## LO: I am learning to use the perfect tense

This week you are going to re-write the ending of the Highwayman.

To do this successfully, you will need to use perfect tense.

Look at the next examples below to understand the difference between past and present perfect.



Present perfect refers to an event that started in the past but has carried on up to the present.

In the example, he met Sam in the past and is still friends with him now.

He began playing the piano in the past and still plays the piano now.

This is different to simple past 'I knew Sam' and 'I played piano' as these indicate they happened once in the past but does not happen now.

To write in present perfect, use 'has' or 'have' and the past tense form of the verb.

Present perfect = has + past tense of the verbs e.g. galloped, trotted, walked etc

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This week you are going to re-write the ending of the Highwayman.

To do this successfully, you will need to use perfect tense.

Look at the next examples below to understand the difference between past and present perfect.



Past perfect refers to an event that continued for a period of time in the past but was completed in the past.

In the example, he met Sam before they joined scouts—scouts was joined though in the past.

He began playing the piano in the past and it came before the violin—the violin was started in the past though.

This is different to simple past 'I knew Sam' and 'I played piano' as these indicate they happened once in the past rather than for a period of time.

To write in past perfect, use 'had' and the past tense form of the verb.

Past perfect = had + past tense of the verb e.g. walked, run, fled etc.

**Task 1:** For each set of sentences, explain the effect that is created. The first one has been done for you.

Tim the ostler, <u>had fallen</u> in love with Bess. / Tim the ostler <u>has fallen</u> in love with Bess.

'Had fallen' indicates that he fell in love with Bess for a period of time in the past but he is no longer in love with her, whereas 'has fallen' indicates that he fell in love with Bess in the past but is still in love with her now.

The redcoats <u>have drunk</u> some of the landlord's ale. / The redcoats <u>had</u> <u>drunk</u> some of the landlord's ale.

The wind <u>has blown</u> some leaves off the trees. / The wind <u>had blown</u> some leaves off the trees.

The highwayman <u>had promised</u> he would return. / The highwayman <u>has</u> promised he would return.

**Task 2:** Write your own sentence pairs about your new ending to the poem. Write in past and present tense and then underline the one you would use.

**Task 3:** Reread your plan from Day 1, thinking about the plan as the plot of a story. Now write some sentences about the plot of your version using the perfect form, on a piece of paper. There are some examples on the third page.

