

Simple Made Perfect Answer Key

Practice Sentences

1. I **had finished** my homework before dinner.
2. She **had left** the party before I arrived.
3. We **had eaten** all the cake before the guests came.
4. He **had forgotten** his book at home before class started.
5. They **had moved** out of the house before we visited.

Challenge Sentences

6. She **had cleaned** the kitchen before her mom came home.
7. I **had heard** the news before you told me.
8. We **had finished** the project before the deadline arrived.
9. He **had practiced** the piano before the concert began.
10. They **had watched** the movie before they read the book.

Teacher Notes/Guide

- **Skill Emphasis:** This activity reinforces understanding of *time order* and how the past perfect tense clarifies which event happened first.
- **Common Error:** Students may change both verbs to past perfect, but remind them that usually the *earlier action* is past perfect and the *later action* stays in simple past.
- **Tip:** Encourage students to look for signals like *before, after, by the time*; these often cue past perfect.
- **Extension Idea:** Have students take 3-4 sentences from their own journals or past writing and rewrite them using past perfect for earlier events.