

Perfect Tenses

Present Perfect

Past Perfect

Future Perfect

Present Perfect (meaning)

- The PRESENT PERFECT expresses an action, state of being or state of mind that began in the past with strong contact in the present.
 - When using since..., for..., today, tonight, this, it expresses an action, state of being or state of mind that began in the past, continuous into the present and maybe into the future.
 - When using the adverbs recently, already, or just, it expresses an action, state of being or state of mind that was finished in the past but has a strong contact with the present.
 - When using yet, it expresses an action, state of being or state of mind that hasn't happened yet, but with the possibility of taking place in the future.

Present Perfect (General Structure)

- *(affirmative) S + HAVE-HAS + V (past participle) + ...*
 e.g. Mother has already finished lunch.
 I have worked here for five years.
- *(negative) S + HAVE-HAS + NOT + V (past participle) + ...*
 e.g. We have not eaten yet.
 She has not been here today.
- *(interrogative) HAVE-HAS + S + V (past participle) + ... ?*
 e.g. Have you gone to Mexico recently?
 Has Jane bought a new dress today?

Past Perfect (meaning)

- The PAST PERFECT tense expresses two actions, state of mind or state of being that took place in the past, one before the other.
- Expressions of time most frequently used:
 - Before...
 - After...
 - When...

Past Perfect (General Structure)

- *(affirmative) S + HAD + V (past participle) + ...*
e.g. We had had lunch before the visitors arrived.
- *(negative) S + HAD + NOT + V (past participle) + ...*
e.g. George had not called me when I came in.
- *(interrogative) HAD + S + V (past participle) + ... ?*
e.g. Had they worked many hours before I saw them?

Future Perfect (meaning)

- n The **FUTURE PERFECT** expresses an action, state of being, state of mind that will have taken place in some moment in the future.
- n - In this tense two auxiliaries must be considered: "WILL + HAVE". The principal verb must be written in past participle.
- n **Expressions of time** most frequently used:
 - n Anyone of the future may be used.

Future Perfect (General Structure)

n *(affirmative) S + WILL + HAVE + V (past participle) + ...*

e.g. George will have taught French by next course.

n *(negative) S + WILL + HAVE + NOT + V (past participle) + ...*

e.g. They will have not finished the work by next year.

n *(interrogative) WILL + S + HAVE + V (past participle) + ... ?*

e.g. Will Joe have entered the parliament by next decade?