

RECOGNIZING THE PERFECT TENSES

The three perfect tenses are present perfect, past perfect, and future perfect. They express action *perfected* or *completed* at a definite time. The third principal part (past participle) is used in forming all of the perfect tenses.

The **past participle** is always used with a helper to form the perfect tenses.

The **present perfect tense expresses action completed at the present time or continuing into the present.** *He has driven a truck for many years* (continuing action). The present perfect is formed by using *have* with the past participle except in the third person singular where *has* is used: I *have* seen, you *have* seen, he *has* seen, we *have* seen, you *have* seen, they *have* seen.

The **past perfect tense expresses action completed before a stated or known time in the past.** The past perfect is formed by using *had* with the past participle: I *had* seen you, you *had* seen, he *had* seen, we *had* seen, they *had* seen.

The **future perfect tense expresses action which will be completed before a definite time in the future.** The future perfect is formed by using *shall have* or *will have* with the past participle: I *shall have* seen, you *will have* seen, they *will have* seen.

Tell the tense of each verb in boldface by writing **pr p** for present perfect, **pp** for past perfect, and **fp** for future perfect.

Examples: pr p Liz has broken her ankle.

1. **Has** the bell **rung**? 1. _____
2. The squirrels **had fled**. 2. _____
3. All the pipes **had burst**. 3. _____
4. Surely he **will have eaten** by seven o'clock. 4. _____
5. He **has** always **grown** corn for cattle fodder. 5. _____
6. Where **have** they **hidden** the gifts? 6. _____
7. **Had** he ever **flown** in a helicopter before? 7. _____
8. By this time tomorrow **I shall have given** my report. 8. _____
9. She **had written** her report before class started. 9. _____
10. The group **will have taken** their tests by Tuesday. 10. _____

11. We **had** already **brought** our home movies to class. 11. _____
12. **Have** you ever **swum** in the Pacific Ocean? 12. _____
13. The child **had fallen**, but he hadn't hurt himself. 13. _____
14. **Have** you **worn** your new sweater? 14. _____
15. The opponents **had fought** three rounds before being stopped. 15. _____
16. By evening the traffic **will have begun** to decrease. 16. _____
17. We **shall have gone** to Detroit before June. 17. _____
18. **Have** you **heard** the good news? 18. _____
19. You **have torn** your new shirt. 19. _____
20. The wind **has** not **blown** so hard in years. 20. _____
21. He **will have gone** several hundred miles by the time he returns. 21. _____
22. Surely they **will have chosen** a ring by then. 22. _____
23. Until the fire burned brightly, we **had shivered** from the cold. 23. _____
24. She **has spoken** to the group once a year. 24. _____
25. He **had drawn** all the illustrations. 25. _____