

THE TENSES

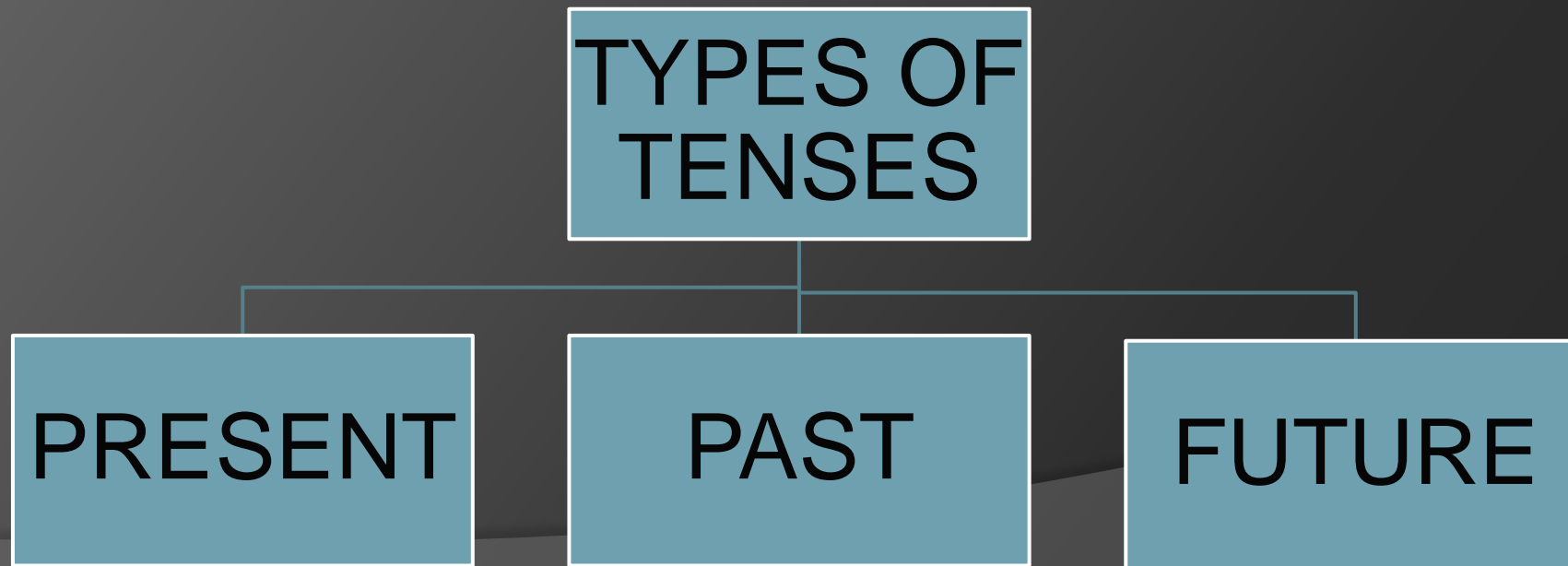
Learning Objectives:

- To be able to identify the verb and tense in a sentence
- To be able to write a sentence using the appropriate tense.

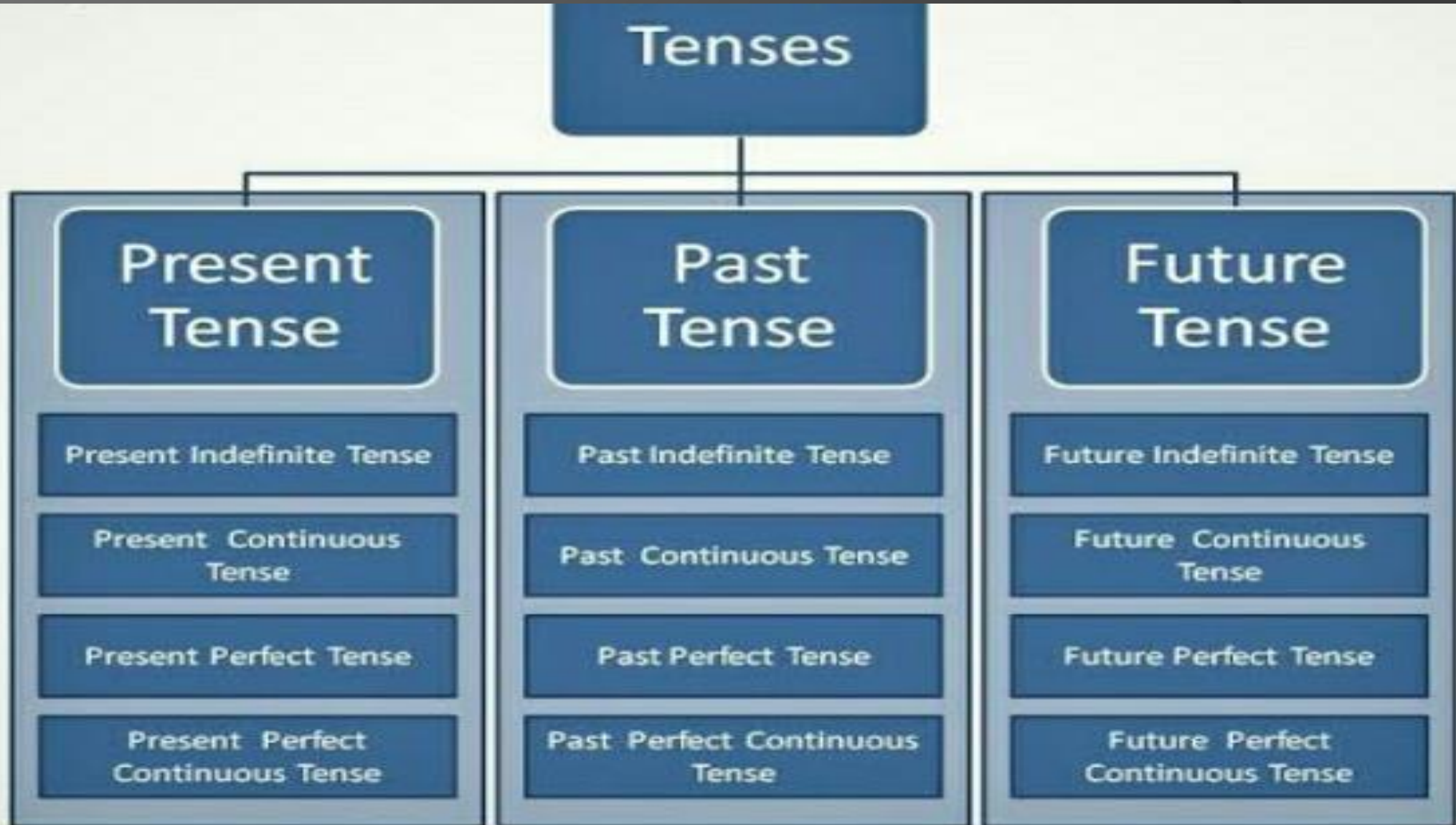
Tense refers to the time at which an action takes place.

For example: I go to the school in the morning.

➤ 'Go' is the verb or an action word.



Each of these three tenses has four parts:



Let's talk about the most important part of
present tense, i.e
Present Indefinite Tense

Usage:

1- Habitual actions

For example: He **gets up** early in the morning.

2- Scientific facts

For example: Water **boils** at 1000 Centigrade.

3- Universal facts/ General truth.

For example: The sun **rises** in the east.

The daily routine of an individual can be written in this tense.

For example:

I get up at 6 am in the morning. After getting up I get freshen up followed by a bath and seek god's blessings for a wonderful day ahead.

Then, I dress up to proceed for the school. My father drops me to the school by his car. My friends greet me as soon as I reach the school.

The next thing to take care is the subject(the doer of the action) we need to see whether the subject is singular or plural.

Let me clarify it, 'My father' is singular where as 'My friends' is plural.

- **We use 's' or 'es' with the singular subject only, like, My father drops.**
- **Here, let me tell you even though 'I' is singular, being an exceptional case, it does not take 's' or 'es'.**

Fill in the blanks with appropriate form of the verb given in the brackets.

1. The plane at 6.30. (arrive)

2. I will phone you when he back. (come)

3. Unless we now we can't be there on time. (start)

4. The sun in the east. (rise)

5. The next term on Monday. (begin)

6. She an engineer. (be)

7. They our relatives. (be)

8. When does the train? (depart)

9. Let's wait till he his work. (finish)

10. Please ring me up as soon as he (arrive)

Present Continuous Tense

Usage:

1- Action taking place at the time of speaking.

For example: I am teaching 'The Tenses' at present.

2- Action continued over a period of time in the present.

For example: I am working on a new project nowadays.

Key- words: Nowadays, at present, these days etc

For example:

- I am teaching tenses.
- You are learning English now.
- You are sitting at your home.
- The school is providing you the benefit of advanced technology.

Fill in the blanks with appropriate form of the verb given in the brackets:

1. Where you now? (be,go)
2. He Don't disturb him now. (study)
3. Rani the plants.(water)
4. I to hear from them.(wait)
5. We for the test.(prepare)
6. Radha a sweater for her daughter.(knit)
7. Rahul his homework.(do)
8. The dog the cat. (chase)

Present Perfect Continuous Tense

Usage:

Action started somewhere in the past but being done now.

- For example: I **have been living** in Baroda for the last two years.
- For example: She **has been studying** in this school for two years.

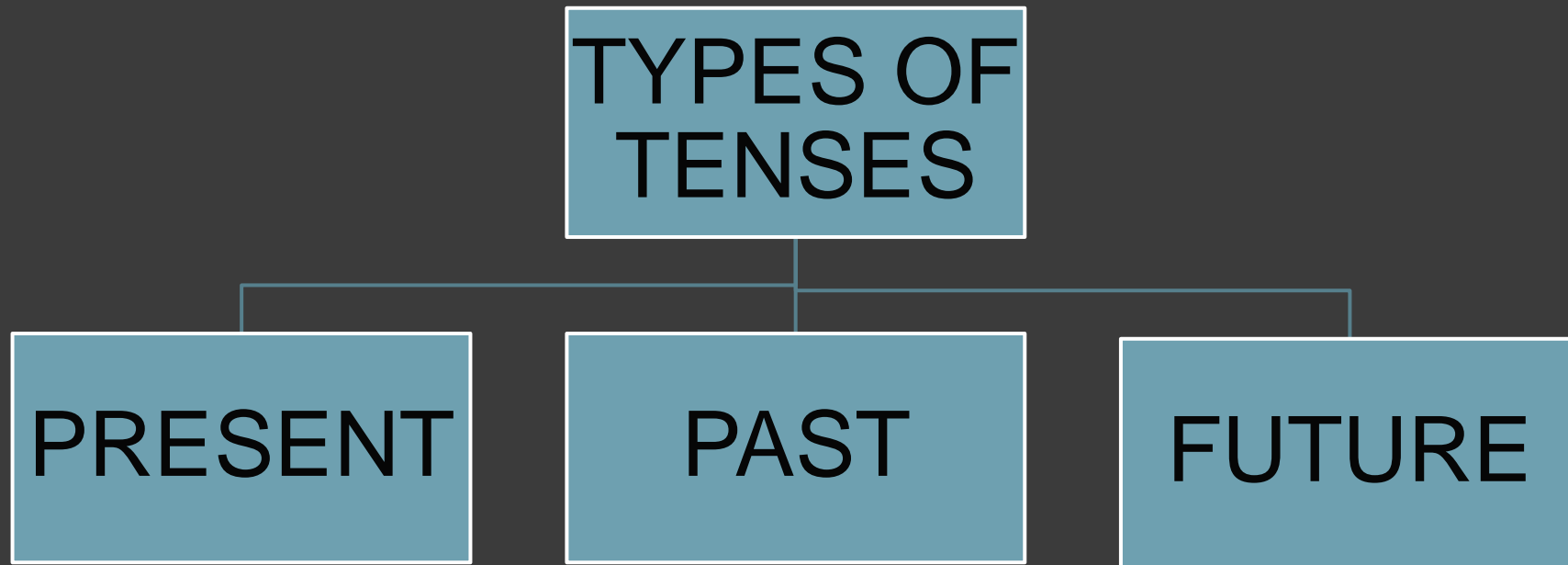
Key- words: Since, for

Examples of Present Perfect Continuous Tense:

- I have been writing articles on different topics since morning.
- He has been reading the book for two hours.
- They have been playing football for an hour.

THE TENSES

Recap:



PRESENT TENSE:

Present Simple	Present Progressive	Present Perfect	Present Perfect Progressive
<p data-bbox="142 472 290 536">infinitive</p>	<p data-bbox="733 472 1281 546"><i>be (am/are/is) + infinitive + ing</i></p>	<p data-bbox="1327 472 1727 546"><i>has/have + past tense</i></p>	<p data-bbox="1921 472 2448 629"><i>has/have + been + infinitive + ing</i></p>
<p data-bbox="142 646 389 711">I kick the ball.</p> <p data-bbox="142 732 224 796">I go.</p>	<p data-bbox="733 646 1098 711">I am kicking the ball.</p> <p data-bbox="733 732 970 796">She is going.</p>	<p data-bbox="1327 646 1717 711">I have kicked the ball.</p> <p data-bbox="1327 732 1589 796">She has gone.</p>	<p data-bbox="1921 646 2415 711">I have been kicking the ball.</p> <p data-bbox="1921 732 2288 796">She has been going.</p>
<p data-bbox="142 903 690 1053">Often used for habitual actions or general truths.</p>	<p data-bbox="733 903 1289 1146">An ongoing event is happening at the time of speaking or writing.</p>	<p data-bbox="1327 903 1862 1146">An action began in the past and continues in the present. Experiences. Reporting news.</p>	<p data-bbox="1921 903 2474 1310">An event began in the past, continues in the present and may continue in the future. OR An action began in the past and has just stopped.</p>

Recap:

PRESENT TENSE:

INDEFINITE	CONTINUOUS	PERFECT	PERFECT CONTINUOUS
I learn	I am learning	I have learned	I have been learning.

PAST TENSE

Past indefinite (Simple)

The **simple past** is a verb tense that is used to talk about things that happened or existed before now.

Usage:

Action done in remote past.

I **went** to Mathura yesterday

I **did not go** to Mathura yesterday.

Key- words: – yesterday, last etc.

Uses of the Simple Past:

The Simple Past Tense is used

(i) to indicate an action that was completed in the past. Generally the adverbials of the past time are used:

- I went to Delhi yesterday.
- He wrote a letter to her last week.
- She met us two days ago.

(ii) sometimes without adverbials of time:

- My father congratulated me on my brilliant success.
- Our team won the match.

(iii) for an activity done in the past:

- Satish studied for three hours.
- I swam for half an hour.
- We talked for five minutes,

(iv) to express a habitual or regular action in the past:

- My father always got up at 4 a.m.
- She visited the temple every day.
- He worked in his garden every Sunday.

(v) in conditional clauses:

- If you went there, you should meet him.
- If she worked hard, she would pass.
- If he accepted my advice, he would overcome his difficulty.

(vi) in the indirect form of speech:

- He said, "I work for eight hours every day."
He said that he worked for eight hours every day.

Past Continuous

Usage:

An action done progressively in the past.

He was working on a project, when I last visited him.

Key- words: those days, etc.

(i) to express a state or an action that was continuing at a certain point of time in the past. It had begun before that point and was probably continuing after it. We use adverbials of time.

- She was cooking at 8 a.m.
- I was going to college in the morning.
- Was the farmer returning from his fields in the evening?

(ii) to express an action that was in progress in the past:

- He was sleeping.
- She was singing.

(iii) to express an action in progress at some point of time in the past when another event took place:

- She was watching T.V. when he came.
- He was reading a novel when the door bell rang.
- I was sleeping when my father came from his office.

(iv) to describe two or more actions continuing at the same time:

- While I was bathing, my sister was washing clothes.
- While he was doing homework, his brother was listening to songs.

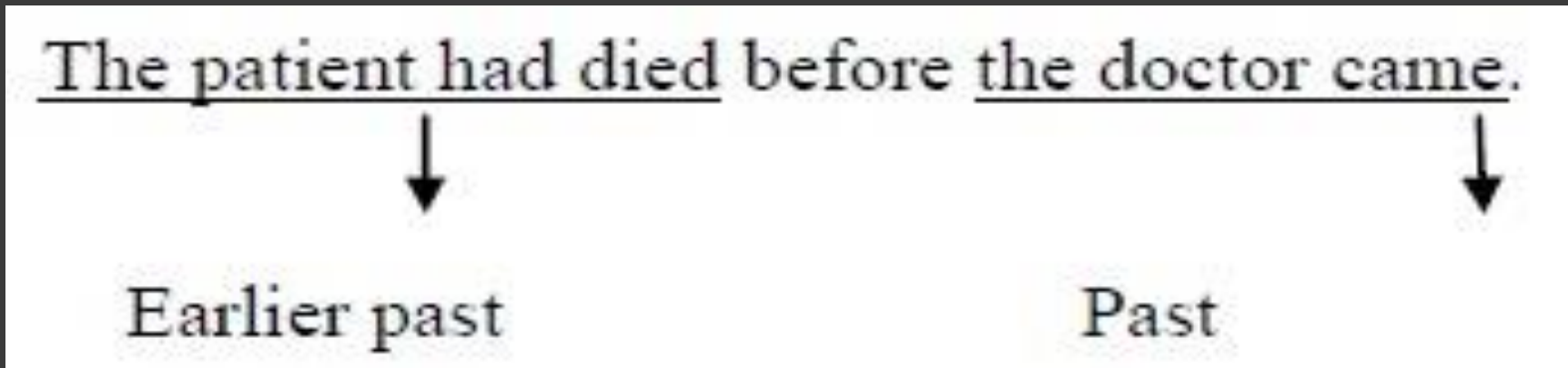
(v) to indicate a frequently repeated action or persistent habit in the past:

- He was constantly complaining about something or the other.
- She was always finding fault with my work.
- Sohan was always smoking whether at home or in office.

Past Perfect

Usage:

An action completed in the past before a said time or another action.



Key- words: before, when, as soon as etc

Uses of Past Perfect Tense:

The Past Perfect Tense is used:

(i) for an action that had been completed before another action began in the past:

- I had done my work before he came.
- The guests had already left when she reached there.

(ii) to describe an action taking place before a particular time in the past:

- By 2 p.m. all the students had left the school.
- By 6 a.m. he had left for Delhi.

(iii) to describe an action in the past which became the cause of another action:

- The child was crying because the father had beaten him.
- Sonu was weeping because he had lost his bag.

(iv) to describe an action in the past using the time adverbials such as already, since, before, etc:

- He had already left for Ludhiana.
- She had not come here since 1960.
- They had not met each other before.

(v) to express an unfulfilled wish:

- If you had worked hard, you would have passed.
- If they had left early, they would have caught the train.

Past Perfect Continuous

Usage:

An action being done continuously for the said period in the past.

She had been reading for two hours when I reached her house.

Key- words: since, for

(i) to describe an action in the past that had begun and had been going on for sometime before another action took place in the past:

- She had been dancing for half an hour when we reached there.
- The match had been going on for several hours.

(ii) to express a repeated action in the past:

- She had always been asking us for help.
- They had been trying to meet the Prime Minister.

(iii) to describe an action which began before the time of speaking in the past. The action either stopped before that time or continued upto it:

- The farmer had been ploughing since morning.
- The children had been playing for the last one hour.

The 4 Past Tenses	Examples	Uses
simple past tense	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="563 339 817 382">• I went.<li data-bbox="563 425 1001 658">• The Martians landed near the aqueduct.	<p data-bbox="1195 275 2333 451">The simple past tense is used to describe a completed activity that started in the past and ended in the past.</p>
past progressive tense	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="563 861 945 903">• I was going.<li data-bbox="563 946 970 1236">• He was painting the door when a bird struck the window.	<p data-bbox="1195 793 2377 1026">The past progressive tense is used to describe an ongoing activity in the past. Often, it is used to set the scene for another action.</p>

past
perfect
tense

- I had gone.
- Silverfinger had taken the pill before the team reached him.

The past perfect tense is used to emphasize that an action was completed before another took place.

past
perfect
progressive

- I had been going.
- She had been painting the door before the dog scratched it.

The past perfect progressive tense is used to show that an ongoing action in the past has ended.