Past Perfect Progressive
(Past Perfect Continuous)
Story 1

By Really Learn English

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Who are they? What had they been doing?
Where had they been going?

Donald and Elizabeth had been driving to church before they stopped. They had been driving down a dirt road when they heard a strange noise. Donald stopped the car. He got out of the car. Then, he helped Elizabeth out of the car. Elizabeth sat and waited for Donald.
Donald looked at the car. It had been going for an hour or so. He knew how to fix cars. He had been working as a mechanic for 5 years before he moved to the country. Donald got his tools. He looked under the hood. It seemed that the engine had been heating up. He crawled under the car.

Donald had been working on the car for a while when Jake parked beside him. Jake had been driving home when he saw Donald and Elizabeth on the side of the road. Jake helped Donald fix the car. Donald thanked Jake for his help. Elizabeth waved to Jake as they drove away. Thanks to Jake's help, they arrived at church on time.
Past Perfect Progressive Story 1 – Exercises

A. Answer the following questions. Use the Past Perfect Progressive tense.

1. Where had Donald and Elizabeth been driving before the car stopped?

2. How long had the car been going before it stopped? How long had Donald been working as a mechanic before he moved to the country?

3. Where had Jake been driving when he saw Donald and Elizabeth?

B. Rewrite the following sentences as negative sentences, yes/no questions, WH-questions (using the underlined word or phrase) and tag questions.

Examples for the sentence “Jill had been cleaning before you arrived.”

Negative: Jill had not been cleaning before you arrived.

Yes/No Question: Had Jill been cleaning before you arrived?

WH-Question: Who had been cleaning before you arrived?

Tag Question: Jill had been cleaning before you arrived, hadn't she?
1. Donald and Elizabeth had been driving to church before they stopped.

   Negative: ________________________________________________________________

   Yes/No Question: _________________________________________________________

   WH-Question: ____________________________________________________________

   Tag Question: _____________________________________________________________

2. He had been working as a mechanic for 5 years.

   Negative: ________________________________________________________________

   Yes/No Question: _________________________________________________________

   WH-Question: ____________________________________________________________

   Tag Question: _____________________________________________________________

3. The engine had been heating up.

   Negative: ________________________________________________________________

   Yes/No Question: _________________________________________________________

   WH-Question: ____________________________________________________________

   Tag Question: _____________________________________________________________
C. This is a copy of the original story. Fill in the blanks with the past perfect progressive form of each verb in parentheses.

Donald and Elizabeth ____________________ (drive) to church before they stopped. They ____________________ (drive) down a dirt road when they heard a strange noise. Donald stopped the car. He got out of the car. Then, he helped Elizabeth out of the car. Elizabeth sat and waited for Donald.

Donald looked at the car. It ____________________ (go) for an hour or so. He knew how to fix cars. He ____________________ (work) as a mechanic for 5 years before he moved to the country. Donald got his tools. He looked under the hood. It seemed that the engine ____________________ (heat) up. He crawled under the car.

Donald ____________________ (work) on the car for a while when Jake parked beside him. Jake ____________________ (drive) home when he saw Donald and Elizabeth on the side of the road. Jake helped Donald fix the car. Donald thanked Jake for his help. Elizabeth waved to Jake as they drove away. Thanks to Jake’s help, they arrived at church on time.
Past Perfect Progressive Story 1 – Answers

A. Answer the following questions. Use the Past Perfect Progressive tense.

1. Where had Donald and Elizabeth been driving before the car stopped?
Donald and Elizabeth had been driving to church before the car stopped.
They had been driving down a dirt road.

2. How long had the car been going before it stopped? How long had Donald been working as a mechanic before he moved to the country?
The car had been going for an hour when it stopped. Donald had been working as a mechanic for 5 years before he moved to the country.

3. Where had Jake been driving when he saw Donald and Elizabeth?
Jake had been driving home when he saw Donald and Elizabeth.
B. Rewrite the following sentences as negative sentences, yes/no questions, WH-questions (using the underlined word) and tag questions.

1. Donald and Elizabeth had been driving to church before they stopped.
   
   **Negative:** Donald and Elizabeth had not been driving to church before they stopped.
   
   **Yes/No Question:** Had Donald and Elizabeth been driving to church before they stopped?
   
   **WH-Question:** Where had Donald and Elizabeth been driving before they stopped?
   
   **Tag Question:** Donald and Elizabeth had been driving to church before they stopped, hadn't they?

2. He had been working as a mechanic for 5 years.

   **Negative:** He had not been working as a mechanic for 5 years.

   **Yes/No Question:** Had he been working as a mechanic for 5 years?

   **WH-Question:** Who had been working as a mechanic for 5 years?

   **Tag Question:** He had been working as a mechanic for 5 years, hadn't he?
3. The engine had been heating up.

**Negative:** The engine had not been heating up.

**Yes/No Question:** Had the engine been heating up?

**WH-Question:** What had been heating up?

**Tag Question:** The engine had been heating up, hadn't it?

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C. This is a copy of the original story. Fill in the blanks with the past perfect progressive form of each verb in parentheses.

Donald and Elizabeth had been driving (drive) to church before they stopped. They had been driving (drive) down a dirt road when they heard a strange noise. Donald stopped the car. He got out of the car. Then, he helped Elizabeth out of the car. Elizabeth sat and waited for Donald.

Donald looked at the car. It had been going (go) for an hour or so. He knew how to fix cars. He had been working (work) as a mechanic for 5 years before he moved to the country. Donald got his tools. He looked under the hood. It seemed that the engine had been heating (heat) up. He crawled under the car.

Donald had been working (work) on the car for a while when Jake parked beside him. Jake had been driving (drive) home when he saw Donald and Elizabeth on the side of the road. Jake helped Donald fix the car. Donald thanked Jake for his help. Elizabeth waved to Jake as they drove away. Thanks to Jake's help, they arrived at church on time.

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