SUBJECT:

“ [...] the perfect construction occurs in present, past and non-finite forms, all of which typically express anteriority to a reference point.”


Discuss.

Candidates will use relevant excerpts from the following corpus to address the above topic.
Excerpt 1
“Lady Bertram, I do not complain. I know I cannot live as I have done, but I must retrench where I can, and learn to be a better manager. I have been a liberal housekeeper enough, but I shall not be ashamed to practise economy now.”
Jane Austen, *Persuasion*, 1818

Excerpt 2
She may have been frightened. So perhaps she escaped. It would have been like Charlotte to do that to escape. Perhaps she was running. It was dark. She was in the country. She wouldn’t have been familiar with the band. She wouldn’t even have known the canal was there because she’d never been to Wiltshire before.
Elizabeth George, *In the Presence of the Enemy*, 1996

Excerpt 3
“I must have told you about all these cousins when I came home from the funeral, didn’t I?”
Mary Ann shook her head. “I’m sure you must have, Tad, but I really don’t remember.”
Lillian M. Henry, *In Bristol Fashion*, 2009

Excerpt 4
Jarryd then revealed that a troublesome right calf may force him to withdraw from the Swedish team to face West Germany in the Davis Cup final next week. ‘I thought it was getting better,’ he said, ‘but the last couple of days it seems to have got worse.’
*The Guardian*, 1989, BNC

Excerpt 5
For helpful advice, dial Trudy on any of the subjects listed right. 1. I suspect my partner is having an affair. 2. We rarely make love any more. 3. I never realised how everything would change once we had a baby. 4. I don’t think I’m in love any more. 5. My partner has lost his job. 6. How can we get the passion back into our relationship? 7. Knowing when to leave him. 8. Life after the big split.
She, 1989, BNC

Excerpt 6
Jacobs said her friends, family and community have been supportive and she advises those who contract the illness to keep records of everything, which she did since falling ill. [...] She has now recovered completely, and received excellent care from Health Canada follow-up specialists that tracked her and her family’s symptoms as she began to feel better.

Excerpt 7
If you ask rangers in the North Cascades, they all know Colin Haley. They’ve known him since he was a teenager. All the old school guys like Fred Beckey keep tabs on him. All the nameless alpinists in the northwest have watched him come up. “That kid’s been getting after it,” they’ll say. In many ways, he’s still the hometown boy. But there seems to be a time around 2006 where all that he’d been doing around Seattle, all the routes he’d been climbing, reached a critical mass with enough inertia to carry him away from the Cascades. Since then, he’s ramped up the intensity and commitment of his climbing, and of his goals.

Excerpt 8
Something unexpected always happens with Brel’s lyrics. You can’t take them for granted. Having listened to all of his records and having seen him on stage several times, I can never get much pleasure hearing other people, however gifted, sing his songs.
Jeremy Bernstein, *The Crooner and the Physicist*, 2005, COCA

Excerpt 9
Then the teasing began. David and Harriet were commended for their fertility, and jokes were made about the influences of their bedroom. They responded to the jokes with relief. But all this jesting had an edge on it, and people were looking at the young Lovatts differently from the way they had done before.
Doris Lessing, *The Fifth Child*, 2010

Excerpt 10
Q: What are you most proud of?
A: There are several accomplishments which I have achieved since becoming fire chief in October of 1995.
“Atlanta fire chief department facing heat”, *Atlanta Journal Constitution*, 1998, COCA
Excerpt 11
This is the day when the Bankers quit hiding the fact that they choose our presidents, and that the American people have no say in it. The GOP just lost the election by demonstrating utter corruption.
"Disinformation artist Ulsterman was trying to convince us that Romney was running a ‘clean campaign’", <www.rumormillnews.com/cgi-bin/forum.cgi?read=259741>, 2012, COCA

Excerpt 12
Once appointed, circuit judges can be sacked only for incapacity or misbehaviour (one lost his job in 1984 after involvement in a smuggling racket), while to get rid of High Court judges or their seniors demands a joint address of both Houses of Parliament to the Queen.


Excerpt 13
Loretta nodded. “She’s got a beautiful voice, you know.”
“Oh?” He cocked the other eyebrow.
“You know she does, Jason Abernathy! You’ve sung with her often enough.”
“True,” he admitted.
“Yeah, she’s got a great voice,” Malachai confirmed.

Anne Robins, A Perfect Wedding, 2013

Excerpt 14
When it happened, Mr. and Mrs. Miyoshi were in the washroom. They claimed to have heard nothing and it was obvious they did not want to be involved.

William D. Schaefer, In the Annex, 2008, COCA

Excerpt 15
Frankfort, Indiana,
August 24, 1924
My Dearest:
[...] I am very, very glad that you have decided to think no more about your loss in the ring. You have known how I have felt about it for a long time; I did not want you to suffer the loss of the money involved, and yet I did not believe that you should do anything, no matter what the provocation, that might reflect upon that girl’s reputation, which you would have had to have done if a suit had grown out of this.

Ellen Randolph Weatherly, The Captain and His Lady, 2012

Excerpt 16
Medical schools will expect you to have found out about the role of a doctor and what it’s like working in healthcare. They’ll also want evidence of your skills. Gaining experience for medical school can include shadowing, volunteering, paid work and other opportunities.


Excerpt 17
Steve Instance, an RNLI volunteer and surfer, said people needed to think about the impact their actions would have on others and advised surfers to “skip a few weeks”. He points out the problem isn’t a person’s ability to surf, or whether they have gone to the beach alone. If one person goes in the sea to surf and others see this happening and think it’s okay, it can lead to more people going to the beach to follow the trend. With the sunny weather, people have been going to the beach anyway and ignoring government advice on social distancing.

“To Surf or Not to Surf? That is the Burning Question!”, Ocean Magic, 2020, <www.oceanmagic.co.uk>, last accessed in 2021

Excerpt 18
The number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Canberra has jumped from nine to 20 over the past day, prompting the ACT Government to move to shutdown non-essential services and introduce “pupil-free” schools from Tuesday.

The ACT’s chief health officer, Kerryn Coleman, said on Sunday afternoon that 10 Canberrans had been confirmed as newly infected – seven men and three women aged between 21 and 67.

Hours later she announced that one more case had been identified – a student from Lyneham High School.

Dr Coleman said the student had been to school on Tuesday last week while they may have been infectious.

“Coronavirus cases in the ACT more than double in one day as schools become ‘pupil-free’ from Tuesday”, ABC News, 2020, <www.abc.net.au/news>, last accessed in 2021