



TIMELINE OF TENSES

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BAC REVIEW

I-SIMPLE TENSES:

Past

Now

Future

Past Simple: Used for an action that happened at a point in time in the past.

Eg. I **visited** the museum this morning.

Key words : yesterday

Last, ----ago, in 2002

Present Simple :

Used when making a general statement

Eg.I **read** a few pages of a book every day.

Key words: always, usually

often , sometimes, rarely, now, every...

Future Simple: Used

for an action that will happen in the

future.

Eg.I **will visit** the museum

Key words:

Tomorrow, tonight next, in 2020

II-CONTINUOUS /PROGRESSIVE TENSES:

Past

Now

Future

Past Continuous:

*Used for an action that was happening for a period of time in the past when another action interrupted it.

Eg.I **was watching** Tv when the phone rang.

Present Continuous:

*Used for an action that is happening now.

Eg.Right now, **I'm watching** the news.

Key words: Now, At this very Moment

Future Continuous:

*used for an action that Will be in progress at a precise time in the Future. Eg: Tonight at

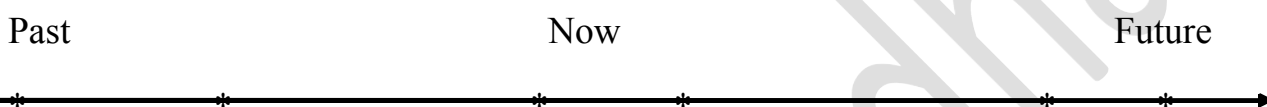
10 o'clock, I **will be visiting** my grandma.

*Used for two simultaneous actions

Eg. While she **was studying**, he **was playing** the guitar.

III-PERFECT TENSES:

Perfect tenses are used whenever we are talking about a point in time before another point in time.



Past Perfect

*Used for an action that happened in the past before another action.

Eg: I **had already finished** the exercise when my teacher called on me.

Key Words: just, already, before
After, since, until, by...

Present Perfect:

Used for an action that happened in the past before the present moment.

Eg: I **have already signed** the contract.

Key Words: since, for, so far
Just, up to now, yet, never, ever
lately, recently,...

Future Perfect:

*Used for an Action that will happen in the Future before another action.

Eg: I **will have already signed** the contract by the time my brother comes.

Key words:

By+future time

IV-PERFECT CONTINUOUS TENSES:

Past

Now

Future

Past Perfect Continuous:

*Used for an action that was happening for a period of time in the past up to the moment another action happened.

Eg: I **had been reading** The magazine for 30mn when my friend arrived

Key words: before

After, since, for

Present Perfect Continuous

*Used for an action that was happening for a period of time up to the present moment.

Eg: I **have been reading** the magazine for 30 minutes.

Key words: for, since

Future Perfect

Continuous

*Used for an action that will be happening in the future for a Period of time up to the moment when another action will happen.

Eg: I **will have been reading** my magazine For 30 mn by the time You come.

Key words: Tonight
At 10 o'clock (or any
Precise future time)