

# PAST PERFECT TENSE

The **past perfect tense** is used to refer to an action at a time earlier than a time in the past already referred to.



<b>FORM</b>	<b>AFFIRMATIVE</b>	<b>NEGATIVE</b>	<b>QUESTION</b>
S + had + past participle (V3)	I had already done my homework before you arrived.	I hadn't done my homework until you arrived.	Had I done my homework before you arrived?

**We usually use the past perfect to make it clear which action happened first. Maybe we are already talking about something in the past and we want to mention something else that is further back in time. This is often used to explain or give a reason for something in the past.**

*e.g.: The film had already started when we arrived.*

We had known each other before we came across in this event.



They had traded their lands for houses before the economic crisis.

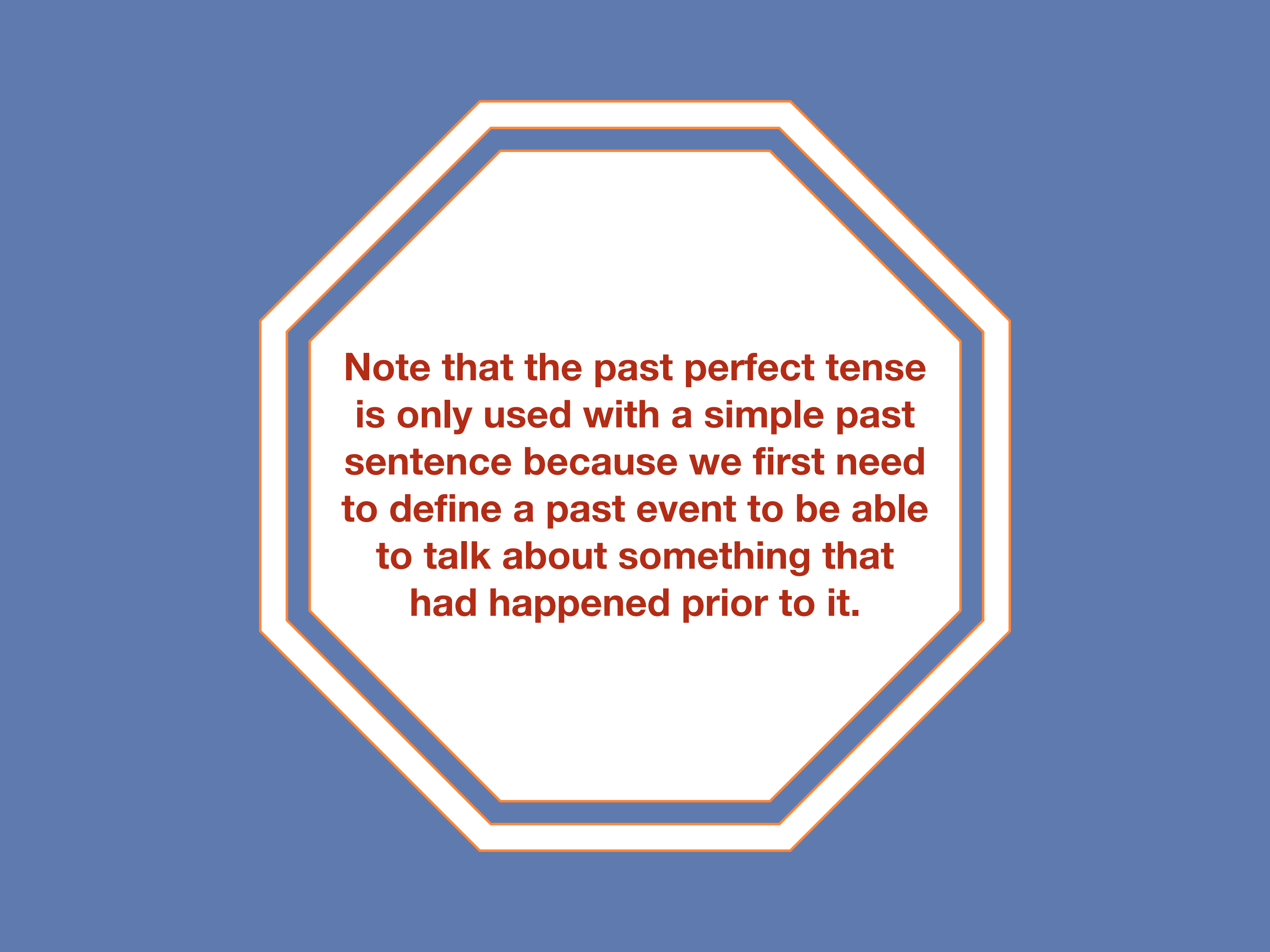


This morning, I had picked up the mail before I left the house.



She had warned the student twice before she reported him for cheating.





**Note that the past perfect tense is only used with a simple past sentence because we first need to define a past event to be able to talk about something that had happened prior to it.**