

1 Use the words and phrases in the boxes to complete the sentences. Pay particular attention to the words that come before or after the words and phrases.

Part 1: One action or situation occurring before another action or situation

by the time earlier formerly precede previously prior to

1. the advent of the Industrial Revolution, pollution was virtually unheard of.
2. the army had restored order, the city had been almost completely devastated.
3. known as Bombay, Mumbai is India's most vibrant and exciting city.
4. A sudden drop in temperature will usually a blizzard.
5. It was my first trip on an aeroplane. I'd always gone by train.
6. The Prime Minister made a speech praising charity organisations working in Mozambique. that day he had promised massive economic aid to stricken areas.

Part 2: One action or situation occurring at the same time as another action or situation

at that very moment during in the meantime while

1. the minister was making his speech, thousands of demonstrators took to the streets.
2. the speech they jeered and shouted slogans.
3. The minister continued speaking. the police were ordered onto the streets.
4. He finished the speech with a word of praise for the police. people began throwing bottles and bricks, and the riot began.

Part 3: One action or situation occurring after another action or situation

afterwards as soon as following

1. the earthquake, emergency organisations around the world swung into action.
2. the stock market collapsed, there was panic buying on an unprecedented scale.
3. The Klondike gold rush lasted from 1896 to 1910., the area became practically deserted overnight.

2 Look at these words and phrases and decide if we usually use them to talk about (1) the past, (2) the past leading to the present, (3) the present or (4) the future. Try to write a sentence for each one.

a few decades ago as things stand at the turn of the century at that point / moment in history
back in the 1990s between 2003 and 2005 by the end of this year ever since for the
foreseeable future for the next few weeks for the past few months from 2006 to 2011 from now
on in another five years' time in medieval times in my childhood / youth in those days last
century lately nowadays one day over the coming weeks and months over the past six weeks
sooner or later these days