

What?! 3 more future tenses?!!!



Well, how else could you talk about...

- ...consequential completed future actions?
- ...interrupted future actions?
- ...or just be a bit more emphatic and formal?

1. I can hear & see you hyperventilating (I've got a crystal ball, after all!). Calm down! We really only use one of them a lot, but as long as we're looking at that one, we might as well look at the other two, too! Can you figure them out before we look at them? **CLICK ON, DRAG, & DROP** these, correctly (TOO MANY LINES!):

future
continuous

future
perfect

future
perfect continuous



Have you done n. 1, already? OK, great, you can go ahead. ... Oh, you haven't? Well, do it before going ahead!

2. Let's look at the future perfect tense, first. We use that one to talk about something that will happen in the future *after* something else in the future has happened, ex., When you come, I will (already) have eaten. If you can substitute "by the time (that)" for "when," you can probably use the future perfect.

How to make it? The names for verb tenses in English help you know how to formulate them. Think about it for a minute before you keep reading. I'll wait...



So, how *do* we make the future perfect? What is the basic simple way to indicate the future in English? *Will*. What past tense do we use to indicate something that was completed in the past, but is still somehow important in the present? *To have* + past participle. Now, just put those two together, and push them into the future as a unit: *will* + the infinitive of *have* with no "to" + principal verb past participle. Your turn! ... TICK:

Don't forget that, just like for If n. 1, in the "When" part you **MUST** use the present simple to indicate the future because we **CAN'T** use *will* in a clause that isn't a complete sentence, ex., **YES:** When you arrive, I'll have decided which movie to see; **NO:** ~~When you will arrive,...~~; ~~When she will have seen,...~~

a.) When the vet brings us the dog, it will have gotten its shots | it will already got its shots.

b.) By the time you see this, she will already have left. | she has already left.

c.) When you arrive | When you will arrive, I will already have seen him.

d.) By the time the boss sees this, the package will have gone | the package will go.

e.) Now write one of your own (UNGRADED):





3. Next, let's look at the future perfect continuous. Think carefully about the name of the verb tense. How do you think it is made? I'll wait, again...

Yes! It's just the same as the future perfect, only instead of the past participle of the principal verb, we use the past participle of *to be* ... *been* ... + the *-ing* participle of the principal verb, ex., By the time you arrive, I will (already) have been cooking for three hours. Your turn! TICK the correct answers.

a.) WHEN do we use the future perfect continuous? To indicate the...

..... duration of an action | duration of an interrupted action.

b.) When you will arrive | When you arrive
she will have been reading for 4.5 hours.

c.) By the time that TV show comes on, I...

..... will have been snoozing for an hour | will have snoozed, before.

e.) When they finally call her, grandma will have been waiting for hours | has waited for hours.

f.) Now write one of your own (UNGRADED):



O.K., the good news is that, although these two tenses are very useful in particular situations, we don't use them very often just because we usually don't need to be that precise. We do use the future continuous, though. Are you ready?

4. How do you think that the future continuous is formulated? I'll wait, ... again



It's like the future of *to be* + the principal verb *-ing* participle, ex., I'll be sitting.... TICK:

- a.) Why? We use it to be harsh & pedantic | emphatic and formal; otherwise it's the same as "will."
b.) The designer will be showing | will have showing his new collection, tonight, at 8 PM.
c.) Ms. Meyer will have checking | will be checking your online work.
d.) Now write one of your own (UNGRADED):

5. Now can you figure them out? CLICK ON, DRAG, & DROP these, correctly (TOO MANY LINES!):

future
continuous

future
perfect

future
perfect continuous



In the crystal ball, I see futures three...more! - Three more future tenses in English – by S.K. Meyer

IMAGES: All the images are Clipart from the Microsoft Word program used to make this document.