



Past Perfect: Questions & Short Answers

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

- ___ you ___ (finish) dinner before the film started?
a) Had ... finished
b) Did ... finish
c) Have ... finished
d) Were ... finishing
- ___ she ever ___ (visit) Japan before 2020?
a) Had ... visited
b) Did ... visit
c) Has ... visited
d) Was ... visiting
- ___ they ___ (arrive) before the meeting began?
a) Have ... arrived
b) Did ... arrive
c) Were ... arriving
d) Had ... arrived
- ___ he ___ (already/read) the book by the time the film came out?
a) Did ... already read
b) Had ... already read
c) Has ... already read
d) Was ... already reading
- ___ the train ___ (leave) when you got to the station?
a) Had ... left
b) Has ... left
c) Was ... leaving
d) Did ... leave
- A: Had you eaten breakfast? B: Yes, I ____.
a) have
b) was
c) did
d) had
- A: Had she finished her homework? B: No, she ____.
a) hadn't
b) wasn't
c) hasn't
d) didn't
- A: Had they met before the party? B: Yes, they ____.
a) did
b) were
c) have
d) had
- ___ you ever ___ (fly) in a helicopter before that day?
a) Had ... flown
b) Were ... flying
c) Have ... flown
d) Did ... fly
- ___ the children ___ (go) to bed before their parents came home?
a) Were ... going
b) Did ... go
c) Have ... gone
d) Had ... gone
- A: Had he already left? B: No, he _____. He was still there.
a) hasn't
b) hadn't
c) wasn't
d) didn't

12. ___ your team ___ (win) any matches before that season?
a) Has ... won
b) Did ... win
c) Had ... won
d) Was ... winning
13. ___ it ___ (rain) before you left the house?
a) Has ... rained
b) Was ... raining
c) Had ... rained
d) Did ... rain
14. A: Had we met before? B: Yes, we ____. Don't you remember?
a) did
b) were
c) have
d) had
15. ___ she ___ (tell) you the news before I did?
a) Did ... tell
b) Had ... told
c) Was ... telling
d) Has ... told
16. ___ you ___ (see) that film before last night?
a) Had ... seen
b) Have ... seen
c) Did ... see
d) Were ... seeing
17. A: Had the lesson started? B: No, it ____. We were on time.
a) hadn't
b) didn't
c) wasn't
d) hasn't
18. ___ he ever ___ (try) Indian food before his trip to Delhi?
a) Did ... try
b) Was ... trying
c) Had ... tried
d) Has ... tried
19. ___ you ___ (finish) packing when the taxi arrived?
a) Were ... finishing
b) Had ... finished
c) Have ... finished
d) Did ... finish
20. A: Had the shop closed? B: Yes, it ____. We arrived too late.
a) had
b) did
c) has
d) was



Answers

1. a) Had ... finished
2. a) Had ... visited
3. d) Had ... arrived
4. b) Had ... already read
5. a) Had ... left
6. d) had
7. a) hadn't
8. d) had
9. a) Had ... flown
10. d) Had ... gone
11. b) hadn't
12. c) Had ... won
13. c) Had ... rained
14. d) had
15. b) Had ... told
16. a) Had ... seen
17. a) hadn't
18. c) Had ... tried
19. b) Had ... finished
20. a) had



Explanations

1. “Had ... finished” (a)

Form Past Perfect questions with Had + subject + past participle. 'Had you finished...?'

2. “Had ... visited” (a)

Use 'Had she ever visited...?' to ask about experience before a past time (2020).

3. “Had ... arrived” (d)

Ask about their arrival timing with 'Had they arrived...?'

4. “Had ... already read” (b)

'By the time' + Past Simple requires Past Perfect. 'Had he already read...?' asks whether reading was complete before the film's release. Note: 'read' (past participle) is spelled the same as present tense.

5. “Had ... left” (a)

Use 'Had the train left...?' to ask if the departure happened before your arrival.

6. “had” (d)

Short answers to Past Perfect questions use 'Yes, I had' or 'No, I hadn't'.

7. “hadn't” (a)

Negative short answer: 'No, she hadn't.' Use hadn't (had not) for Past Perfect.

8. “had” (d)

Positive short answer: 'Yes, they had.' Keep it simple—don't repeat the main verb.

9. “Had ... flown” (a)

'Ever' is common in Past Perfect questions about life experience before a past time.

10. “Had ... gone” (d)

Ask about the sequence: Did the children go to bed first, before the parents' return?

11. “hadn't” (b)

'No, he hadn't' confirms he had not left yet.

12. “Had ... won” (c)

Ask about match victories before a specific past season.

13. “Had ... rained” (c)

Ask whether rain fell before departure: 'Had it rained...?'

14. “had” (d)

Confirm a previous meeting with 'Yes, we had.'

15. “Had ... told” (b)

Ask about who shared the news first.

16. “Had ... seen” (a)

'Before last night' is a past reference point, so use Past Perfect.

17. “hadn't” (a)

'No, it hadn't' means the lesson had not begun when we arrived.

18. “Had ... tried” (c)

Ask about food experience before the Delhi trip.

19. “Had ... finished” (b)

Ask whether packing was complete before the taxi's arrival.

20. “had” (a)

'Yes, it had' confirms the shop closed before our arrival.