Past Perfect Exercises

Positive and negative sentences

A. Add the past perfect form of the verb

He _____ his keys. (lose)
→ He ____had lost____ his keys. *OR* He'd lost _____ his keys.

1. They _____ their homework yet. (not finish)
2. I _____ my clothes before it started raining. (wash)
3. She _____ already _____ when I arrived. (leave)
4. We _____ Rome twice before moving there. (visit)
5. James _____ dinner that night. (make)
6. The dog _____ all day. (not eat)
7. Ethel and I _____ the series twice already. (watch)
8. Mia and Oliver _____ their grandparents in years. (not see)
9. Alice wasn't there. She _____ to the park. (go)
10. He _____ to Japan before. (not go)

B. Make past perfect sentences with these words. Use short forms where possible.

brush / yet / my / teeth / I / not
→ I hadn't brushed my teeth yet.

11. speak / not / she / to / Kate _____
12. he / all / day / work _____
13. good / a / they / have / time _____
14. train / leave / already / the _____
15. David / for / years / work / there / not _____
16. live / in / 2015 / we / since / Sydney _____
17. movie / see / I / the / not / before _____
18. the students / not / study / the test / for _____
19. the / done / dishes / Helen _____
20. charge / my / not / phone / overnight _____

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Answers

A.

1. They **had not finished** their homework yet. / They **hadn't finished** their homework yet.
2. I **had washed** my clothes before it started raining. / I**'d washed** my clothes before it started raining.
3. She **had** already **left** when I arrived. / She**'d** already **left** when I arrived.
4. We **had visited** Rome twice before moving there. / We**'d visited** Rome twice before moving there.
5. James **had made** dinner that night.
   (NB: We do not usually contract nouns and ***had*** when we write, so we do not usually write "James'd".)
6. The dog **had not eaten** all day. / The dog **hadn't eaten** all day.
7. Ethel and I **had watched** the series twice already.
   (NB: The contraction of "I had" is "I'd", but we do not usually contract it if it is with another noun, so we do not usually write "Ethel and I'd watched".)
8. Mia and Oliver **had not seen** their grandparents in years. / Mia and Oliver **hadn't seen** their grandparents in years.
9. Alice wasn't there. She **had gone** to the park. / She**'d gone** to the park.
   See: https://learnenglishgrammar.com/been-and-gone/
10. He **had not been** to Japan before. / He **hadn't been** to Japan before.
    See: https://learnenglishgrammar.com/been-and-gone/

B.

11. She hadn't spoken to Kate.
12. He'd worked all day.
13. They'd had a good time.
14. The train had already left. / The train had left already.
15. David hadn't worked there for years.
16. We'd lived in Sydney since 2015. / Since 2015 we'd lived in Sydney.
17. I hadn't seen the movie before.
18. The students hadn't studied for the test.
19. Helen had done the dishes.
20. My phone hadn't charged overnight.

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