

Corrigé et barème – Le past perfect (plus-que-parfait)

Le passé du passé : exprimer une action antérieure à une autre action passée

Durée : 55 min – Sans document – Sur 20 points · Anglais 3^e

Exercice 1 – Compréhension de l'écrit : un récit

(4 pts)

- a) Because their flight left at six in the morning. (1)
- b) He had packed his bag, but he had forgotten his passport at Grandma's house. (1)
- c) The check-in had closed; a member of staff who had seen them running reopened the desk. (1)
- d) L'action (passer la nuit devant des vidéos) est antérieure au moment du récit (il s'endort dans l'avion) : c'est la cause passée d'une situation passée, donc past perfect. (1)

Méthode — Dans un récit, chaque past perfect renvoie à un moment plus ancien que la phrase précédente : reconstruis l'ordre réel des événements avant de répondre.

Exercice 2 – Compréhension de l'écrit : lecture d'un tableau

(4 pts)

- a) Two hours and ten minutes (7:30 → 9:40); the trip ended at 15:00. (1)
- b) The guide had prepared the visit (noticed at 9:40) / nobody had brought a raincoat (noticed at 11:00) / Leo had left his lunch (noticed at 8:15) / two pupils had lost their tickets (noticed at 15:00). (1)
- c) « Oh no, I have left my lunch at home! » — Dans le tableau, l'oubli a eu lieu avant 8:15 (moment où Leo s'en rend compte), donc antériorité dans le passé → past perfect. (1)
- d) Ex.: When the group arrived at the castle, the guide had already prepared the visit. / By the time the coach came back, two pupils had lost their tickets. (1)

Repère — Le present perfect du discours direct (I have left) devient un past perfect dès que l'on raconte la scène au passé (he had left).

Exercice 3 – Grammaire : prétérit et past perfect

(4 pts)

- a) blew / had already invaded ; hadn't eaten / ordered. (1)
- b) The plane hadn't taken off. / Had the plane taken off? (1)
- c) She said that she had never been to Wales. (1)
- d) « After the guests had left, we cleaned the house because they had drunk everything in the fridge. » (had left ; cleaned ; drunk) (1)

Erreur fréquente — Mettre tout le récit au past perfect est aussi faux que ne jamais l'utiliser : une seule action par phrase remonte dans le temps, les autres restent au prétérit.

Exercice 4 – Participes passés et adverbes

(4 pts)

- a) flown, chosen, frozen, ridden, begun, stolen, driven, fallen. (1)
- b) a) We had just eaten. b) They hadn't paid yet. c) She had never seen snow. d) Had you ever visited London? (1)
- c) « I have finished » links the action to now (I am free now); « I had finished » links it to a past moment (I was free when you called). (1)
- d) By the time we arrived, the shop had already closed, so we went home. (1)

Astuce — Les adverbes already, just, never, ever se glissent entre had et le participe ; yet se place en fin de phrase — mêmes règles qu'au present perfect.

Exercice 5 – Expression écrite guidée*(4 pts)*

- a) Ex.: My books were on the floor and someone had painted a small blue star on the door. Somebody had also left a note: « Thank you! » (1)
- b) On Friday, I had lent my locker key to my friend Sam before I left for the bus. (1)
- c) By the time the bell rang, Sam had explained everything: he had hidden a birthday present for his sister in my locker. (1)
- d) I decided to laugh and to keep the star. I had never had such a strange Monday morning. (1)

Le point clé — Un récit au passé réussi alterne prétérit (ce qui se passe) et past perfect (ce qui s'était passé avant) : le lecteur doit pouvoir reconstituer l'ordre des faits.