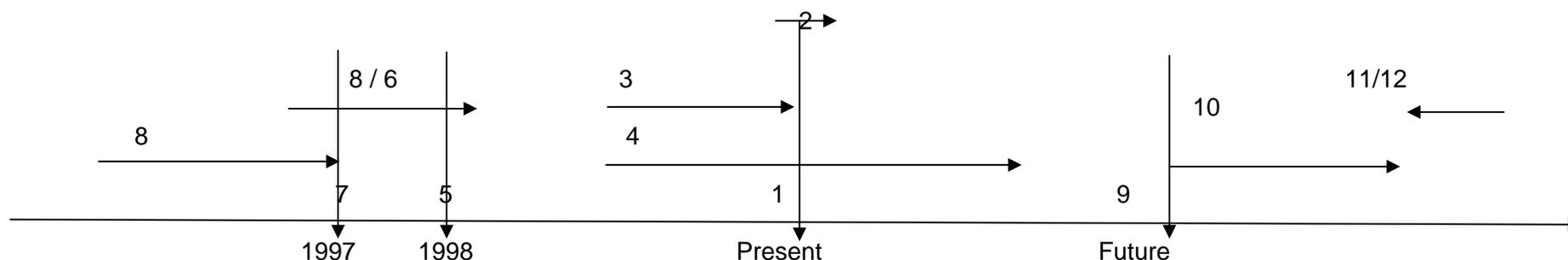


Grammar Revision – Tenses – Simplified Tense arrow



- 1 Present Simple
 - facts: The sun *rises* in the east and sets in the west.
 - habits, repeated actions: I always* *get* up at seven o'clock.
 - permanent situations: My parents *live* in Dover.
 - explanations or Instructions: 'You *go* straight on to the traffic lights, then you turn left ...'

- 2 Present Continuous
 - actions and situations happening in a period around now: The phone *is ringing*. Please answer it.
 - temporary situations: I'm *working* in a factory to pay my college fees.
 - annoying habits: You're always *complaining*. You're never *satisfied*.
 - planned future: What *are you doing* tomorrow evening? I'm *going* to the theatre with Ann.

- 3 Present Perfect Simple
 - to express unfinished past: How long *have you known* her? We *have known* each other for five years.
 - these expressions also refer to periods of time that continue from the past until now: recently, lately, in the last few days, up to now
 - to express experience: *Have you been* to China? - No, I haven't. I've *been* to London a number of times.
 - just, still, already, yet: *Have you made* supper yet? - No, I've just *come* home from work.

- unfinished periods of time: I've *done* my laundry today. I've *been* very busy this morning.
to express a present result of a past action: I've *lost* my wallet. (= I don't have it now.)
- 4 Present Perfect Continuous to suggest that a situation is temporary rather than permanent: I've *worked* for the same company for twelve years. *or* I've *been working* for the same company for twelve years.
to show that an action is not finished (unfinished past): I've *waited* long enough! (= I won't wait any longer.) I've *been waiting* for thirty minutes and he still hasn't come. (= I'm still waiting)
to emphasize that an action has only just finished, particularly when explaining results that can still be seen (present result): Why is the floor so wet? The washing machine *has been leaking* again.
- 5 Past Simple to talk about past events: short, finished actions, longer situations, and repeated actions:
Peter *broke* a window last night. I spent all my childhood in Scotland.
to tell a story: Once upon a time the king *decided* that the princess *had* to get married and so he ...
time expressions: yesterday / last week / last month / last year / two days ago / three decades ago / in 1994 / at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon / etc.
- 6 Past Simple Continuous to show that an action started before and continued after a particular time in the past: What *were* you *doing* at seven o'clock yesterday evening? -I *was having* a bath.
a shorter action happening in the middle of a longer one: When I *got* up, the sun *was shining* and the birds *were singing*.
an ongoing action which is interrupted by another one: When my brother *was driving* to York, he *had* an accident.
two parallel actions happening at the same time: While I *was chatting* on the phone, the dinner *was burning*.

- 7 Past Perfect Simple when talking about the past and we want to refer to actions or events which had already happened at that time, we use the past perfect simple: When Paul arrived at the party, Lucy *had already gone* home. In many ways the past perfect is the past equivalent of the present perfect: I was very pleased to see Tim again as we *had not seen* each other for a long time.
- 8 Past Perfect Continuous to talk about longer actions or situations which had continued up to the past moment that we are thinking about, or shortly before it: At that time we *had been living* in the caravan for about six months. to emphasize that an action had only just finished, particularly when explaining results in the past: When I found Mary, I could see that she *had been crying*.
- 9 Future Simple *The present simple is used with a future meaning for:*
timetables: What time *does* the train *leave* tomorrow? The film *starts* at 8.15 this evening.
subordinate clauses: in subordinate clauses -for example after - when, as soon as, until, before, if, unless, on condition that, provided that, as long as: She will pay us back when she *gets* a job.
- The present continuous is used:*
to talk about personal arrangements and fixed plans, especially when the time and place have been decided: We're *going* to Mexico next summer. I'm *seeing* Larry on Saturday.
- Be going + Infinitive is used:*
to talk about plans. Going to often emphasises the idea of intention, of a decision that has already been made: We *are going* to get married in December. We're *going* to get a new car soon.
to predict the future on the basis of present evidence: Look at the sky. It's *going to rain*.
Going to expresses a plan, intention or decision thought about before the moment of speaking.
Going to is used to express a future event for which there is some evidence now.

Will is used:

to talk about a future fact: The Queen *will open* the new hospital on Thursday. He *will be* 45 next week.

to express an immediate decision: A: I am cold. B: I *ll close* the window.

to express a promise, threat, offer, request: I *won't tell* anybody what happened. I promise.

to make a prediction without any evidence: I don't think I *ll go* out tonight. I suppose he *ll be* late again.

(This can be a personal opinion introduced by such verbs as think, expect, suppose, doubt, I'm sure, etc.)

Will expresses a decision made at the moment of speaking. Will expresses a future prediction for which there is not any evidence. It can be your personal opinion.

10 Future Continuous

to say that something will be in progress at a particular moment in the future: This time tomorrow I *ll be lying* on the beach.

to refer to future events which are fixed or decided: What time *will* your friends *be arriving* tomorrow?

to make polite enquiries about people's plans: *Will* you *be staying* in this evening?

11 Future Perfect Simple

to say that something will have been done, completed or achieved by a certain time in the future:

12 Future Perfect Continuous

In two years' time I *ll have finished* my thesis.

By the end of the month, I *ll have been working* for this firm for five years.