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| **Progressive Constructions: Past Perfect Progressive** | | |
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| **FORM:** | **HAD + BEEN + VERB + ING**  *We* ***had been talking*** *on the phone for only two minutes when the connection was cut.* |  |
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| **USE:** | The **past perfect progressive** is used to emphasize continuous action in the past, prior to a key point in the past.      skiing  E.g. I **had been skiing** for three hours when I **hit** a tree.  *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ continuous action key action*  X  Hit a tree Now | |
|  | There are three situations when we choose to use the past perfect progressive.   * The continuous action stops when the key action occurs.   *I* ***had been skiing*** *for three hours when I hit a tree.* (You stopped skiing after hitting the tree).   * The continuous activity continues after the key action.   *I* ***had been working*** *for six hours before I noticed that no one else had come to work.*   * The continuous action has recently finished, and there is still evidence of it.   *She* ***had been sleeping****. Her eyes were still puffy.* | |

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| *Complete the sentences with either PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS, PAST PERFECT or SIMPLE PAST for the verb given in brackets. There may be more than one choice, so be prepared to justify your answer.* |

1. I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (study) very hard, but I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (fail) the exam.

2. Marina \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (cry). She \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (receive) bad news from home.

3. The witness \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (recall) that the thief \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (wear)

a black hat when he \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (rob) the bank.

4. We \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (hitch-hike) for three hours when a car finally \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (stop).

5. I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (live) in Canada for six months when my parents \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (visit) me.

6. He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (work) as a doctor in Africa when he \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (become) ill.

7. We \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (have) coffee in the hotel when the fire alarm \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (sounded).

8. The chef \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (cook) dinner when the food \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (catch) fire.

9. The military \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (prepare) for an attack when the bomb \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (explode).

10. I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (try) to open a glass jar when I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (drop) it.

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| *Complete the following paragraph with the correct form of the verb given in brackets. There may be more than one choice, so be prepared to justify your answer.* |

The birthday I remember the most is my fifth birthday. My mother \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (made) me a blue velvet dress. As soon as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (woke up) that day I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (put) on my dress. Then I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (race) down into the kitchen. My mother quickly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (hide) something behind her back. But I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (see) it. She \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (wrap) a small white box. I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (pretend) not to notice. My mother \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (braid) my hair and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (tie) it with a matching blue velvet ribbon. We all \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (sit down) for breakfast. From behind her back my mother \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (bring) a small box, wrapped in bright blue paper. I eagerly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (grab) it with my small hands and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (rip off) the paper. Inside the box \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (is) a beautiful silver necklace with a silver heart charm on it. It \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) beautiful. My mother \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (tell) me that my grandmother \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (send) it from England. My mother \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (keep) it a secret for two weeks! She \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (hide) it in her own jewellery box. I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (look) for weeks for my presents, but I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (find) it.