

What is Past Perfect Continuous for Past Duration?

Worksheet

Past perfect continuous for past duration shows an action that had been ongoing until another past event. Form: had + been + verb-ing. Example: 'I had been waiting for 20 minutes when she arrived.'

Questions

1. Choose past perfect continuous.

- A) I worked for two hours.
- B) I had worked for two hours.
- C) I had been working for two hours.
- D) I was working for two hours.

2. Complete: They ___ for ages when we finally arrived.

- A) waited
- B) had waited
- C) had been waiting
- D) were waiting

3. How long had you been working when the fire alarm went off?

- A) Asks when you started working.
- B) Asks the duration of your work before the alarm.
- C) Asks if you finished working.
- D) Asks about your work method.

4. Negative: I hadn't been studying long when I fell asleep.

- A) I didn't study for long.
- B) The studying duration was short before sleep.
- C) I studied a lot.
- D) I wasn't studying.

5. Write: I had been studying for two hours when my friend called.

6. Write: She had been working since 8 AM when the power went out.

7. Write: They had been waiting for 30 minutes when the bus finally arrived.

8. Define: What is past perfect continuous for past duration?

9. Define: Example: I had been working for 3 hours when he called.

10. Define: Difference: 'Had worked' vs 'had been working'?

Answer Key

1. C) I had been working for two hours. — Past perfect continuous = had + been + verb-ing. Emphasizes past duration and ongoing action.
2. C) had been waiting — Duration and ongoing action = past perfect continuous 'had been waiting.'
3. B) Asks the duration of your work before the alarm. — Past perfect continuous asks 'how long,' focusing on duration before interruption.
4. B) The studying duration was short before sleep. — hadn't been + verb-ing = negative ongoing past action with short duration.
5. Subject: I Past perfect continuous: had been studying Duration: for two hours Interruption: called Meaning: Studied for 2 hours, then called
6. Subject: She Past perfect continuous: had been working Start: since 8 AM Interruption: power went out Meaning: Worked from 8 AM until power failed
7. Subject: They Past perfect continuous: had been waiting Duration: for 30 minutes Interruption: bus arrived Meaning: Waited 30 min, then bus came
8. An action that had been ongoing in the past until another event: had + been + verb-ing.
9. Work was ongoing for 3 hours in the past; the call interrupted it.
10. 'Worked' = completed before another action. 'Been working' = ongoing, duration matters.

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