

FUMCESL 2-2-2026 Intermediate Lesson

Introduce yourself. Explain why you came to the U.S.

GRAMMAR: Students have asked when to use past perfect tense. So here is a short review.

Past perfect tense uses HAD + PAST PARTICIPLE. Read these examples: She got lost because she **had taken** the wrong road. He **had just put** on his pajamas when the doorbell rang. She **had seen** the movie before. We **had not planned** on the heavy traffic, so we arrived late. He **had forgotten** my name, so I introduced myself. The dog **had been** friendly the other times I visited.

Notice we don't use past perfect for both verbs in the sentence. We use simple past for the other verb. NO: I had wondered if I had done the right thing. YES: I wondered if I had done the right thing.

We often use past perfect tense when telling a story. EX: I had decided to go to the restaurant before I went home.

Past perfect is different than present perfect. Explain the difference in the sentences below.

Present Perfect: I **have gone** to the bank to deposit my paycheck.

Past Perfect: I **had gone** to the bank to deposit my paycheck.

Present Perfect: The meeting will start when everyone **has arrived**.

Past Perfect: By the time she arrived, the meeting **had started**.

Present Perfect: When the children **have showered**, we will put them to bed.

Past Perfect: The children **had showered**, so we put them to bed.

Present Perfect: I **have lived** in Paris for five years.

Past Perfect: Before I moved here, I **had lived** in Paris for five years.

Present Perfect: Who is that woman. I **have never seen** her before.

Past Perfect: I didn't know that woman. I **had never seen** her before.

Read these short conversations and explain the idioms in bold text.

A: We arrested the men who stole your car.

B: I'm glad you caught them. I hope they **get what's coming to them**.

C: The answer is 775.

D: **Close, but no cigar**. The correct answer is 777.

E. Is there **any truth to the rumor** that the president hasn't been paying his taxes.

F. I don't know if it's true, but **where there's smoke there's fire**.

G. I know you don't want to stay in school for another year, but **the fact of the matter is**, the more schooling you have, the better job you'll get.

H. That **might be true**, but **the fact of the matter is**, many people with no college degree are making more money than those with a degree.

DISCUSS

1. Talk about the G and H conversation. Who do you agree with? Would you insist your kids get a college degree?
2. Do you think most criminals **get what they deserve**, or do many get off **scot-free**?
3. Is crime a big problem in your country? What kind of crime is most common in your country?
4. Do you **misplace** things like your wallet or your keys frequently? Do you have any tricks that help you know where you put everything?
5. What are some advantages in living in a large city?

PRONUNCIATION:

Some Asian languages do not have the W sound. So they say "ood" instead of "wood" or "ool" instead of "wool".

Practice saying these words:

word	window	wall	wolf	water	watch
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Other consonants are added to W to make new sounds. Try these words.

twin	twirl	twist	twenty	swan	swim
sweat	swing	sweet	dwelling	dwarf	dwelling

Exceptions: In the word TWO, do not sound the W. It is pronounced the same as TO.

KW blends are usually spelled with QU. Pronounce the words in the table below.

queen	quack	quick	quote	quiet	quality
frequent	equator	acquaintance	squander	prerequisite	aqua