**Past Perfect / El Pretérito Pluscuamperfecto**

**What is it? When is it used?**

It is used to talk about actions that happened before another event in the past, that is, to indicate what someone “had done” before a specific time or event. More simply, it is used to talk about events that ended before another event in the past.

**Examples:**

A las 7:15 am, Marcos se había bañado. - At 7:15 am, Marcos had bathed.

A las 7:30 am, Marcos había desayunado. - At 7:30 am, Marcos had had breakfast.

A las 7:40 am, Marcos había terminado de comer. – At 7:40 am, Marcos had finished eating.

**The structure: How is it formed?**

It is necessary to use the verb “to have (auxiliary) + the past participle, for example, “I had eaten” or “She had traveled.” The verb “to have (auxiliary) is “HABER” **not** “TENER.” The SEIS PERSONA format of HABER are as follows:

1. Había 4. Habíamos
2. Habías 5. Habían
3. Había 6. Habían

To make the past participle in Spanish, you need to take off the R, ER, or IR verb ending and add the corresponding verb ending of “ADO or IDO,” for example, “escuchar = escuchado, comer = comido, and/or vivir = vivido.”

**Examples:**

1. ¿Tu habías escuchado de esa actriz alguna vez? Had you ever Heard of that actress?
2. El venado había escapade antes que los cazadores llegaron. The deer had escaped before the hunters arrived.
3. Marcela no había terminado el reporte anoche. Marcela had not finished the report last night.
4. Yo todavía no había terminado cuando el me quito el examen. I had not yet finished when he took up the exam.
5. Ellos habían dicho que no iban a la fiesta desde la semana pasada. Since last week, they had said that they were not going to the party.