

Future Perfect

Table of Contents

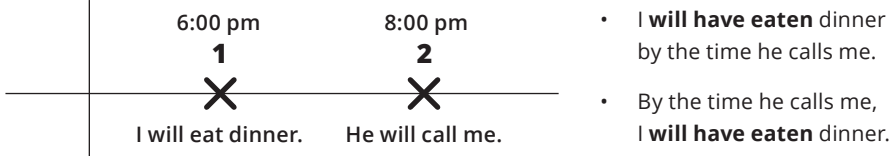
2	Grammar Notes
4	Exercise 1 Fill in the Blanks
5	Exercise 2 You're Too Late!
6	Exercise 3 Sentence Formation
7	Exercise 4 Pair Work
8	Exercise 5 My Goals
9	Exercise 6 Mixed Tenses
11	Exercise 7 Quiz

Grammar Notes

FUTURE PERFECT

A. Introduction

The future perfect is used to talk about two actions that will occur at two different times in the future. In a future perfect sentence, the first action uses the *future perfect* tense and the second action (further into the future) uses the *simple present* tense.

Future Perfect	
Diagram	
Form	will + have + past participle
Function	one future action will happen before another future action
Time Markers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by the time • when • before <p style="text-align: center;">(Note that other time markers such as <i>next</i>, <i>tomorrow</i>, and <i>from now</i> are often used in the dependent clause.)</p>
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our manager will have gone home by the time we finish this project. • By the time he moves to Seattle, he will have quit his job. • When she gets back to me next week, I will have made other plans. • They'll have handed out five dozen fliers before they call it a night. • Uni will already have accepted another job offer when they get back to her two weeks from now.

Grammar Notes cont.

B. Notes

Note #1

When the dependent (time) clause begins the sentence, we usually use a comma. We don't need a comma when the independent clause begins the sentence. There is no change in meaning.

- **By the time the conference ends,**
I will have spoken to more than 50 people.
- I will have spoken to more than 50 people **by the time the conference ends.**

Note #2

Instead of a dependent clause, we can use an adverb phrase of time (note that a phrase has no subject or verb). Examples of typical phrases include *by July 2030*, *by 9:00 tomorrow night*, *two months from now*, etc.

- They will have completed construction on the new building **three months from now.**
- **By 5:00 pm tomorrow,** we will have wrapped up the negotiations and finalized the deal.

Note #3

A future perfect action can be repeated, or there could be multiple actions before the final one.

- **I'll have gone to the gym hundreds of times** before it closes next December.
- **They will have cleaned their condo and prepared all the food** by the time their guests arrive at 8:00 pm.

Note #4

The future perfect is not as common as the simple future. In fact, we can often use the simple future instead of the future perfect, especially in informal situations (mostly when a time marker other than "by the time" is used). There is often no change in meaning.

- I **will have turned off** all the lights before I leave the house.
- I **will turn off** all the lights before I leave the house. (*more common*)

Exercise 1

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Write the future perfect or simple present tense of the verbs below.

- Ex. By the time Min Jun gets to the theatre, the movie will have started .
(start)
1. By the time Sonya finishes work, her boyfriend _____ dinner.
(make)
 2. Malik _____ his third week on the job by this time next Tuesday.
(complete)
 3. When Daniel _____ work, everyone will already have left the office.
(wrap up)
 4. I _____ to bed before my wife gets home tonight.
(go)
 5. The baseball field will have become muddy by the time it _____ raining.
(stop)
 6. By the time Adrian heads home, the sun _____ .
(set)
 7. Mariam _____ her degree by next May.
(earn)
 8. They will have travelled around the world by the time they _____ in Thailand.
(arrive)
 9. By the time she finishes studying tonight, her brother _____ asleep.
(fall)
 10. Aisha _____ her sales training by November.
(finish)
 11. Mateo and Lola _____ from their trip before their son's 18th birthday.
(return)
 12. All the schools will have closed by the time it _____ later this afternoon.
(snow)
 13. By the time your plane lands, I _____ at the airport to pick you up.
(arrive)
 14. The lecture will have already started by the time Keiko and Ren _____ to class.
(get)
 15. We _____ the heavy lifting by the time you get here.
(do)

Exercise 2

YOU'RE TOO LATE!

Imagine you have a friend who's always late. Use the future perfect and the following prompts to give advice or warnings to your friend.

Ex. By the time you apply for the job... (someone else / get)

By the time you apply for the job, someone else will have gotten it.

1. By the time you get to the stadium... (concert / start)

2. By the time you get to the party... (everyone / eat / all the food)

3. By the time you call your mother back... (she / angry / for weeks)

4. By the time you join a gym... (out of shape / for months)

5. By the time you go apartment-hunting... (everyone / rent / good places)

6. By the time you hand in your homework... (teacher / already / correct / everyone else's assignments)

7. By the time you go to the doctor... (rash / get worse)

8. By the time you go to the hospital to visit your friend... (she / go home)

9. By the time you arrive at the restaurant... (your friends / leave)

10. By the time you do the dishes... (mould / grow)

Exercise 3

SENTENCE FORMATION

Write future perfect sentences based on the following information.

Ex. Next Tuesday at 5:00 pm, I will leave work.
Next Tuesday at 6:00 pm, my brother's flight will arrive.

By the time my brother's flight arrives, I will have left work.

1. Next summer, Pavel will graduate. Next fall, Pavel will visit his relatives in Russia.

2. Tomorrow at 5:00 pm, Amalia will take her cat to the vet.
Tomorrow at 4:00 pm, Amalia will finish work.

3. Next Wednesday at 1:00 pm, Jae will take his psychology exam.
Next Wednesday at 6:00 pm, Jae will attend a history lecture.

4. Next week, the Jones family will buy a new car. This weekend, the Jones family will sell their old car.

5. Tonight at 7:00 pm, Mr. and Mrs. Kim will get home.
Today at 3:30 pm, the workmen will finish installing their new windows.

6. In November 2022, Pablo will go to Qatar to watch the World Cup.
By October 2022, Pablo will save \$3,000.

7. Next week, Diego and Sara will get married. Next month, Diego and Sara will move into a new apartment.

8. Tonight at midnight, Youssef will go to bed.
Tonight at 11:00 pm, Youssef will finish his homework.

Exercise 4

PAIR WORK

Fill in the schedule with things you will (or might) do next Saturday. Then, with a partner, take turns asking and answering future perfect questions. Give as many details as you can.

Example:

- A:** What will you have done by 11:00 am next Saturday?
- B:** I will have gone for a coffee with my friend by 11:00 am. We meet at Starbucks every Saturday morning at 9:00, and then we go for a walk. What will you have accomplished by 7:00 pm next Saturday?
- A:** By 7:00 pm, I will have finished making dinner for my family, but we will probably still be eating. How about you?

Schedule	
7:00 am	
9:00 am	
11:00 am	
12:00 pm	
1:00 pm	
3:00 pm	
5:00 pm	
7:00 pm	
9:00 pm	
11:00 pm	

Exercise 5

MY GOALS

What will you have accomplished in life by the time you reach certain milestones (graduation, 30th birthday, 40th birthday, retirement, etc.)? Write a few paragraphs about the goals and dreams you have for your life. Use the future perfect tense as often as possible.

Example:

I have a lot of hopes and dreams for my future. I will have studied English for many years by the time I graduate from university, so I will be pretty fluent. A year after that, I imagine I will have started my career as an English teacher...

Exercise 6

MIXED TENSES

A. Complete the Story

Complete the following story by filling in the blanks using the verbs provided. Decide if each sentence should be in the **present perfect**, **past perfect**, or **future perfect** tense. Use the story's context and time markers to help you choose which tense to use for each verb.

I _____ so confused lately. I feel like I _____ in too
(1. be) (2. be pulled)

many directions for weeks now. I'm trying to think of what I want to do with the rest of my life so that by the

time I _____ from university next year, I _____
(3. graduate) (4. decide)

on a career path. When I _____ a teenager, I _____
(5. be) (6. decide)

that I wanted to be a news anchor, but now I don't think I want to be on TV. What I really love is writing.

I _____ years writing short stories and newspaper articles. In fact,
(7. spend)

I _____ more than 100 articles by the time I _____
(8. write) (9. enter)

university, so maybe I should become a journalist instead of a news anchor. I can still put my communications

degree to good use!



Exercise 6 cont.

A. Complete the Story cont.

Also, my friends _____ a lot of my time lately, and
(10. take up)

I _____ as focused on my school and career as I should be. It will be the middle of
(11. be, not)

the term two days from now, and I _____ all my assignments by then because I have
(12. hand in, not)

been going out too often. I feel so stressed out. Maybe I need a vacation! My best friend is going on a six-week

trip to Europe next month, and I'm so tempted to join her. If I _____ to Europe with
(13. go)

her, I _____ many countries by the time I'm 25! That would be amazing. Before
(14. see)

I _____ university, I _____ five different countries with
(15. start) (16. visit, already)

my parents, but I _____ to Europe. What should I do?
(17. go, never)

B. Discussion

After completing this story, tell your partner or group what advice you'd offer this student. Try to use the present, past, and future perfect tenses as often as possible.

Exercise 7

QUIZ

Circle the best answer.

1. By the time this postcard _____ you,
we will have left Paris.
 - a) will have reached
 - b) will reach
 - c) reaches
2. Ali _____ his roof before the rainy season began.
 - a) will have fixed
 - b) had fixed
 - c) will fix
3. She _____ her training course.
 - a) has already begun
 - b) had begun already
 - c) will already has begun
4. They _____ to another city
before they find new jobs.
 - a) will have moved
 - b) had moved
 - c) have moved
5. Before I _____ home tonight,
I will have completed my assignment.
 - a) will head
 - b) headed
 - c) head
6. Isabella had already arrived in Spain when
she _____ about her host family's accident.
 - a) will hear
 - b) heard
 - c) hears
7. Haru and Ai _____ English
since they were five years old.
 - a) will have studied
 - b) had studied
 - c) have studied
8. By the time Daila got to class, it _____.
 - a) will have started
 - b) had started
 - c) have started
9. By the time Johanne _____ a new car, he will
have saved enough money for the down payment.
 - a) will buy
 - b) buy
 - c) buys
10. By next December,
I _____ in California for 15 years.
 - a) will have lived
 - b) had lived
 - c) have lived
11. It's our anniversary today,
and we _____ for 25 years.
 - a) will have been married
 - b) had been married
 - c) have been married
12. Our new office building _____
by this time next year.
 - a) will have been built
 - b) will have built
 - c) will build