it.*

- a) The bus left before Mr Clark got to the bus stop.
 b) The next bus had an accident, so Mr Clark had to wait another 27 minutes.
 c) His boss asked for him twice before he arrived in his office.
 d) He asked his secretary for a cup of tea, but she brought coffee.
 e) He dictated 10 letters into the dictaphone, but then he found out that it was out of order.

- a) When Mr Clark got to the bus stop the bus _____ .
 b) As the next bus _____ an accident Mr Clark had to wait another 27 minutes.
 c) By the time he arrived in his office his boss _____ .
 d) His secretary brought coffee although he _____ for a cup of tea.
 e) He found out that the dictaphone was out of order after _____ 10 letters .
 5x1=5

2. Past or Past Perfect ?

Examples: went or had gone, saw or had seen?

- a) Last Sunday Tom gave me back a book which I (*to lend*) _____ him last Easter.
 bc) When he gave me the book, he (*to say*) _____ that he (*to enjoy*) _____ it very much.
 d) But I knew that he (*not to read*) _____ it because he (*not to know*) _____ anything about it.
 e) _____
 fg) When the doctor (*to arrive*) _____ at last John (*to be*) _____ ill for 3 days.
 7x1=7

3. Past or Past Perfect ?

Translate:

- ab) Als die Gäste ankamen, hatte unsere Tochter schon den Tisch gedeckt. ⇨ When the guests (*to arrive*) _____ our daughter (*to lay*) _____ the table.
 cd) Er verstand sie nicht, weil er nie Englisch gelernt hatte. ⇨ He (*to understand*) _____ her because he (*never, to learn*) _____ English.
 ef) Nachdem ich den Krimi gesehen hatte, ging ich ins Bett. ⇨ After I (*to watch*) _____ the thriller I (*to go*) _____ to bed.
 gh) Sie hatte den Brief schon eine Woche, bevor sie ihn mir zeigte. ⇨ She (*to have*) _____ the letter for a week before she (*to show*) _____ it to me.
 i) Zu jener Zeit arbeitete ich schon seit drei Jahren in London. ⇨ At that time I (*to work*) _____ in London for three years.
 7x1=7