Past Perfect: Exercises

1. **Past ⇒ Past Perfect**

   *Example:* Mr. Clark forgot to set the alarm clock ("den Wecker stellen"), so the clock did not ring.

   ⇒ The alarm clock did not ring because *Mr Clark had forgotten to set it*.

   a) The bus left before Mr Clark got to the bus stop.
   b) The next bus had an accident, so Mr Clark had to wait another 27 minutes.
   c) His boss asked for him twice before he arrived in his office.
   d) He asked his secretary for a cup of tea, but she brought coffee.
   e) He dictated 10 letters into the dictaphone, but then he found out that it was out of order.

   a) When Mr Clark got to the bus stop the bus _________________.
   b) As the next bus _____________ an accident Mr Clark had to wait another 27 minutes.
   c) By the time he arrived in his office his boss _________________.
   d) His secretary brought coffee although he ________________ for a cup of tea.
   e) He found out that the dictaphone was out of order after ________________ 10 letters.

2. **Past or Past Perfect?**

   *Examples: went or had gone, saw or had seen?*

   a) Last Sunday Tom gave me back a book which I (to lend) ________________ him last Easter.
   b) When he gave me the book, he (to say) __________ that he (to enjoy) ________________ it very much.
   c) But I knew that he (not to read) _____ _____ _____ it because he (not to know) ______
   d) ______ _________ anything about it.
   e) When the doctor (to arrive) ______________ at last John (to be) ______________ ill for 3 days.

3. **Past or Past Perfect?**

   *Translate:*

   ab) Als die Gäste ankamen, hatte unsere Tochter schon den Tisch gedeckt. ⇒ When the guests

   (to arrive) ______________ our daughter (to lay) ______________ the table.
   cd) Er verstand sie nicht, weil er nie Englisch gelernt hatte. ⇒ He (to understand) ______ _____

   ______________ her because he (never, to learn) _____ _____ ______ English.
   ef) Nachdem ich den Krimi gesehen hatte, ging ich ins Bett. ⇒ After I (to watch) ______________

   the thriller I (to go) ______________ to bed.
   gh) Sie hatte den Brief schon eine Woche, bevor sie ihn mir zeigte. ⇒ She (to have) ______________

   the letter for a week before she (to show) ______________ it to me.
   i) Zu jener Zeit arbeitete ich schon seit drei Jahren in London. ⇒ At that time I (to work) ______________

   ______ _________ in London for three years.