

Verb Tense Review 2 – The Perfect Tenses

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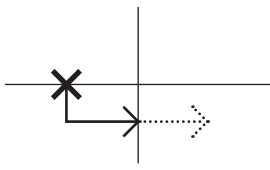
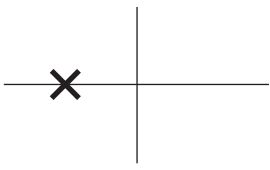
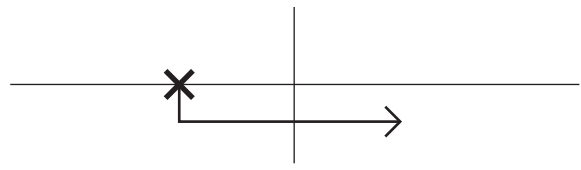
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Grammar Notes

THE 6 PERFECT TENSES & TIME MARKERS

A. Present Perfect & Present Perfect Progressive

Tense	Present Perfect		Present Perfect Progressive
Diagram			
Form	Have / Has + Past Participle		Have / Has + Been + -ing Verb
Function	An action that starts in the past, continues to the present, and may continue to the future.	An undefined past action (we don't know <i>when</i> the action occurred).	An action starts in the past, continues to the present, and will continue into the future.
Time Markers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for • since • all 	(none required, though <i>ever</i> , <i>never</i> , <i>already</i> , <i>still</i> , and <i>yet</i> may be used)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for • since • all
Example	I have studied English for five years.	I have been to Paris.	I have been living in New York City since 2006.

Notes:

- For** and **all** indicate duration.
 - They have been traveling **for** six months.
 - We've been in a meeting **all** morning.
- Since** shows the starting point.
 - He has played the guitar **since** May 2012.
- Ever** emphasizes "at any time in the past."
 - Have you **ever** been to Europe?
- Never** emphasizes "at no time in the past."
 - I've **never** been to Europe.
- Already** emphasizes that an action has occurred.
 - We have **already** read this book.
- Still** and **yet** signify the intention to do something.
 - She **still** hasn't finished the assignment.
 - She hasn't finished the assignment **yet**.

Grammar Notes cont.

B. Past Perfect & Past Perfect Progressive

Tense	Past Perfect	Past Perfect Progressive
Diagram		
Form	Had + Past Participle	Had + Been + -ing Verb
Function	The first past action finished before the second past action.	The first past action continued until the second past action.
Time Markers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by the time • when • before • after <p>(Note: The typical past markers <i>last</i>, <i>yesterday</i>, and <i>ago</i> are often additionally used.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by the time • when • before <p>(Note: The typical progressive markers <i>for</i> and <i>since</i> are often additionally used.)</p>
Examples	I had finished dinner by the time he called me last night.	My sister had been studying English for 11 years before she entered university.

Note:

In English, it is possible to begin a sentence with either an **independent clause** (with the past perfect/past perfect progressive verb) or a **dependent clause** (with the time marker) with no change in meaning. Remember to use a comma when a sentence begins with a dependent clause.

- I **had finished** dinner by the time he called me last night.
- By the time he called me last night, I **had finished** dinner.
- My sister **had been studying** English for 11 years before she entered university.
- Before she entered university, my sister **had been studying** English for 11 years.

Grammar Notes cont.

C. Future Perfect & Future Perfect Progressive

Tense	Future Perfect	Future Perfect Progressive
Diagram		
Form	Will + Have + Past Participle	Will + Have + Been + -ing Verb
Function	The first future action will finish before the second future action.	The first future action will continue until the second future action.
Time Markers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> by the time when before (Note: The typical future markers <i>next, tomorrow, and from now</i> are often additionally used.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> by the time when before (Note: The typical progressive marker <i>for</i> is often additionally used.)
Examples	I will have finished dinner by the time she calls me tonight.	I will have been studying for two hours by the time she calls me tonight.

Note:

In English, it is possible to begin a sentence with either an **independent clause** (with the future perfect/future perfect progressive verb) or a **dependent clause** (with the time marker) with no change in meaning. Remember to use a comma when a sentence begins with a dependent clause.

- I **will have finished** dinner by the time she calls me tonight.
- By the time she calls me tonight, I **will have finished** dinner.
- I **will have been studying** for two hours by the time she calls me tonight.
- By the time she calls me tonight, I **will have been studying** for two hours.

Exercise 1

PRESENT PERFECT & SIMPLE PAST

Write the simple past or present perfect form of the verb in parentheses.

1. I'm late. The class has already started.
(start)
2. I _____ in a course a week ago.
(enroll)
3. _____ you _____ preparing your presentation last night?
(finish)
4. She _____ me back yesterday.
(call, not)
5. My accountant _____ me the tax package.
(give)
6. The athlete _____ for hours on the weekend.
(train)
7. I sang while I _____ my house.
(clean)
8. He _____ the latest news.
(hear, not)
9. I _____ my face and I went to bed.
(wash)
10. _____ you _____ for Paris yet?
(leave)

Exercise 2

PRESENT PERFECT & PRESENT PERFECT PROGRESSIVE

Change the present perfect into the present perfect progressive whenever it's possible.

1. She has studied French for seven years.

She has been studying French for seven years.

2. The old woman has lived in this apartment since 1976.
-

3. I have never been to this neighborhood before.
-

4. Our teacher has given us a lot of homework lately.
-

5. My brother has watched TV for the past two hours.
-

6. We have made an appointment to meet with the CEO.
-

7. Our waiter has only come by our table once.
-

8. Have you already seen this movie?
-

9. They have tried to fix the problem.
-

10. My mother hasn't spoken to me about my behavior yet.
-

Exercise 3

PAST PERFECT & PAST PERFECT PROGRESSIVE

Fill in the blanks with a verb from the box.
Use the past perfect or the past perfect progressive tense.

- The students had written their final exams before they graduated.
- His sister _____ for eight hours before her alarm clock rang.
- My father _____ for two hours by the time the doctor saw him.
- By the time he left work for the day, Mr. Jones _____ the report.
- By the time she arrived at the restaurant, they _____ home.
- My aunt _____ for three hours before everyone showed up.

Word List:

- wait
- go
- cook
- sleep
- write
- finish

Exercise 4

FUTURE PERFECT & FUTURE PERFECT PROGRESSIVE

Find and correct the error in each future perfect or future perfect progressive sentence.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. She will have been waiting for two hours by the time the doctor saw her.
<u>She will have been waiting for two hours by the time the doctor sees her.</u></p> | <p>4. Her teacher will have graded her final exam before she apply to university.
_____</p> |
| <p>2. Mrs. Cooper will has been traveling for weeks by the time she has to return the rental car.
_____</p> | <p>5. The class will have been reading Chapter 4 before they begin Chapter 5.
_____</p> |
| <p>3. My friend will have been feeding his dog before he takes it to the vet.
_____</p> | <p>6. By the time they will have been going to the national competition, the teammates will have been playing together for months.
_____</p> |

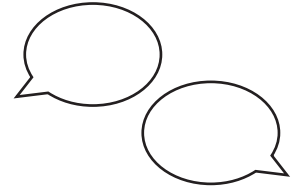
Exercise 5

ALL 6 PERFECT TENSES

A. Speaking

Tell your partner about your life's accomplishments and your future plans.

- Talk about your past achievements.
Use the present perfect, past perfect, and/or past perfect progressive.
- Talk about goals you are working toward now.
Use the present perfect and/or present perfect progressive.
- Talk about your future plans.
Use the future perfect and/or future perfect progressive.



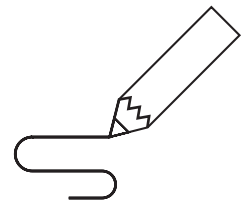
Examples:

- I had been learning French for four years by the time I was ten years old.
- I have been married for 14 years.
- I will have traveled all over the world for work before I retire.

B. Writing

Now write about your partner's life achievements and goals in your notebook.

- Write two sentences about past achievements.
Use the present perfect, past perfect, and/or past perfect progressive.
- Write two sentences about goals he or she is working toward now.
Use the present perfect and/or present perfect progressive.
- Write two sentences about future plans.
Use the future perfect and/or future perfect progressive.



Examples:

- Lisa had received two science awards before she entered high school.
- Lisa has been driving for six years.
- Lisa will have been studying English for 25 years by the time she is 40.

Exercise 6

ALL 6 PERFECT TENSES

Make sentences with the verb forms indicated below. Choose a suitable time marker for each sentence. Words in parentheses will be necessary for some tenses, but not for others.

1. she / finish dinner / he / called

Past Perfect: She had finished dinner by the time he called.

Future Perfect: She will have finished dinner by the time he calls.

2. my cousin / play / the guitar / several years

Present Perfect: _____

Present Perfect Progressive: _____

3. everyone / leave / my coworker / lock up

Past Perfect: _____

Future Perfect: _____

4. my friend / do / yoga / 1995

Present Perfect: _____

Present Perfect Progressive: _____

5. you / sleep / eight hours / I / call / you

Past Perfect Progressive: _____

Future Perfect Progressive: _____

6. she / live / overseas / (get married)

Present Perfect: _____

Past Perfect: _____

Future Perfect: _____

7. he / study / English / for five years / (2015 or 2025)

Present Perfect Progressive: _____

Past Perfect Progressive: _____

Future Perfect Progressive: _____

Exercise 7

ALL 12 SIMPLE & PERFECT TENSES

Write each verb in the correct verb tense to complete the story. Some tenses will be used more than once. If more than one tense is possible, try to list all the possibilities.

My Career Path

When I was a child, I really want

1. be 2. want

to be a ballerina. By the time I be ten years old,

3. be

I practice ballet for six years. One day, I dance onstage when I

4. practice 5. dance

fall and twist my ankle. I had to stop dancing for a while.

6. fall 7. twist 8. stop

After that, I become interested in interior design. I spend hours

9. become 10. spend

rearranging my mother's furniture. I learn, already a lot by the time I enter

11. learn, already 12. enter

college to do my degree in interior design.

13. do

Now I work at a design firm downtown. I love my job! I work

14. work 15. love 16. work

here for two years. I work here for three years by the time I get my own office.

17. work 18. get

I feel very satisfied at that time.

19. feel

In my life, I have a lot of practice designing and decorating rooms.

20. have

I think I be quite good at it, too.

21. think 22. be

Can you believe that by the time I be 65, I work

23. believe 24. be 25. work

at the same company for 25 years? At that time, I think I be ready to retire.

26. think 27. be

Verb Tenses:

- simple present
- present progressive
- simple past
- past progressive
- simple future
- future progressive
- present perfect
- present perfect progressive
- past perfect
- past perfect progressive
- future perfect
- future perfect progressive

Exercise 8

QUIZ: ALL 12 SIMPLE & PERFECT TENSES

Circle the correct verb tense for each sentence.

1. By the time she gets this message, we _____ the meeting.
 - a) will start
 - b) will have been starting
 - c) will have started
 - d) are starting
2. My roommate must be tired. She _____ for nine hours.
 - a) am sleeping
 - b) has been sleeping
 - c) will have been sleeping
 - d) will be sleeping
3. _____ to Japan?
 - a) Have you traveled
 - b) Did you travel
 - c) Are you traveled
 - d) Had you traveled
4. Mr. Jacobs _____ here since 1991.
 - a) taught
 - b) will be teaching
 - c) is teaching
 - d) has been teaching
5. My husband's cell phone rang while he _____ .
 - a) had driven
 - b) had been driving
 - c) was driving
 - d) drove
6. By the time their friend arrived, they _____ for three hours.
 - a) will have been waiting
 - b) have been waiting
 - c) had been waiting
 - d) are waiting
7. When he finishes preparing for his presentation, he _____ home.
 - a) will go
 - b) goes
 - c) will have gone
 - d) will have been going
8. He had been studying for two hours when the doorbell _____ .
 - a) rang
 - b) had been ringing
 - c) was ringing
 - d) had rung
9. They _____ by the time the university president resigns.
 - a) will have been graduating
 - b) had graduated
 - c) had been graduating
 - d) will have graduated
10. I _____ what you mean.
 - a) saw
 - b) will be seeing
 - c) see
 - d) am seeing

Answer Key

LESSON DESCRIPTION:

This review lesson includes exercises that combine the present perfect, present perfect progressive, past perfect, past perfect progressive, future perfect, and future perfect progressive tenses. Use this lesson as a review or quiz after studying the tenses separately. Students will also have a chance to try exercises that combine all 12 tenses.

LEVEL: Adv

TIME: 2 hours

TAGS: verb tenses, perfect tenses, present perfect, past perfect, future perfect, present perfect progressive, past perfect progressive, future perfect progressive, quiz, mixed tenses, perfect tense review, verb tense review

Exercise 1

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. has, started | 6. trained |
| 2. enrolled | 7. cleaned |
| 3. Did, finish | 8. hasn't heard |
| 4. didn't call | 9. washed |
| 5. has given | 10. Have, left |

Exercise 2

1. She has been studying French for seven years.
2. The old woman has been living in this apartment since 1976.
3. Not possible.
4. Our teacher has been giving us a lot of homework lately.
5. My brother has been watching TV for the past two hours.
6. Not possible.
7. Not possible.
8. Not possible.
9. They have been trying to fix the problem.
10. Not possible.

Exercise 3

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. had written | 4. had finished |
| 2. had been sleeping | 5. had gone |
| 3. had been waiting | 6. had been cooking |

Exercise 4

1. She will have been waiting for two hours by the time the doctor **sees** her.
2. Mrs. Cooper will **have** been traveling for weeks by the time she has to return the rental car.
3. My friend will have **fed** his dog before he takes it to the vet.
4. Her teacher will have graded her final exam before she **applies** to university.
5. The class will have **read** Chapter 4 before they begin Chapter 5.
6. By the time they **go** to the national competition, the teammates will have been playing together for months.

Exercise 5

Individual answers.

(continued on the next page...)

Answer Key cont.

Exercise 6

Time markers will vary.

1. She had finished dinner by the time he called.
She will have finished dinner by the time he calls.
2. My cousin has played the guitar for several years.
My cousin has been playing the guitar for several years.
3. Everyone had left by the time the coworker locked up.
Everyone will have left by the time my coworker locks up.
4. My friend has done yoga since 1995.
My friend has been doing yoga since 1995.
5. You had been sleeping for eight hours by the time I called you.
You will have been sleeping for eight hours by the time I call you.
6. She has lived overseas.
She had lived overseas before she got married.
She will have lived overseas before she gets married.
7. He has been studying English for five years.
He had been studying English for five years by 2015.
He will have been studying English for five years by 2025.

Exercise 7

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1. was | 16. have been working /
have worked |
| 2. wanted | |
| 3. was | 17. will have been working /
will have worked |
| 4. had been practicing | |
| 5. was dancing | 18. get |
| 6. fell | 19. will feel / will be feeling |
| 7. twisted | 20. have had |
| 8. stop | 21. think |
| 9. became | 22. am |
| 10. spent | 23. believe |
| 11. had already learned | 24. am |
| 12. entered | 25. will have been working /
will have worked |
| 13. do | |
| 14. am working / work | 26. think |
| 15. love | 27. will be |

Exercise 8

- | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. c | 3. a | 5. c | 7. a | 9. d |
| 2. b | 4. d | 6. c | 8. a | 10. c |

SPELLING NOTE:

This lesson shows the American spelling of the words *Neighborhood, Behavior, Traveling, Traveled, and Practice*. Most other English-speaking countries spell these words this way: *Neighbourhood, Behaviour, Travelling, Travelled, and Practise* (when used as a verb, *Practice* when used as a noun). Also note that *Toward* is preferred in North American English, while *Towards* is preferred in British English. Make it a challenge for your students to find these words in the lesson and see if they know the alternate spellings.

EDITOR'S NOTES:

Our Grammar Practice Worksheets, Basic Grammar Sentences, Grammar Stories, and Simple Sentences sections have many verb tense lessons for further practice.

- Grammar Practice Worksheets
<https://esllibrary.com/courses/88/lessons>
- Basic Grammar Sentences
<https://esllibrary.com/courses/89/lessons>
- Grammar Stories
<https://esllibrary.com/courses/90/lessons>

Refer to our blog post, *100 Days of Grammar*, for teaching tips, charts, and examples of the individual verb tenses:
<http://blog.esllibrary.com/2014/07/24/100-days-of-grammar/>

Try *Verb Tense Review 1 - The Simple Tenses* for a review of the simple present, present progressive, simple past, past progressive, simple future, and future progressive:
<https://esllibrary.com/courses/88/lessons/1963>