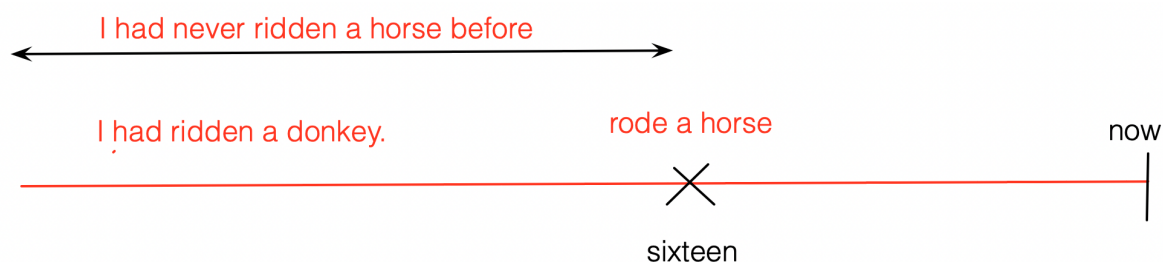


## Past Perfect

had + past participle	
<p><b>to show an event/action/state that occurred before an established action in the past</b></p>	<p>1) I first rode a horse when I was sixteen. 2) I had never ridden a horse before. 3) However, I had ridden a donkey.</p> <p><b>We use past simple when our story is chronological:</b></p> <p>1) I never rode a horse when I was young. 2) I rode donkeys. 3) When I was sixteen, I rode a horse for the first time.</p>

Present perfect: I have never ridden a horse. (all of my life up to the present)



had + been + verb + ing	
<p><b>to show an event/action/state that was in progress up to an action in the past / a general state before an action in the past</b></p>	<p>You rang at 6pm. I <b>had been practising</b> yoga and I was too tired to answer.</p> <p>I moved in with my parents six months ago. I <b>had been having</b> a hard time with my wife, so it seemed the right decision.</p>

## Case Study - GP Notes - 21<sup>st</sup> October

### Mr Nilson

- 7<sup>th</sup> January: Cough, cold, runny nose - advised rest / hot lemon
- 12<sup>th</sup> January: Persistent cough, joint aches - advised stay home from work / take ibuprofen / plenty of fluids
- 13<sup>th</sup> January: Headache, joint aches, chesty cough, fever - diagnosed **URTI** (- prescribed amoxicillin)

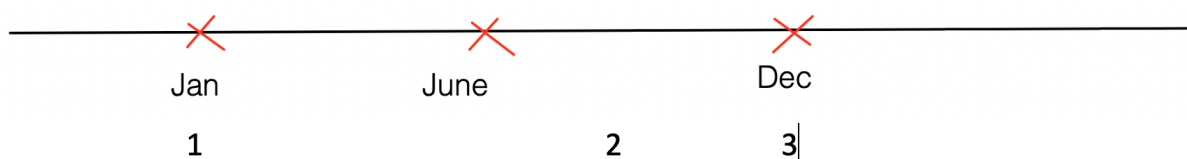
On the 13<sup>th</sup> January, Mr Nilson presented with a headache, a chesty cough and fever. He **had been experiencing** these symptoms for the **previous** two weeks. As a result, I diagnosed URTI and prescribed amoxicillin.

**Note:** Don't use 'past/last' with past perfect. They are used with times leading up to the present, not the past, so should be used with *present perfect*.

## By

**By** is a strange word in English. In the past perfect it is used to establish a point in time and then talk about what happens before it:

- 1) Nike's production fell during the first six months of 2002. However, by December it **had grown** again to 95%.



- 1) Nike's production fell during the first six months of 2002. However, **by December** it **had grown** again to 95%.

Just think - when did the growth happen? Before December! So, although it seems like we're moving chronologically, we actually go **1, 3, 2** in the sentence! So, if we accept that December 2002 is in the past, then if we talk about what happened before we must use.....***past perfect***.

If you follow the order chronologically, we can use past simple all the way:

- 2) Nike's production fell during the first six months of 2002. However, in the following six months it grew to 95%.

Here we go 1, 2, 3, so we use *past simple*.

## Before

**Before is a great word that lots of native speakers use instead of using the past perfect. If we don't have the word before then we must use past perfect to show that the action happened before a time in the past.:**

- 1) My father got married in 1985. He had six wives *before* then.
- 2) My father got married in 1985. He **had had** six wives.