

Present Simple Tense

Introduction

1) We use the present simple when we talk about things in general. We use it to say that something happens all the time or repeatedly, or that something is true in general:

Jane works as a barista. Her shift begins at 7 a.m.

2) The present simple is formed with the bare infinitive form of the verb. We add -s in the third person singular (*he/she/it*).

*I **like** apples but my father **likes** grapes.*

Verbs ending in *o, s, ch, sh, x* add -es for the third person singular.

*My sister **watches** TV in the evening and my brother **does** his homework.*

Such verbs as *to be* and *to have* are irregular.

<i>I am</i>	<i>we are</i>		<i>I have</i>	<i>we have</i>
<i>you are</i>	<i>you are</i>		<i>you have</i>	<i>you have</i>
<i>he/she/it is</i>	<i>they are</i>		<i>he/she/it has</i>	<i>they have</i>

Note the difference between British English and American English.

(BrE) I have got a car. (Present Perfect)

(AmE) I have a car. (Present Simple)

Questions are formed with *do* and the bare infinitive form of the verb. The third person singular is formed with *does*. Negatives are formed with *do not* and the bare infinitive form of the verb.

The third person singular is formed with *does not* and the bare infinitive form of the verb.

(+) He gets up at 6 o'clock every morning.

(-) He does not get up at 6 o'clock every morning. He gets up at 7.

(?) Does he get up at 6 o'clock every morning?/When does he get up?

Some **time markers** can explain how often someone does an action, or something happens. These **time markers** are *always, often, usually, sometimes, rarely, never, every day etc.*

*I **usually** cook at home but my friend **always** eats at the local cafe.*

Note that in the above examples time markers come before the verb. With the verb *to be* the time marker comes after it.

*Kim is **always** late for classes.*

Short Story Dialogue

The present simple is widely used in daily life.

– Hello! **What's your name?**

– Oh, hi, **my name's Sarah**. And yours?

– **I'm Alex**. Nice to meet you, Sarah!

– Nice to meet you too! So, **where do you come from?**

– **I come from Germany**. And where are you from?

– **I'm from the UK**.

– Oh, **I have a lot of friends from the UK**. You probably have a great sense of humour.

– **I'm not sure about that! I don't always get our jokes**.

– **You're an exception then!**

– **I'll take that as a compliment**.

Independent Practice - Present simple tense

1) Underline the correct phrase.

a. Excuse me, <i>do you know/does you know</i> the time?
b. My sister <i>always is/is always</i> in a hurry.
c. What time <i>you go/do you go</i> to bed on Fridays?

2) Write the correct sentence.

a. Kelly (to stay/often) at home on Saturdays to work on her projects.	..... .....
b. Her brother (not to use) the Internet. He (to like) everything the old-fashioned way.	..... .....
c. When (you/to get) home? We need to talk.	..... .....
d. (you/to know) Lucy? She (to be) my friend from college.	..... .....

3) Answer the questions.

a. What do you do for a living?	..... .....
b. What are your hobbies?	..... .....
c. What does your typical Sunday look like?	..... .....

Independent Practice: Answers - Present simple tense

1) Underline the correct phrase.

- a. Excuse me, do you know the time?
- b. My sister is always in a hurry.
- c. What time do you go to bed on Fridays?

2) Write the correct sentence

- a. Kelly **often stays** at home on Saturdays to work on her projects.
- b. Her brother **doesn't use** the Internet. He **likes** everything the old-fashioned way.
- c. When **do you get** home? We need to talk.
- d. **Do you know** Lucy? She **is** my friend from college.

3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. I work as a teacher. I teach 2nd grade.
- b. I like painting and reading. I sometimes go hiking.
- c. I wake up really late, have a big breakfast, and watch TV all day.

Verb Conjugation - Person

Introduction

1) Verb conjugation refers to how a verb changes to indicate a different person, number, tense, or mood.

I'm a student. (1st person, singular, present simple, indicative mood)

2) Verbs should be conjugated with regards to person. Depending on the subject, a verb can stand in the first, second, or third person. Study the following table:

	singular	plural
1 st person	I	we
2 nd person	you	you
3 rd person	he, she, it	they

As you can see, the pronouns *I*, *we* refer to the first person; *you* – to the second person; *he*, *she*, *it*, *they* – to the third person.

We work on Saturdays. (first person)

You need to take a break. (second person)

It is snowing outside. (third person)

Usually we assume the person of the verb in the sentence automatically as we almost always state a subject explicitly.

*Sarah has signed up for a yoga class. (**Sarah** can be substituted with the pronoun **she**; the verb is in the third person)*

Note that the verb *to be* is irregular and has 3 forms in present tenses and 2 forms in past tenses. These forms depend on the person expressed by the subject.

	present		past	
1st person	I am	we are	I was	we were
2nd person	you are	you are	you were	you were
3rd person	he/she/it is	they are	he/she/it was	they were

Short Story Dialogue

- *When I was your age, I wanted to become a nurse. I liked the idea of helping people when they need it the most.*
- *Why aren't you a nurse then, grandma?*
- *Well, sweetie, we grow up, and sometimes our goals change. I'm a teacher now, and I have never regretted my choice.*
- *And you are helping people anyway!*
- *That's true!*

Independent Practice - Verb Conjugation - Person

1) Decide whether the verb stands in the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd person.

- Why can't we find a common ground?
- You should be attentive to details.
- These jeans are too tight!
- I was too shy to say a word.
- The Potts will be attending the ceremony as well.

2) Fill in the gaps with the verb *to be* in the correct form.

- You must kidding me! How this possible?
- If we invited, we need to think of a present.
- We have here go ages! We can't wait any longer.
- Someone called you when you running outside.
- I so frustrated! Why it so difficult to find a paid internship now?

Independent Practice: Answers - Verb Conjugation - Person

1) Decide whether the verb stands in the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd person.

- a. Why can't we find a common ground? (1st person)
- b. You should be attentive to details. (2nd person)
- c. These jeans are too tight! (3rd person)
- d. I was too shy to say a word. (1st person)
- e. The Potts will be attending the ceremony as well. (3rd person)

2) Fill in the gaps with the verb **to be** in the correct form.

- a. You must **be** kidding me! How **is** this possible?
- b. If we **are** invited, we need to think of a present.
- c. We have **been** here go ages! We can't wait any longer.
- d. Someone called you when you **were** running outside.
- e. I **am** so frustrated! Why **is** it so difficult to find a paid internship now?

Subject-Verb Agreement

Introduction

1) The subject-verb agreement is the correspondence of a verb with its subject in person (first, second, or third) and number (singular or plural).

Liz is an accountant and she has a typical 8-5 job.

2) Subjects and verbs must agree with one another in person (first, second, or third). Note the subject-verb agreement rules of the verb *to be* in present tenses.

	Singular	Plural
1 st person	<i>I am</i>	<i>we are</i>
2 nd person	<i>you are</i>	<i>you are</i>
3 rd person	<i>he/she/it is</i>	<i>they are</i>

I am a student (1st person), my brother is a pupil (3rd person), and you are a teacher (2nd person).

Subjects and verbs must agree with one another in number (singular or plural). Thus, if a subject is singular, its verb must also be singular; if a subject is plural, its verb must also be plural.

She cooks dinner, and her brothers make breakfast.

When the subject of the sentence is composed of two or more nouns or pronouns connected by the conjunction *and*, use a plural verb.

Brothers and sisters don't often get along.

Note that information within parenthesis and accompanied by phrases like "as well as" do not count as part of the subject.

John, as well as Mary, eats hamburgers for dinner. - correct

John, as well as Mary, eat hamburgers for dinner. - incorrect

The words *each, each one, either, neither, everyone, everybody, anyone, anybody, nobody, somebody, someone*, and *no one* are singular and require a singular verb.

Each of these suggestions is interesting.

Someone was standing at the door.

When two or more singular nouns or pronouns are connected by *or* or *nor*, use a singular verb.

Either your mother or dad needs to contact me.

When a compound subject contains both a singular and a plural noun or pronoun joined by *or* or *nor*, the verb should agree with the part of the subject that is closer to the verb (also called *the rule of proximity*).

The teacher or the students write homework on the board.

The students or the teacher writes homework on the board.

In sentences beginning with *there is* or *there are*, the subject follows the verb (also called *the inverted subject*). As *there* is not the subject, the verb agrees with what follows.

There is a book on the table.

There are books on the table.

Note the subject-verb agreement with words that indicate portions (e.g. *a lot, a majority, some, all*): if the noun after *of* is singular, use a singular verb; if it is plural, use a plural verb.

There is a lot of fuss around his arrival.

There are a lot of people in the room.

Use a singular verb with distances, periods of time, sums of money, etc., when considered as a unit.

Ten dollars is a high price to pay for socks.

But: Ten dollars (i.e. dollar bills) were scattered on the floor.

Collective nouns are words that imply more than one person but are considered singular and take a singular verb (e.g. *family, group, team, committee, class etc.*).

My family is very big.

Short Story Dialogue

- *There are a lot of people outside. Do you know what's going on?*
- *These people are protesting. Maybe you've heard the recent news that some company wants to build a huge factory right over there. And surely no one is happy about that.*
- *But I didn't see any media around.*
- *I'm sure that some reporters will come in a bit. It's not like there are a couple of people so it's difficult to ignore this.*

Independent Practice

1) Underline the correct word in the following sentences.

- a. The aim of the researches *was/were* to find life on Mars.
- b. The group *meet/meets* every other week.
- c. My cousins and my brother *don't/doesn't* know how to cook.
- d. Nobody *master/masters* a language without making mistakes.
- e. Neither Sarah nor I *am/are* going to college this year.
- f. I, as well as my friends, *am/are* excited about the upcoming trip to Vegas.
- g. The jury *has/have* finally reached a decision.
- h. Ten kilometers *is/are* too far to walk.
- i. *This/These* jeans *is/are* too revealing.
- j. A car and a bike *is/are* my means of transportation.

Independent Practice: Answers

1) Underline the correct word in the following sentences.

- a. The aim of the researches was/were to find life on Mars.
- b. The group *meet*/meets every other week.
- c. My cousins and my brother don't/*doesn't* know how to cook.
- d. Nobody *master*/masters a language without making mistakes.
- e. Neither Sarah nor I am/*are* going to college this year.
- f. I, as well as my friends, am/*are* excited about the upcoming trip to Vegas.
- g. The jury has/*have* finally reached a decision.
- h. Ten kilometers is/*are* too far to walk.
- i. *This*/These jeans *is*/are too revealing.
- j. A car and a bike *is*/are my means of transportation.

The Past Simple Tense

Introduction

1) We use the past simple when we talk about an action which happened at a definite time in the past. The past simple emphasizes that the action is finished. We can also use the past simple to talk about how someone felt about something.

- *When was your wedding?*
- *It was 3 years ago. I was beyond happy to marry the love of my life.*

2) The past simple is formed by adding *-ed* to the bare infinitive of the regular verb. Regular verbs ending in *-e* simply add *-d*. All persons have the same form.

He worked part-time as a waiter.
We liked our stay at the hotel.

Regular verbs ending in *consonant + -y* change *-y* to *-ie*.

cry – cried, try – tried

Regular verbs ending with *one vowel and one consonant* double the final consonant.

stop – stopped, regret – regretted

Irregular verbs are not formed following the same pattern. Use the past tense form of the irregular verb. You can find the list of irregular verbs online.

be – was/were, eat – ate, drink – drank

Note that the past tense form of the verb *to be* depends on the person of the subject.

<i>I was</i>	<i>we were</i>
<i>you were</i>	<i>you were</i>
<i>he/she/it was</i>	<i>they were</i>

Questions are formed with *did* and the bare infinitive of the verb. Negatives are formed with *did not* and the bare infinitive of the verb. Questions and negatives with both regular and irregular verbs are formed following this pattern. All persons are formed with *did/did not*.

(+) *His sister lived in Sutton, London.*

(-) *His sister did not live in Sutton. She lived in Harrow.*

(?) *Did his sister live in Sutton?/Where did his sister live in London?*

Some **time markers** can show when the action happened or emphasize the habitual character of the action (in this case, you can use the phrase *every day*). These **time markers** are *yesterday, last night, (not) a long time ago, two years ago etc.*

*Shakespeare died **in 1616**.*

*Ryan did not go to work **yesterday**. He got sick.*

***When** did you move to Spain? – I moved there **not a long time ago**.*

Note that we use *did/did not* with the verb *to have*.

***I didn't have** enough money to buy a new computer.*

But we **do not use *did* with the verb *to be* (was/were)**.

– *Why **were you** so angry?*

– ***I wasn't angry! This was** my usual self.*

Short Story Dialogue

The past simple is widely used in daily life.

– *Mom, do you have a minute?*

– *Sure, kid, what's up?*

– ***When was the last time you went to a beauty salon?***

– *Well, I don't remember. **Maybe it was a year ago.***

– ***And when was the last time you had a night out with Dad?***

– *I'm not sure. **It was definitely a long time ago.***

– ***And what did you do last night?***

– ***I stayed at home with your Dad. We fell asleep watching some boring movie on TV.***

– ***I bought two tickets to Costa Rica. You need a vacation, Mom!***

Independent Practice - Past simple tense

1) Write the correct sentence.

a. Nick's mother (not/to want) to stay at home the whole day so she (to sign up) for Spanish classes.	..... .....
b. I (to run) every day when I (to be) a teen but I don't do that anymore.	..... .....
c. Where (you/to be) last night? I (to try) calling you but you (not to pick up) the phone.	..... .....

2) There are 2 mistakes in each sentence. Correct the mistakes and rewrite the sentences.

a. Kim goed on a date with David the last night but didn't call him afterwards.	..... .....
b. How you did get this job? There was so many people ready to kill for it!	..... .....
c. We didn't invited Ann to the party. No one really likes her after she bad-mouthied Kristen.	..... .....
d. Yesterday I driven to Houston to see Dan. We wented to high school together.	..... .....

3) Answer the questions.

a. Where did you grow up?	..... .....
b. What did you do last night?	..... .....
c. When was the last time you went on a trip?	..... .....

Independent Practice: Answers - Past simple tense

1) Write the correct sentence.

- a. Nick's mother didn't want to stay at home the whole day so she signed up for Spanish classes.
- b. I ran every day when I was a teen but I don't do that anymore.
- c. Where were you last night? I tried calling you but you didn't pick up the phone.

2) There are 2 mistakes in each sentence. Correct the mistakes and rewrite the sentences.

- a. Kim **went** on a date with David **last night** but didn't call him afterwards.
- b. How **did you get** this job? There **were** so many people ready to kill for it!
- c. We didn't **invite** Ann to the party. No one really likes her after she **bad mouthed** Kristen.
- d. Yesterday I **drove** to Houston to see Dan. We **went** to high school together.

3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. I grew up in Nashville, Tennessee.
- b. I went clubbing with my friends last night.
- c. I went on a trip to Germany last year.

Future Simple Tense

Introduction

1) We can refer to the future by using *will*, *be going to* or by using *present tenses*. We use the *will* future when we talk generally about future beliefs, opinions, hopes and predictions.

I promised myself that once I start college I will do all my assignments on time.

2) The *will* future is formed with *the infinitive without to*. Questions are indicated by inverting the subject and *will*. Negatives are formed with *will not (won't)*.

(+) *Sam will probably move to Canada next year.*

(-) *Sam won't move to Canada next year. He will move to the US.*

(?) *Will Sam move to Canada next year? Where will Sam move to?*

Note that in speech and informal writing *will* is usually shortened to *'ll*.

He'll move to the US.

Some **time markers** can show when we expect something to happen (*tomorrow, next month, in a day etc.*) or how certain or uncertain we are about our predictions (*perhaps, probably, definitely, certainly etc.*).

Perhaps it'll snow tomorrow.

I'll definitely finish my essay next month.

Note that *such time markers as probably, definitely, certainly* come after *will* but before *won't*.

We'll probably do it tomorrow.

We probably won't do it tomorrow.

Some speakers use *shall* to refer to the future in formal situations with *I* and *we*. However this use is becoming very rare. Nowadays *shall* is used for suggestions only.

Shall I go or shall we leave together?

Short Story Dialogue

The future simple is widely used in daily life.

- Mike, what are your plans for tonight?
- I don't really know. **I'll probably play some video games after work.**
- **And what will you do tomorrow?**
- Well, **I definitely won't go out with my friends tomorrow.**
- **And what will you do next week?**
- **I'll most certainly start learning another language.**
- Mike, how do you have an answer for everything?
- It's quite simple. I don't plan anything. **Things will happen on their own.**

Independent Practice - Future simple tense

1) Find time markers.

a. Perhaps you'll make the right decision. Time will tell.
b. Max will certainly come later tonight.
c. Susan will try to go there next month but it probably won't happen.

2) Write the correct sentence

a. Why can't you come over? I (to let) you sleep at my place.	..... .....
b. I (not to do) it unless you prove Jane wrong.	..... .....
c. We (to try) to make it work. We (to let) you know.	..... .....
d. (we/to go) to the restaurant tonight? I (to pay) for the meal.	..... .....

3) Answer the questions.

a. What will you do tomorrow?	..... .....
b. Where will you stay during your summer vacation?	..... .....
c. Will robots take over the planet?	..... .....

Independent Practice: Answers - Future simple tense

1) Find time markers.

- a. **Perhaps** you'll make the right decision. Time will tell.
- b. Max will **certainly** come **later tonight**.
- c. Susan will try to go there **next month** but it **probably** won't happen.

2) Write the correct sentence

- a. Why can't you come over? I'll **let** you sleep at my place.
- b. I **won't do** it unless you prove Jane wrong.
- c. We'll **try** to make it work. We'll **let** you know.
- d. **Shall we** go to the restaurant tonight? I'll **pay** for the meal.

3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. I'll probably stay at home and sleep the whole day.
- b. I'll stay at my friends' place.
- c. Robots won't take over the planet./I don't think that robots will take over the planet.

The Present Continuous Tense

Introduction

1) We use the present continuous when we talk about something which is happening at the time of speaking, or actions happening 'around now', even though not at the moment of speaking. The present continuous also has some future meanings.

Hey, what are you doing? – I am working on my thesis. I am graduating this semester.

2) The present continuous is formed with the auxiliary verb *to be* and the *-ing* form of the main verb.

This is contracted in speech and informal writing. Questions are formed by inverting the subject and the auxiliary verb *to be*. Negatives are formed with the verb *to be* + *not*. This is also contracted in speech and informal writing.

(+) He is sleeping on the couch in the living room./He's sleeping there.

(-) He is not sleeping on the couch in the living room./He isn't sleeping there.

(?) Where is he? Is he sleeping?

Verbs ending in *-e* drop *-e* and add *-ing*.

like – liking, write – writing

Verbs with one syllable, ending in *one vowel and one consonant*, double the consonant and add *-ing*.

sit – sitting, swim – swimming

Verbs ending *-ie* change *-ie* to *-y* and add *-ing*.

lie – lying, die – dying

Some **time markers** can show that we talk about something which is happening at the time of speaking, or actions happening 'around now'. These **time markers** are *now, right now, at the moment, today, this week etc.*

*I'm quite busy **this year** as I'm trying to start my small business.*

We also use the present continuous when we talk about changing situations.

~~*The population of the world increases very fast.*~~ *The population of the world is increasing very fast.*

Short Story Dialogue

The present continuous is widely used in daily life.

– Hello, Mike! **How are you doing these days?**

– Hi, Sam! I'm fine, thanks! **I'm doing an internship at one publishing house.**

– Oh, really? **Are you enjoying it?**

– Yeah, **I'm learning a lot of small but crucial details.** How about you?

– Well, **I'm not working at the moment. I'm trying to find a job in my field.** It's a difficult task!

– Yeah, I totally get you! Well, I have to go now. Good luck!

– Thanks! Good luck to you too! See you!

– Bye!

Independent Practice - Present continuous tense

1) Underline the correct phrase.

a. Be quiet! I <i>try/am trying</i> to concentrate.
b. Sorry, I can't help you right now. I <i>be fixing/am fixing</i> my dad's computer.
c. It's very warm today. Why <i>you are/are you</i> wearing a coat?

2) Complete each sentence with a suitable phrase.

<i>beginning</i>	<i>becoming</i>	<i>doing</i>	<i>giving</i>
a. Don't disturb Ann. She is her taxes.			
b. This is a brilliant, isn't it? They're their best performance.			
c. At first I didn't like my job, but I'm to enjoy it.			
d. Ocean pollution is a real problem.			

3) Answer the questions.

a. What are you doing right now?	..... .....
b. Is anything interesting happening in your country?	..... .....
c. Do you know what your family is doing now?	..... .....

Independent Practice: Answers - Present continuous tense

1) Underline the correct phrase.

- a. Be quiet! I *try/am trying* to concentrate.
- b. Sorry, I can't help you right now. I *be fixing/am fixing* my dad's computer.
- c. It's very warm today. Why *you are/are you* wearing a coat?

2) Complete each sentence with a suitable phrase.

- a. Don't disturb Ann. She is **doing** her taxes.
- b. This is a brilliant, isn't it? They're **giving** their best performance.
- c. At first I didn't like my job, but I'm **beginning** to enjoy it.
- d. Ocean pollution is **becoming** a real problem.

3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. I am doing my homework right now.
- b. There isn't anything interesting happening in my country now.
- c. My family is having a dinner party today.

The Past Continuous Tense

Introduction

1) We use the past continuous when we describe a situation, or several situations in progress, happening at the same time in the past. This is often contrasted with a sudden event in the past simple.

[I was working on my computer and my brother was reading a book]¹ [when we heard a loud bang on the door]². 1 – background situation, 2 – sudden event

2) The past continuous is formed with *the past form of the auxiliary verb to be* and the *-ing form of the main verb*. Questions are formed by inverting the subject and the auxiliary verb *to be*. Negatives are formed with the auxiliary verb *to be* + *not*. This is contracted in speech and informal writing.

(+) Jim was playing video games all night.

(-) Jim was not playing video games all night./He wasn't playing video games all night.

(?) Was Jim playing video games all night? Why was he playing video games all night?

Some **time markers** can emphasize the duration of the action or state when the action was taking place. These **time markers** are *at 7 o'clock, for two hours, in January, last week, all night etc.*

*Kate was trying to find a nice apartment in her area **for 5 months**.*

We can use *when* or *while* with the past continuous to mean 'during the time that'.

***While** they were waiting for the train, it started to rain.*

*James broke his finger **when** he was playing basketball.*

Remember that **non-continuous verbs (e.g. to love, hate, know, want etc.)** are not used in any continuous tenses. Use the past simple instead.

~~I was having fun at the party, but Kim was wanting to go home.~~ I was having fun at the party, but Kim wanted to go home.

Short Story Dialogue

The past continuous is widely used in daily life.

- Nate, where were you yesterday? **I was trying to reach you the whole evening.**
- Sorry, Sam, it was such a crazy day!
- Why so?
- Well, my college project was due so **I was running all over the city collecting information.** I needed to write an article so **I was meeting up with people, I was even interviewing strangers in the streets.**
- That sounds like a stressful day!
- You bet! **While I was interviewing one old lady, a cop came up to me and wanted to see my ID.** But that's OK.
- Did you finish your project at least?
- Thankfully, yes. **I was working on it the whole day!**

Independent Practice - Past continuous tense

1) Underline the correct phrase.

a. Last summer I <i>was swimming/swam</i> in the river every day.
b. While I took/ <i>was taking a shower</i> , the phone <i>rang/ringed</i> .
c. Ann <i>was breaking/broke</i> a cup when she <i>washed/was washing</i> the dishes.

2) Complete each sentence with a suitable time marker.

<i>at</i>	<i>while</i>	<i>when</i>	<i>in</i>
a. Sally was working on her thesis 8 o'clock.			
b. Tom was sleeping peacefully in his bed his mom took a picture of him.			
c. I was living in Italy 2009.			
d. A burglar broke into their house they were watching TV.			

3) Answer the questions.

a. What were you doing at 5 p.m. last night?	..... .....
b. What were you doing when you heard a phone call?	..... .....
c. What was your family doing when you went on a vacation together?	..... .....

Independent Practice: Answers - Past continuous tense

1) Underline the correct phrase.

- a. Last summer I was swimming/swam in the river every day.
- b. While I washed/was washing my hair, the phone rang/ringed.
- c. Ann was breaking/broke a cup when she washed/was washing the dishes.

2) Complete each sentence with a suitable time marker.

- a. Sally was working on her thesis **at** 8 o'clock.
- b. Tom was sleeping peacefully in his bed **when** his mom took a picture of him.
- c. I was living in Italy **in** 2009.
- d. A burglar broke into their house **while** they were watching TV.

3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. I was watching a movie with my friends.
- b. I was having a bath when I heard a phone call.
- c. My family was spending time at the beach when we went on a vacation together.

The Future Continuous Tense

Introduction

1) We use the future continuous to say that we will be in the middle of doing something at a certain time in the future. We often use it when we compare what we are doing now with what we will be doing in the future. There is nearly always a time expression.

The movie starts at 8.00 and ends at 10.00. At 9.00 I will be watching the movie.

2) The future continuous is formed with *will + be + the -ing form of the verb*. Questions are formed by inverting the subject and *will*. Negatives are formed with *will not (won't) + be + the -ing form of the verb*. Contracted forms are used in speech and informal writing.

(+) Sarah will be flying home at 5 o'clock tomorrow.

(-) Sarah will not be flying home at 5 o'clock tomorrow./She won't be flying home at 5 o'clock tomorrow.

(?) Will Sarah be flying home at 5 o'clock tomorrow?/Where will she be flying at 5 o'clock tomorrow?

Some **time markers** can show that we will be in the middle of doing something at a certain time in the future. These **time markers** are *at 5 o'clock, at that time tomorrow, this evening, in five years' time etc.*

Where will you be living in 3 years' time?

We also use the future continuous to say that something will definitely happen in the future.
I'll be going to the shop later. Can I get you anything?

Compare *will be doing* with the other continuous forms.

Jane has an ordinary 9/5 job.

At 11 o'clock yesterday she was working. (past continuous)

At 11 o'clock today she is working. (present continuous)

At 11 o'clock tomorrow she will be working. (future continuous)

Short Story Dialogue

The future continuous is widely used in daily life.

- *Dan, **will you be using your bike this afternoon?***
- *Yes, you can't take it.*
- ***Will you be going outside then?***
- *Yes, **I'll be going out with my friends tonight.** Do you need something?*
- ***Will you be passing the post office?***
- *Most probably.*
- *Can you get my package?*
- *OK. I hope this package is not heavy!*

Independent Practice - Future continuous tense

1) Underline the correct phrase.

a. We won't <i>move/be moving</i> to our new apartment at this time on Thursday.
b. This time next week Susan <i>will play/will be playing</i> football with her friends.
c. Where <i>will Sam/Sam will</i> be working in one year's time?

2) Write the correct sentence.

a. You'll recognise her. She (to wear) a red dress.	..... .....
b. Everyone (to sleep) at that hour!	..... .....
c. Fred (to work) as a lead developer in 4 years' time.	..... .....
d. At 8 o'clock tomorrow morning I (to take) my son to daycare.	..... .....

3) Answer the questions.

a. What will you be doing at 7 p.m. tomorrow?	..... .....
b. What will you be doing in 5 years' time?	..... .....
c. What will people be celebrating on the 1 st of January?	..... .....

Independent Practice: Answers - Future continuous tense

1) Underline the correct phrase.

- a. We won't move/be moving to our new apartment at this time on Thursday.
- b. This time next week Susan will play/will be playing football with her friends.
- c. Where will Sam/Sam will be working in 1 year's time?

2) Write the correct answer.

- a. You'll recognise her. She'll **be wearing** a red dress.
- b. Everyone **will be sleeping** at that hour!
- c. Fred **will be working** as a lead developer in 4 years' time.
- d. At 8 o'clock tomorrow morning I'll **be taking** my son to daycare.

3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. I'll be driving to Boston at this time tomorrow.
- b. I'll be working at a tech company.
- c. People will be celebrating New Year on the 1st of January.

The Present Participle -ing

Introduction

1) Most commonly we use *the present participle -ing* as an element in all continuous verb forms (the present continuous, the past continuous etc.). The auxiliary verb indicates the tense, while the present participle remains unchanging.

*I **was playing** computer games all night. (past continuous)*

2) The present participle is formed by adding *-ing* to the base form of the verb.

Verbs ending in *-e* drop *-e* and add *-ing*.

like – liking, write – writing

Verbs with one syllable, ending in *one vowel and one consonant*, double the consonant and add *-ing*.

sit – sitting, swim – swimming

Verbs ending *-ie* change *-ie* to *-y* and add *-ing*.

lie – lying, die – dying

The present participle is used not only to form verb tenses. It can be used:

a) after verbs of movement and position (often after the verb *to go*).

*She went **shopping**.*

*They came **running** towards me.*

b) after verbs of perception in the pattern *verb + object + present participle* to indicate the action being perceived.

*We saw him **mowing** the lawn.*

*Liz heard someone **singing**.*

c) after verbs of movement, action, or position to indicate parallel activity.

*He sat **looking at** the pedestrians.*

*July walks, **reading** her newspaper.*

d) as an adjective.

*Have you heard of that **amazing** movie?*

*The family was trapped inside the **burning** barn.*

e) to explain the cause or reason. The present participle is used instead of a phrase starting with *as, since, because*.

***Feeling** hungry, I made myself a sandwich. (=I made myself a sandwich **because** I was hungry.)*

***Knowing** that his roommate was coming, James cleaned the living room. (=James cleaned the living room **as** he knew that his roommate was coming.)*

Short Story Dialogue

– *I can't believe that this book can be so **boring**! I bought it, **thinking** that it was a best-seller.*

– *What are you talking about? It's absolutely **amazing**!*

– *Well, believe it or not, but I fell asleep **reading** the first chapter!*

– ***Knowing** you, it's not a surprise. You told me that you read books right before **going** to bed.*

– *I'm just too busy during the day. Maybe I can listen to the audio book? I can try it while **walking** to work.*

– *Yeah, that's a good idea.*

Independent Practice - The present participle - ing

1) Fill in the gaps.

<i>shopping</i>	<i>thinking</i>	<i>watching</i>	<i>crossing</i>
-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------

- a. I called the cops the lady was mugged.
- b. Samuel likes to bake cooking shows.
- c. Lilly needed to go with her friends.
- d. Amanda saw me the street.

2) Rewrite the sentences. Use the phrase in brackets. The meaning should remain the same.

a. (feeling) I went to bed earlier because I was sleepy.	..... .....
b. (knowing) I knew the importance of the project so I was working the whole night.	..... .....
c. (thinking) I thought I could fix my phone but I broke the screen instead.	..... .....

3) Answer the questions.

a. Do you listen to music commuting to work?	..... .....
b. Have you ever watched someone painting a portrait in the streets?	..... .....
c. What is the most interesting thing about growing up?	..... .....

Independent Practice: Answers - The present participle - ing

1) Fill in the gaps.

- a. I called the cops **thinking** the lady was mugged.
- b. Samuel likes to bake **watching** cooking shows.
- c. Lilly needed to go **shopping** with her friends.
- d. Amanda saw me **crossing** the street.

2) Rewrite the sentences. Use the phrase in brackets. The meaning should remain the same.

- a. **Feeling sleepy**, I went to bed earlier.
- b. **Knowing the importance of the project**, I was working the whole night.
- c. **Thinking I could fix my phone**, I broke the screen instead.

3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. Yes, I listen to music commuting to work.
- b. No, I have never watched someone painting a portrait in the streets.
- c. The most interesting thing about growing up is how your perception of the world changes.

The Gerund -ing

Introduction

1) *The gerund* looks exactly the same as the present participle but *the gerund* always has the same function as a noun (although it looks like a verb).

Cooking at home can help you save a lot of money.

2) The gerund is a noun made from a verb by adding *-ing*.

Verbs ending in *-e* drop *-e* and add *-ing*.

make – making, write – writing

Verbs with one syllable, ending in *one vowel and one consonant*, double the consonant and add *-ing*.

knit – knitting, swim – swimming

Verbs ending *-ie* change *-ie* to *-y* and add *-ing*.

lie – lying, die – dying

The gerund can be made negative by adding *not*.

The best thing for your health is not smoking.

The gerund can function as:

a) the subject of the sentence.

Smoking causes lung cancer.

Flying makes him anxious.

b) the complement of the verb *to be*.

One of her duties was ***writing weekly reports***.

The hardest thing about learning Russian is ***memorizing the verbs of movement***.

The gerund can be used:

a) after prepositions or as part of certain expressions (*there's no point in, in spite of etc.*)

*Can your brother count to ten **without looking** at his fingers?*

***There's no point in going back** to his place now.*

b) after phrasal verbs. They are composed of a verb + preposition/adverb.

*I **ended up buying** a new computer.*

*Rachel **gave up drinking** sugar drinks.*

Short Story Dialogue

– *Why don't we go to the beach this weekend?*

– *Mmm I don't know. **I'm really afraid of swimming in the ocean.***

– *But you can still play volleyball with us.*

– ***I'm not good at volleyball. I keep on dropping the ball.***

– *You'll be our cheerleader then!*

– ***Cheerleading is not something I like doing.***

– *If you make up your mind, give me a call.*

Independent Practice - The gerund -ing

1) Fill in the gaps.

<i>volunteering</i>	<i>parking</i>	<i>cooking</i>	<i>making</i>
---------------------	----------------	----------------	---------------

- a. is a great way to make friends.
 b. James surprised Helen by her a romantic dinner.
 c. is not easy for someone who has 5 hours of driving experience.
 d. I keep on the same mistakes all over again.

2) Write the correct sentence.

a. He was sorry for (to shout) at his wife the day before.	..... .....
b. Are you interested in (to go) to a concert with me?	..... .....
c. I am tired of (to get) your packages all the time.	..... .....

3) Answer the questions.

a. Should people give up on their dreams?	..... .....
b. What are you good at?	..... .....
c. Is there anything that you can't live without?	..... .....

Independent Practice: Answers - The gerund - ing

1) Fill in the gaps.

- a. **Volunteering** is a great way to make friends.
- b. James surprised Helen by **cooking** her a romantic dinner.
- c. **Parking** is not easy for someone who has 5 hours of driving experience.
- d. I keep on **making** the same mistakes all over again.

2) Open the brackets.

- a. He was sorry for **shouting** at his wife the day before.
- b. Are you interested in **going** to a concert with me?
- c. I am tired of **getting** your packages all the time.

3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. No, people shouldn't be giving up on their dreams.
- b. I am good at making people laugh.
- c. I can't live without traveling.

Past Participle

Introduction

1) A past participle refers to the form of a verb which is used in forming perfect and passive tenses (and sometimes used as an adjective).

*Olivia has **lived** in Greece for 4 years.*

2) We usually add -(e)d to the base form of the regular verb to form the past participle.

*Jun has just **painted** this picture. (present perfect, active voice)*

*This picture was **painted** by Jun a month ago. (past simple, passive voice)*

There is no pattern as to forming the past participle of the irregular verbs. You should always consult a dictionary.

verb	past	past participle
become	became	become
bite	bit	bitten
break	broke	broken
choose	chose	chosen

We can use the past participle:

a) in the perfect tenses (Present Perfect, Past Perfect, Future Perfect).

*I've **eaten** too much! I can't move. (present perfect)*

*James had already **left** when Pam arrived. (past perfect)*

*We will have **landed** by that hour. (future perfect)*

b) in the passive voice.

*He was **driven** by genuine interest and curiosity.*

*This dress was **made** by a famous Italian designer.*

c) as an adjective. In this case, place it before a noun.

*Mike has **broken** his arm. → He has a **broken** arm now.*

*Someone has stolen Ann's purse. → Her purse was **stolen**.*

Short Story Dialogue

– *Erhm, I might have **spilled** orange juice on your dress.*

– *What? What have you **done**? I am **supposed** to wear it tonight!*

– *I don't know how it happened. And you shouldn't have **left** it in the living room. You know that I'm messy...*

– *Stop with these excuses! Google how we can get rid of this stain. I don't have any other dress to wear.*

Independent Practice - Past Participle

1) Fill in the gaps with the past participle.

- a. I wouldn't have (to know) that if she hadn't (to tell) me.
- b. Have you (to brush) your teeth, sweetie?
- c. The movie has already (to begin) We need to hurry!
- d. I was (to wake) up by my noisy neighbour.
- e. Sadly, my family has never (to be) abroad.
- f. I suppose that they'll have (to arrive) by that time tomorrow.
- g. Emma's phone was (to steal) and now she needs to buy a new one.
- h. I can't imagine what can happen if a person is (to strike) by lightning!
- i. The letter was (to send) Check your inbox.
- j. Peter doesn't possess the (to require) skills to apply for this job.

Independent Practice: Answers - Past Participle

1) Fill in the gaps with the past participle.

- a. I wouldn't have **known** that if she hadn't **told** me.
- b. Have you **brushed** your teeth, sweetie?
- c. The movie has already **begun**. We need to hurry!
- d. I was **woken** up by my noisy neighbour.
- e. Sadly, my family has never **been** abroad.
- f. I suppose that they'll have **arrived** by that time tomorrow.
- g. Emma's phone was **stolen** and now she needs to buy a new one.
- h. I can't imagine what can happen if a person is **struck** by lightning!
- i. The letter was **sent**. Check your inbox.
- j. Peter doesn't possess the **required** skills to apply for this job.

The Present Perfect Tense

Introduction

1) We use the present perfect to describe past events which are connected to the present:

Sam has lost his keys. (=He is looking for his keys and he still hasn't found them.)

2) The present perfect is formed with the present tense of the auxiliary verb *to have* and *the past participle*. Questions are formed by inverting the subject and *have/has*. Negatives are formed with *not*. Contracted forms are used.

(+) *I have already seen that movie./I've already seen that movie.*

(-) *I have not seen that movie yet./I haven't seen it yet.*

(?) *Have I seen that movie?*

The present perfect describes past events which are connected to the present, although this tense can be used to describe different situations:

a) experiences in our life up to now.

*I've **been** to Spain and Portugal. I really want to go to the UK. I **haven't been** there yet.*

b) an event in the past that has a result in the present.

*Lilly **has broken** her foot. Her foot is still in a cast.*

c) a situation that started in the past and continues until the present.

*I've **lived** here for twenty years. And I am still living here now.*

d) how many things are completed so far.

*Peter **has read** 50 pages of this book so far. There are 150 pages left.*

Pay attention to **the time markers**:

a) we use *ever* and *never* when we ask or talk about our experiences in life.

*Have you **ever** eaten Chinese food? – I've **never** eaten it.*

b) we use *already* in positive sentences to describe an action which has happened before. We use *yet* in questions and negative sentences to describe an action which hasn't happened before.

*I haven't finished this book **yet**, and my sister has **already** begun reading another one.*

c) we use *just* when we describe a very recent event.

*My mom has **just** come home from work.*

d) Such frequency adverbs as *always*, *often* etc. can also be used with the present perfect.

*He has **always** loved Ann.*

e) We use *for* to describe the length of a time period. We use *since* to describe the point when the time period started.

*Chris has worked here **for 5 months**. He has worked here **since May 5th**.*

Short Story Dialogue

The present perfect is widely used in daily life.

– ***Have you seen John anywhere?***

– ***No, I haven't seen him anywhere.***

– ***Have you tried calling him?***

– ***Yes, I've just sent him a voice message.***

– ***Has he listened to it?***

– ***It's impossible. I've just sent it. Has anything happened?***

– ***Not really, but I haven't seen him since the party and I'm a bit worried. He's never ignored my calls before.***

– ***I'm sure it'll be fine. He's probably been busy.***

Independent Practice - Present perfect tense

1) Match the sentences and the descriptions.

1. Cindy has graduated and is paying off her student loans now.	a. experiences in our life up to now
2. They've been best friends for nearly a decade. They always help each other.	b. an event in the past that has a result in the present
3. Lilly is on a diet. She's lost 5 kilos so far.	c. a situation that started in the past and continues until the present
4. Nate has seen nearly all Marvel movies.	d. to describe how many things are completed so far

2) Write the correct sentence.

a. I (not to see) never him so angry before.	..... .....
b. Would you like something to eat? – No, thanks. I (to have) just dinner.	..... .....
c. Shall I pay for our meal? – I (to do) already it.	..... .....
d. Ann (not to call) me yet.	..... .....

3) Answer the questions.

a. Have you ever been to the UK?	..... .....
b. Have your friends thrown you a surprise b-day party?	..... .....
c. What have you always dreamt of doing?	..... .....

Independent Practice: Answers - Present perfect tense

1) Match the sentences and the descriptions.

1. Cindy has graduated and is paying off her student loans now.	b. an event in the past that has a result in the present
2. They've been best friends for nearly a decade. They always help each other.	c. a situation that started in the past and continues until the present
3. Lilly is on a diet. She's lost 5 kilos so far.	d. to describe how many things are completed so far
4. Nate has seen nearly all Marvel movies.	a. experiences in our life up to now

2) Write the correct answer.

- a. I've never **seen** him so angry before.
- b. Would you like something to eat? – No, thanks. I've just **had** dinner.
- c. Shall I pay for our meal? – I've already **done** it.
- d. Ann **hasn't called** me yet.

3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. No, I've never been to the UK.
- b. Yes, my friends have thrown me a surprise b-day party once.
- c. I've always dreamt of climbing **Mt.** Everest.

The Past Perfect Tense

Introduction

1) We use the past perfect to show clearly that one past event happened before another past event. We use the past perfect for the earlier event.

When I arrived at the party, Tom wasn't there. He had gone home. (=Tom went home at 10.00, I arrived at 11.00.)

2) The past perfect is formed with the auxiliary verb *had* and *the past participle*. Questions are formed by inverting the subject and *had*. Negatives are formed with *not*. Contracted forms are used.

(?) *Had Kate gone to bed when you arrived home?*

(+) *Yes, she had. She had gone to bed when I arrived home./She'd gone to bed.*

(-) *No, she hadn't. She hadn't gone to bed when I arrived home.*

The past perfect (I had done) is the past of the present perfect (I have done). Compare these situations:

Present	Past
<i>-I'm not hungry. I've just had breakfast.</i>	<i>-I wasn't hungry. I'd just had breakfast.</i>
<i>-Your room is dirty. You haven't cleaned it for months.</i>	<i>-Your room was dirty. You hadn't cleaned it for months.</i>

The past perfect is often used with verbs of thinking like *to think, know, be sure, realize, remember, suspect, understand etc.*

Sue was sure she hadn't locked the door.

When I got home I realized I'd left my computer at Starbucks.

Note that it is not necessary to use the past perfect if we use *before* or *after* to make the time sentence clear, although many speakers do so to show a strong connection between the two events.

Pam left her house before her parents arrived. OR Pam had left her house before her parents arrived.

Short Story Dialogue

The past perfect is used in daily life, though in some situations the past simple can be used instead.

- *Why didn't Ann take Spanish classes last semester?*
- ***Because she'd taken them at the beginning of her studies.***
- ***Had she completed the course successfully?***
- ***Yes, she had! She'd passed it with a perfect score! She hadn't done a single mistake.***
- *Wait, I heard that she didn't pass the exam.*
- *I don't know what you're talking about. **The teachers had never been so happy to have a student like her.***
- *Maybe that's not Ann I'm talking about... I've forgotten the name of the girl!*

Independent Practice - Past perfect tense

1) Use *before* or *after*.

- a. It was 11 o'clock when Pete left for his night shift. You came home at midnight. Pete had gone you came back.
- b. It was 8 a.m. when the lessons started. You came to school twenty minutes earlier. Lessons started you had come to school.
- c. It was a busy afternoon for you. But in the evening you had a nice bath. You had a nice bath you had had a busy afternoon.

2) Write the correct sentence.

a. They didn't want to eat my cake. (they/just/to finish/their dinner).	..... .....
b. My mom wasn't at home when I came back from school. (she/just/to go/out).	..... .....
c. I was very happy to see Nate. (I/not to see/him/for 3 years).	..... .....
d. We arrived late. (the movie/already/to begin).	..... .....

3) Answer the questions.

a. What had you done right before college graduation?	..... .....
b. What had you done right after college graduation?	..... .....
c. Had you cleaned your apartment before you went on a summer vacation?	..... .....

Independent Practice: Answers - Past perfect tense

1) Use *before* or *after*.

- a. It was 11 o'clock when Pete left for his night shift. You came home at midnight. Pete had gone **before** you came back.
- b. It was 8 a.m. when the lessons started. You came to school twenty minutes earlier. Lessons started **after** you had come to school.
- c. It was a busy afternoon for you. But in the evening you had a nice bath. You had a nice bath **after** you had had a busy afternoon.

2) Write the correct sentence.

- a. They didn't want to eat my cake. **They'd just finished their dinner.**
- b. My mom wasn't at home when I came back from school. **She'd just went out.**
- c. I was very happy to see Nate. **I hadn't seen him for 3 years.**
- d. We arrived late. **The movie had already begun.**

3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. I'd started studying for my exams right before college graduation.
- b. I'd had a huge party right after college graduation.
- c. Yes, I'd cleaned my apartment before I went on a summer vacation.

The Future Perfect

Introduction

1) We use the future perfect to look back from one point in the future to an earlier event. The situation has not happened yet, but at a certain time in the future it will happen.

By next week I'll have written 20 pages for my new book.

2) The future perfect is formed with *will + have + the past participle*. Questions are formed by inverting the subject and *will*. Negatives are formed with *not*. Contracted forms are used.

(+) *John will have arrived here by 5 p.m. tomorrow.*

(-) *He won't have arrived here by 5 p.m. tomorrow.*

(?) *Will he have arrived here by 5 p.m. tomorrow?*

We often use *by + time expression* with the future perfect to show that the situation has not happened yet, but at a certain time in the future it will happen.

*Won't they have invited us **by Friday**?*

*James will have finished his thesis **by this time next week**.*

We can also use *when, as soon as, before, or by the time* to show the sequence of events. In this case, use the present simple tense in the parts with *when, by the time etc.*

*Will you have dressed up **when I pick you up**?*

***By the time you read this** I will have left the city.*

Remember that the future perfect is used only for actions that will be completed by a particular time in the future. If the deadline is not mentioned, use the future simple instead.

She will leave her hometown.

~~*She will have left her hometown.*~~ *She will have left her hometown by this time next year.*

Short Story Dialogue

- *What are your goals, Jenny?*
- *I'll have got a B.A. in History by next year. And I'll have completed my studies at a grad school by 2020.*
- *That sounds great! Do you have any plans for summer?*
- *Well, I'll have successfully passed TOEFL by June. And as soon as I do that, I'll have sent my application for one internship.*
- *Jenny, you're so hard-working! Best of luck to you!*
- *Thank you very much!*

Independent Practice - Future perfect tense

1) Underline the correct phrase.

- a. *We'll have moved/We'll move* to our new apartment by Tuesday.
- b. Don't forget to call me when *you land/you'll have landed*.
- c. Wait for me. *I'll be/I'll have been* ready in a moment.
- d. By this time tomorrow Sarah *will have met/will meet* her friends from college.

2) Put the verbs into the future simple (I will do) or the future perfect (I will have done) form.

- a. (Jimmy/to spend) all his savings before the end of the trip.
- b. Call me after 8 p.m. (I/to finish) dinner by then.
- c. (you/to see) Angela tomorrow? If yes, can you give this book back to her?

3) Answer the questions.

a. Will you have moved to a new place by October?	..... .....
b. Will you have finished your English homework by 8 p.m. tomorrow?	..... .....
c. Where will you spend your summer vacation?	..... .....

Independent Practice: Answers - Future perfect tense

1) Underline the correct phrase.

- a. We'll have moved/We'll move to our new apartment by Tuesday.
- b. Don't forget to call me when you land/you'll have landed.
- c. Wait for me. I'll be/I'll have been ready in a moment.
- d. By this time tomorrow Sarah will have met/will meet her friends from college.

2) Put the verbs into the future simple (I will do) or the future perfect (I will have done) form.

- a. **Jimmy will have spent** all his savings before the end of the trip.
- b. Call me after 8 p.m. **I'll have finished** dinner by then.
- c. **Will you see** Angela tomorrow? If yes, can you give this book back to her?

3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. No, I won't have moved to a new place by October.
- b. Yes, I'll have finished by 8 p.m. tomorrow.
- c. I will be at my grandparents' in the countryside.

The Present Perfect Continuous Tense

Introduction

1) We use the present perfect continuous when we talk about an action which began in the past and has continued to the present. The present perfect continuous usually emphasizes duration or the amount of time that an action has been taking place.

– Is it snowing right now? – No, it isn't but there is 5 cm of snow outside. It has been snowing all night.

2) The present perfect continuous is formed using *has/have + been + present participle*. Questions are indicated by inverting the subject and *has/have*. Negatives are made with *not*.

(+) Ann has been waiting for Sam for over an hour.

(-) Ann hasn't been waiting for Sam for over an hour. She has been waiting for only 10 minutes.

(?) Has Ann been waiting for Sam for over an hour?/How long has Ann been waiting for Sam?

Some **time markers** can emphasize the duration of the action, and show that the action is temporary or repeated. These **time markers** are *all day, all morning, for days, for ages, lately, recently, since, for etc.*

*My brother has been playing tennis **since** he was seven. I haven't been feeling well **recently**. **How long** have you been learning English? – I've been learning it **for 5 years**.*

Remember that **non-continuous verbs (e.g. to love, hate, know, want etc.) are not used** in any continuous tenses. Use the present perfect instead.

I've been wanting to visit Paris for years. I've wanted to visit Paris for years.

Short Story Dialogue

The present perfect continuous is widely used in daily life.

- Hey Pam, long time no see! – Oh, hi Steve! Yeah, that's true. – **What have you been doing lately?** – Well, **I've been trying to find a job in Germany for the past 6 months.** But it's really difficult to find something with my level of German!
- **How long have you been learning it?**
- **I've been learning it on my own for a year.**
- Come to think about it, I've heard some really good comments about our local speaking club.
- Hmm I haven't heard of it. I'll check it out! Maybe we could grab a cup of coffee next week?
- Yeah, sure. I'll give you a call. Bye! – Sounds great! Bye!

Independent Practice

1) Write the correct sentence using the present perfect continuous.

a. Lilly (to watch) movies all night.	..... .....
b. His grandpa (not to feel) well for the past week.	..... .....
c. How long (you/to smoke)?	..... .....

2) Match the sentences.

1. Where is Tom?	a. Have you been running?
2. You're out of breath.	b. Has it been raining today?
3. There are puddles everywhere.	c. We've been here for ages.
4. Why are your clothes so dirty?	d. What have you been doing?!

3) Answer the questions.

a. How long have you been learning English?	..... .....
b. What have you been doing this month?	..... .....
c. Have you been exercising lately?	..... .....

Independent Practice: Answers

1) Write the correct sentence using the present perfect continuous.

- a. Lilly has been watching movies all night.
- b. His grandpa hasn't been feeling well for the past week.
- c. How long have you been smoking?

2) Match the sentences.

1. Where is Tom?	c. We've been here for ages.
2. You're out of breath.	a. Have you been running?
3. There are puddles everywhere	b. Has it been raining today?
4. Why are your clothes so dirty?	d. What have you been doing?!

3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. I've been learning English for 8 years.
- b. I've been trying to improve my cooking skills.
- c. Sadly, I haven't been exercising lately. I've been feeling lazy for the past month.

The Past Perfect Continuous Tense

Introduction

1) We use the past perfect continuous when we talk about an action which began in the past and continued up until another time in the past. Unlike the present perfect continuous, which indicates an action that began in the past and continued up to the present, the past perfect continuous indicates something that began in the past, continued in the past, and also ended at a defined point in the past.

Sammy had been playing with his food when his mom walked into the kitchen.

2) The past perfect continuous is formed using **had + been + present participle**. Questions are indicated by inverting the subject and **had**. Negatives are made with **not**. Contracted forms are used.

(+) *Tom was very tired when he got home. He had been working all day./He'd been working all day.*

(-) *Tom wasn't very tired when he got home. He hadn't been working all day.*

(?) *Why was Tom tired when he got home? Had he been working all day?*

Compare the present perfect continuous (I have been doing) and the past perfect continuous (I had been doing):

Present	Past
<i>-I hope the bus comes soon. We've been waiting for 30 minutes. (before now)</i>	<i>-At last the bus came. We'd been waiting for 30 minutes. (before the bus came)</i>
<i>-Lilly is out of breath. She has been running.</i>	<i>-Lilly was out of breath. She had been running.</i>

Some **time markers** can emphasize the duration of the action. These **time markers** are *all day, all morning, for days, for ages etc.* You can also use time markers to say that something had been happening for a period of time before something else happened:

*Samantha went to the doctor last Monday. She hadn't been feeling well **for some time**.*

*My sister had been playing with her friends outside **for an hour when** it started to rain heavily.*

Remember that **non-continuous verbs (e.g. to love, hate, know, want etc.)** are not used in any continuous tenses. Use the past perfect instead.

We were good friends. ~~We had been knowing each other for years.~~ We had known each other for years.

Short Story Dialogue

– *It seemed to me that your brother was depressed a year ago.*

– *Yeah, **he'd been feeling down since he lost his job.** Could you just imagine that? He got a perfect job at one startup company, the launch was going smoothly. And then 7 months later they lost the funding.*

– ***So at the time the company lost the funding, your brother had been working there for 7 months?***

– *Correct. We know that it seemed like such a short period of time for some people, **but my brother had been dreaming about that amazing job opportunity for years.***

– *Yeah, I understand that.*

Independent Practice - Past perfect continuous tense

1) Make sentences using the words in brackets.

a. I had to cancel my trip due to work. (I/to plan/this trip/for months).	..... .....
b. Mike didn't hear Lucy when she asked for help in the kitchen. (He/to listen to music/in his room).	..... .....
c. I was extremely tired when I got home. (I/to work hard/all day).	..... .....
d. When I entered the room, Kate turned off the TV. (She/to watch/a soap opera).	..... .....

2) Put the verbs into the past perfect (I had done) or the past perfect continuous (I had been doing) form.

- a. We were good friends. (we/to know) each other for nearly a decade.
b. I was annoyed because my friends were late and (I/to wait) for an hour.
c. Pupils were sitting on the ground. They were out of breath. (they/to run)

3) Read the situations and complete the sentences.

- a. We played beach volleyball yesterday. Half an hour after we began playing, it started to rain.
We for half an hour when it started to rain.
b. My aunt got a job at the supermarket. Two years later it closed down.
At the time the supermarket closed down, my aunt there for two years.
c. The band started playing and after about 15 minutes the singer showed up.
At the time the singer showed up, the band for about 15 minutes.

Independent Practice: Answers - Past perfect continuous tense

1) Make sentences using the words in brackets.

- a. I had to cancel my trip due to work. **I'd been planning this trip for months.**
- b. Mike didn't hear Lucy when she asked for help in the kitchen. **He'd been listening to music in his room.**
- c. I was extremely tired when I got home. **I'd been working hard all day.**
- d. When I entered the room, Kate turned off the TV. **She'd been watching a soap opera.**

2) Put the verbs into the past perfect (I had done) or the past perfect continuous (I had been doing) form.

- a. We were good friends. **We had known** each other for nearly a decade.
- b. I was annoyed because my friends were late and **I'd been waiting** for an hour.
- c. Pupils were sitting on the ground. They were out of breath. **They'd been running.**

3) Read the situations and complete the sentences.

- a. We **had been playing** for half an hour when it started to rain.
- b. At the time the supermarket closed down, my aunt **had been working** there for two years.
- c. At the time the singer showed up, the band **had been playing** for about 15 minutes.

The Future Perfect Continuous Tense

Introduction

1) We use the future perfect continuous when we describe an action that has begun sometime in the past, present, or future, and is expected to continue in the future. In this case, we are projecting ourselves forward in time and looking back at the duration of that action.

When Peter turns 40, he will have been painting for 35 years.

2) The future perfect continuous is formed using *will + have + been + present participle*. Questions are indicated by inverting the subject and *will*. Negatives are made with *not*. Contracted forms are used.

(+) *At 6 o'clock I will have been waiting here for an hour./At that time I'll have been waiting here for an hour.*

(-) *I won't have been waiting here for an hour at 6 o'clock.*

(?) *Will I have been waiting here for an hour at 6 o'clock?*

We often use *by + time expression* with the future perfect continuous to show that the situation has begun sometime in the past, present, or future, and is expected to continue in the future.

By 2025 *he'll have been living in London for 10 years.*

We can also use *when, as soon as, before, or by the time* to show the sequence of events. In this case, use the present simple tense in the parts with *when, by the time etc.*

When *I complete my studies, I'll have been learning English for 17 years.*

Remember that **non-continuous verbs (e.g. to love, hate, know, want etc.)** are not used in any continuous tenses. Use the future perfect instead.

~~*In March I'll have been knowing you for a year.*~~ *In March I'll have known you for a year.*

Short Story Dialogue

– I've just realized that **by the time they finish their trip, they'll have been hiking for more than 25 days.**

– Yeah, I know! **And they won't have been sleeping in bed or having a shower in almost a month!**

– Yeah. Well, at least they won't be that picky about the food then! **When we pick them up, they will have been eating canned food for weeks.**

– Maybe taking them straight to the buffet is a better idea...

Independent Practice - Future perfect continuous

1) Make sentences using the words in brackets.

a. (we/to wait/for over an hour/by the time Kim/to arrive).	..... .....
b. (how long/you/to study/when you/to graduate)?	..... .....
c. (we/to drive/for 12 hours/when we/to get/to Berlin).	..... .....
d. (my sister/to teach/for more than 5 years/by the time she/to leave/for Europe).	..... .....

2) Put the verbs into the future perfect (I will have done) or the future perfect continuous (I will have been doing) form.

- a. Pick me up after 5 p.m. (I/to get ready) by then.
 b. (Kate/to lose) all her motivation before the end of the semester.
 c. (Jack/to wait) for her to say 'Yes' for 2 years next month.

3) Answer the questions.

a. Will you have been cooking for hours by the time your guests arrive?	..... .....
b. Will you have been working at your current position for one year next month?	..... .....
c. Will you have been learning English for 10 years in 2020?	..... .....

Independent Practice: Answers - - Future perfect continuous

1) Make sentences using the words in brackets.

- a. We'll have been waiting for over an hour by the time Kim arrives.
- b. How long will you have been studying when you graduate?
- c. We'll have been driving for 12 hours when we get to Berlin.
- d. My sister will have been teaching for more than 5 years by the time she leaves for Europe.

2) Put the verbs into the future perfect (I will have done) or the future perfect continuous (I will have been doing) form.

- a. Pick me up after 5 p.m. **I'll have got ready** by then.
- b. **Kate will have lost** all her motivation before the end of the semester.
- c. Jack **will have been waiting** for her to say 'Yes' for 2 years next month.

3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. Yes, I'll have been cooking for hours by the time my guests arrive.
- b. No, I won't have been working at my current position for one year next month.
- c. No, I'll have been learning English for 20 years in 2020.