GRAMMAR

Perfect verb tenses

Name _____ Date _____

I can use had, have and will have to show when an action is finished.

1 The rule

A perfect verb tense shows an action that is finished by a certain time. Use had, has, have or will have with a verb like walked or eaten.

I had eaten. I have eaten. I will have eaten.

2 Look and say



had left
The bus had left.



had planted
We had planted seeds.



have finished
We have finished.



has rained
It has rained all day.



has eaten
He has eaten lunch.



have seen
I have seen it.



will have read
I will have read it.



will have grown
It will have grown.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Sort the words

Name _____ Date _____

Does each verb use had, have or has, or will have? Write it in the right box.

1 Word bank

has walked | had seen | have left | will have eaten | will have left | had eaten | has seen | will have seen | had walked | will have walked | have eaten | had left

had	have, has	will have

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Find it in a sentence

Name _____ Date _____

Read each sentence. Circle the perfect tense verb (both words, or all three).

1. We had eaten before the movie.
2. She has finished her project.
3. By June, I will have learned to swim.
4. The bus had left already.
5. They have visited the zoo twice.
6. It has rained all week.
7. By noon, we will have arrived.
8. I had seen that movie before.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Write it

Name _____ Date _____

Write the verb in ( ) with had, has, have or will have.

1. (finish) I _____ my work.

2. (leave) The bus _____ before I came.

3. (grow) By May, it _____ .

4. (eat) She _____ lunch.

5. (read) I _____ it before class.

6. (arrive) By noon, we _____ .

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: perfect verb tenses

1 Sort the words

had: had eaten, had walked, had seen, had left

have, has: have eaten, has walked, has seen, have left

will have: will have eaten, will have walked, will have seen, will have left

2 Find it in a sentence

1. had eaten 2. has finished 3. will have learned 4. had left 5. have visited 6. has rained 7. will have arrived 8. had seen

3 Write it

1. have finished 2. had left 3. will have grown 4. has eaten 5. had read 6. will have arrived

4 Teaching tip

Use a timeline with two points. Mark the action that finished first, then a second point in time. Had comes before a past point, have reaches up to now, and will have comes before a future point.

Watch for: Using the simple past after have, as in "I have ate." Many verbs have a special form after have: ate becomes eaten, went becomes gone.

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