



Understanding the Uses of the Past Perfect Tense
with
Jan Thüring's Award-winning Short Film *The Raft*



🎬 Watch Jan Thüring's short film *The Raft*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QI7Oe5LNAIL>.
Then complete the exercises below.

Part A. Using the Past Perfect Tense to Show the Order of Completed Events in the Past

Instructions: Review Section 2.2 ("Past Time Events") of the *Developing Details* card. Then complete the sentences below with verbs from the box. Use the past perfect tense. Also, add the adverbs in parentheses. The first one has been done as an example.

be (already)	pick
die	take (already)
decide	work
eat (never)	

1. When the film began, the men had already been on the raft for 7 days.
2. Both men _____ by the time the ship appeared.
3. The men _____ well together before they caught the fish.
4. By the time the men began to fight, both of them _____ up weapons.
5. By the time the shark arrived, the man on the raft _____ to save the fish instead of his friend.
6. By the time the men were finished celebrating, one of the men _____ a bite of the fish.
7. The men _____ a raw fish before that day.
8. Using your own words, write another sentence about the film using the past perfect tense.

Part B. Using the Past Perfect in Hypotheses about the Past (Past Unreal Conditional Sentences)

Instructions: Review Section 7 (“Stating Facts, Predictions and Hypotheses with *If*”) of the *Developing Details* card. Then complete the sentences below with verbs from the box. Use the past perfect tense. Also, add “not” when indicated. The first one has been done as an example.

die (not)	come
eat	have
come (not)	be (not)

1. If the men had not died, the ship would probably have rescued them.
2. If the blond man _____ the fish more slowly, he might not have choked.
3. The blond man could have saved his friend from the shark if the bird _____ back for the fish.
4. The men would have been rescued if the ship _____ earlier.
5. If the men _____ fishing equipment, they could have caught more fish.
6. If the men _____ so hungry, they would not have fought.
7. Using your own words, write another hypothesis about the film using the past perfect tense.
