English Grammar Stories and Exercises

The Perfect Progressive Tenses Series

Present Perfect Progressive

By Really Learn English
Present Perfect Progressive

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Present Perfect Progressive
(Also Called Present Perfect Continuous)

The present perfect progressive is a form of the verb that shows the action started in the past and continued up until the present.
We use it to describe:

• An action that started in the past and continued up until the present
  (The action is either still going on or ended very recently)
  (Examples: “I have been studying for two hours.”
            “We have been traveling for three weeks.”)

• Something was happening lately
  (Examples: “You have been working too hard lately.”
            “She has been eating lots of sweets recently.”)

Examples of typical time expressions:
• recently
• lately
• for
• since
• all morning / day / weekend
Exercise 1

A) Answer the following questions in your native language.

1. Think about an action that you started doing in the past that you are still doing now.

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

2. Think about something that was happening lately.

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

When you want to talk about these sorts of things in English, you can use the present perfect progressive form of the verb.
**Present Perfect Progressive Rules**

### Positive Sentences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who?</th>
<th>Form of verb</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I/ You/We/They</td>
<td>have been</td>
<td>We have been talking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He/She/It</td>
<td>has been</td>
<td>She has been talking.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Negative Sentences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who?</th>
<th>Form of verb</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I/ You/We/They</td>
<td>have not been</td>
<td>They have not been talking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He/She/It</td>
<td>has not been</td>
<td>He has not been talking.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Question Sentences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who?</th>
<th>Form of verb</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have</td>
<td>have been</td>
<td>Have I been talking?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has</td>
<td>he/she/it</td>
<td>Has she been talking?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contractions

Contractions (short forms) are very common in spoken English.

For example, we use “have” and “has” in the present perfect progressive. When speaking (not in formal writing), most native speakers use these contractions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I have</th>
<th>I’ve</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>He has</td>
<td>He’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She has</td>
<td>She’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It has</td>
<td>It’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You have</td>
<td>You’ve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We have</td>
<td>We’ve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They have</td>
<td>They’ve</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remember that we use these contractions most often with pronouns (I, he, she, it, you, we, they). We can also use them with names. But it is less common to use them with other nouns.

Correct: He’s been studying for half an hour.

Correct: Dan’s been studying for half an hour.

Incorrect: The kids’ve been studying for half an hour.

When we use the negative form of the present perfect progressive in English, we use “is/are” and “not.”

Most native speakers use contractions with “have/has” and “not.” If they are writing something formal, they use the full form, but if they are speaking, they almost always prefer the contraction.
Here are the contractions with “have/has” and “not”:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I have not</th>
<th>He has not</th>
<th>She has not</th>
<th>It has not</th>
<th>You have not</th>
<th>We have not</th>
<th>They have not</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I haven’t</td>
<td>He hasn’t</td>
<td>She hasn’t</td>
<td>It hasn’t</td>
<td>You haven’t</td>
<td>We haven’t</td>
<td>They haven’t</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Your Turn**

Write the contractions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I have</th>
<th>He has</th>
<th>She has</th>
<th>I have not</th>
<th>She has not</th>
<th>It has not</th>
<th>You have not</th>
<th>We have not</th>
<th>They have not</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_________</td>
<td>_________</td>
<td>_________</td>
<td>_________</td>
<td>_________</td>
<td>_________</td>
<td>_________</td>
<td>_________</td>
<td>_________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Exercise 2**

A) Fill in the correct form of the verb in the present perfect progressive tense.

1. I _______________________________ (watch) television for an hour!

2. Kerry ____________________________ (listen) to rock music lately.

3. You _____________________________ (talk) on the phone too long!

4. We ______________________________ (ask) about the schedule for weeks.

5. They _____________________________ (play) tennis all afternoon.
Exercise 4

A) Fill in the correct form of the verb in the present perfect progressive tense.

1. We have been ______________ (dance) all evening.

2. She has been ______________ (have) problems at work lately.

3. They have been ______________ (explore) the forest all day.

4. I have been ______________ (erase) all the old files on this computer.

5. You have been ______________ (bake) muffins all morning!

B) Fill in the correct form of the verb in the present perfect progressive tense.

1. She has been ______________ (admit) her mistakes more easily lately.

2. The police have been ______________ (stop) drivers to check their licenses and car registrations.

3. I have been ______________ (get) a lot of phone calls lately at my house looking for someone called Francine.

4. We have been ______________ (plan) some fun trips for the students.

5. People have been ______________ (commit) fewer crimes in this neighborhood since last year.
C) Fill in the correct form of the verb in the present perfect progressive tense.

1. She has been _____________ (tie) bows on the presents all day.
2. Lots of trees in the forest have been _____________ (die) because of this very dry summer.
3. The criminal has been _____________ (lie) to the police all along!
4. The workers have been _____________ (take) a lot of breaks today because the weather is so hot.
5. The mayor has been _____________ (approve) lots of construction projects this year.

D) Turn these sentences into negative sentences and questions.

1. She has been admiring the paintings in the museum for hours.
   Negative: __________________________________________________________
   Question: __________________________________________________________

2. We have been changing all the light bulbs in the house.
   Negative: __________________________________________________________
   Question: __________________________________________________________
**Present Perfect Progressive, Story 2**

**Before Reading**

A) Look at the title of the story and the picture. What do you think this story is about?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

B) Match the words in column A to the words in column B. (There can be more than one correct answer.)

<p>| Column A | | Column B |
|----------|----------|
| work     | him      |
| eat      | great    |
| win      | determined |
| notice   | a cute dog |
| do       | protein |
| be       | water |
| offer    | first place |
| cross    | it |
| believe  | the finish line |
| see      | hard |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>prepare</td>
<td>at</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arrive</td>
<td>fast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>out</td>
<td>to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rush</td>
<td>for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wait</td>
<td>of breath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>run</td>
<td>after</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chase</td>
<td>for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>used</td>
<td>the finish line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cheer</td>
<td>for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>approach</td>
<td>over</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column A</th>
<th>Column B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hard</td>
<td>times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ten kilometer</td>
<td>worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>five</td>
<td>line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>every</td>
<td>park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>biggest</td>
<td>gun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>quiet</td>
<td>race</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>starting</td>
<td>ribbon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>blue</td>
<td>day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>finish</td>
<td>after</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>right</td>
<td>fan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C) After these exercises, what do you think this story is about?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
Present Perfect Progressive, Story 2

The Big Race

Andrea is preparing for a ten kilometer race. She has been working really hard to get ready. She has been running five times a week, and she has been eating lots of healthy food to keep her body strong.

Andrea is not a natural athlete, but she is a hard worker! She is determined to win first place. Her dog, Hermes, is her biggest fan and her running partner! He has been training with her every day.

Andrea arrives at the race with Hermes. The organizers notice him immediately!

“We have been doing this race for years, but we have never seen such an athletic dog! Can he run the race with you?” they suggest.

“Well, okay!” Andrea answers, “He has been practicing with me, so I think he will do great, too!”

Andrea and Hermes go to the starting line. There are a lot of people! Everyone is making noise and moving around. Hermes has just been running in quiet parks! He is not used to all this excitement!

Hermes has been getting more and more nervous, and when the starting gun sounds, he starts running away very fast. Andrea is holding his leash, so she has no choice but to chase after him! All her friends who have been cheering for her during the race cannot believe their eyes! She is running so fast! When they approach the finish line, the spectators start to shout, “Dog! Dog! Dog!”

Hermes crosses the finish line in first place! Andrea has been running so fast, she is out of breath. She crosses the finish line right after her dog, and she feels like she is about to faint! All the organizers rush over to her. She has been waiting so long for this moment! She is about to receive all the glory!

But everyone is running to Hermes! They put a blue ribbon around his neck and offer him lots of water. Andrea cannot believe it!

“Well,” says the organizer, “the rules say that the first runner across the finish line wins! And your dog was definitely running! Congratulations! The dog is the champion!”
Present Progressive, Story 2

After Reading

Grammar—Correct Form of the Verb

A) This is a copy of the original story. Go over it and fill in the blanks with the right form of every verb.

Andrea is preparing for a ten kilometer race. She ___________________________ (work) really hard to get ready. She ___________________________ (run) five times a week, and she ___________________________ (eat) lots of healthy food to keep her body strong.

Andrea is not a natural athlete, but she is a hard worker! She is determined to win first place. Her dog, Hermes, is her biggest fan and her running partner! He ___________________________ (train) with her every day.

Andrea arrives at the race with Hermes. The organizers notice him immediately!

“We ___________________________ (do) this race for years, but we have never seen such an athletic dog! Can he run the race with you?” they suggest.

“Well, okay!” Andrea answers, “He ___________________________ (practice) with me, so I think he will do great, too!”

Andrea and Hermes go to the starting line. There are a lot of people! Everyone is making noise and moving around. Hermes
just run in quiet parks! He is not used
to all this excitement!

Hermes (get) more and more nervous,
and when the starting gun sounds, he starts running away very fast. Andrea is
holding his leash, so she has no choice but to chase after him! All her friends
who (cheer) for her during the race
cannot believe their eyes! She is running so fast! When they approach the
finish line, the spectators start to shout, “Dog! Dog! Dog!”

Hermes crosses the finish line in first place! Andrea
(run) so fast, she is out of breath. She
crosses the finish line right after her dog, and she feels like she is about to
faint! All the organizers rush over to her. She
(wait) so long for this moment! She is
about to receive all the glory!

But everyone is running to Hermes! They put a blue ribbon around his neck
and offer him lots of water. Andrea cannot believe it!

“Well,” says the organizer, “the rules say that the first runner across the finish
line wins! And your dog was definitely running! Congratulations! The dog is the
champion!”
Vocabulary—Find the Right Word

B) Read the description and write down what it is. Use the box below for help.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>race</th>
<th>vegetables</th>
<th>coach</th>
<th>starting gun</th>
<th>organizer</th>
<th>starting line</th>
<th>fan</th>
<th>blue ribbon</th>
<th>glory</th>
<th>runner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. It is a person who helps an athlete train. Who is it? ____________

2. It is a running competition. What is it? ____________

3. It is a person who supports an athlete or a team. Who is it? ____________

4. It is praise and respect you get for achieving something important. What is it? ____________

5. It is fired to make a noise and start a race. What is it? ____________

6. It is a person who plans an event. Who is it? ____________

7. It is given to the winner of a contest. What is it? ____________

8. They are healthy plants that you eat. What are they? ____________

9. It is where a race begins. What is it? ____________

10. It is a person who practices the sport of running. Who is it? ____________
Grammar—Sentence Structure

C) The following sentences are all mixed up. Put the words on each line in the correct order to make a logical sentence.

1. working has ready really She to hard get been.

________________________________________________________________

2. been this She waiting long for so moment has!

________________________________________________________________

3. more has Hermes getting and been nervous more.

________________________________________________________________

Grammar—Questions, Negative Sentences, and Positive Sentences

D) Turn the following sentences into questions.

1. He has been practicing with me.

________________________________________________________________

2. She has been running five times a week.

________________________________________________________________

3. He has been training with her every day.

________________________________________________________________
E) Turn the following sentences into negative sentences.

1. She has been eating lots of healthy foods to keep her body strong.
   ________________________________________________________________
2. We have been doing this race for years.
   ________________________________________________________________
3. Hermes has just been running in quiet parks!
   ________________________________________________________________

F) Turn the following sentences into positive sentences.

1. Andrea has not been running very fast.
   ________________________________________________________________
2. All of her friends have not been cheering for her.
   ________________________________________________________________
3. Has she been working really hard to get ready for the race?
   ________________________________________________________________
Comprehension

G) Answer the following questions.

1. What has Andrea been training for?
   ____________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________

2. Who has been helping her train?
   ____________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________

3. Where have Andrea and Hermes been running?
   ____________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________

4. What has been happening to Hermes because of all the excitement?
   ____________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________
Essay Writing

H) Answer the following questions. Write a short essay for each.

1. Andrea has been working really hard to reach her goal. What have you been working hard on lately?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

2. Andrea has been expecting a certain result. Sometimes we know what will happen, and sometimes we don’t! What have you been expecting to happen recently?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
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________________________________________________________________
# Past Perfect Progressive

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**Future Perfect Progressive, Story 1**

The Boring Meeting

Mark and Tim work together in an office. They receive a memo saying that there is a special meeting in ten minutes. It is very important.

Tim smiles and says they must go! But Mark, as usual, says he does not want to. Everyone in the office knows how pessimistic Mark is about work. He complains all the time!

“That meeting will be terrible,” Mark groans. “By the time we leave, the supervisor will have been complaining for twenty minutes about how we file our reports.”

“You do not know that!” Tim replies. “Maybe he will have been telling us what wonderful workers we are.”

“No way!” Mark answers. “Look, it says the accountant will be there too. He will have been giving us boring details about taxes the whole time before we can escape back to our desks!”

“It will not be so bad, Mark. You should not be so pessimistic,” Tim reassures him. “We will not have been talking for very long before we get back to work.”

“What do you think we will have been talking about the whole time before it is finally over?” Mark asks. “Will the boss have been explaining how he is giving us extra vacation time?”

“Well, maybe not,” Tim replies. “But it might even be fun! Maybe we will have been sharing our ideas and experiences with the other departments before the meeting ends. We will have been learning a lot about the company! Come on, let’s go!”
Tim takes Mark by the arm and drags him into the meeting room. Mark does not want to go!

As soon as they get into the meeting room, they see that it is already full. When Mark walks in, everyone jumps up and shouts, “Surprise!”

“You complain too much, Mark!” Tim shouts. “You should be happy. You are the new supervisor of the whole department!”

Mark is surprised, but he quickly smiles. “You know, I was just telling Tim how much I love working with all of you! I am sure I will have been enjoying every single minute of being your supervisor even before the week is over!”

“What kind of supervisor will you be?” Tim asks him, laughing.

“Well, you will all have been learning from my excellent attitude and positivity,” Mark answers, shaking his co-workers’ hands. “During the first month, you will have been watching me spread optimism around the office!”

Everyone laughs and rolls their eyes. Mark is like an actor! Well, at least he will have been showing them how to seem positive in meetings, even if he hates them!
English Grammar
Stories and Exercises

The Perfect Progressive Tenses Series
Perfect Progressive Tenses Mixed

By Really Learn English
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<tr>
<td>Before Reading</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Best Product Ever</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>After Reading</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Perfect Progressive Tenses Mixed,  
Story 1  
Margaret’s Opinion

Gregory Hamilton, a famous and eccentric millionaire, is in a real estate agency looking at pictures of big mansions to buy. He and the real estate agent, Philip, have been reviewing sale advertisements for almost an hour.

Gregory has been asking lots of questions about each house. “Does this one have enough space to land my helicopter?” Gregory asks, looking up from the picture. “I had been leaving my helicopter at a friend’s house, but Margaret wanted it available for us all the time.”

Philip is surprised. He had been reading magazine articles about Gregory for a week to get ready for their meeting, but he had not read that Gregory was married! “Oh yes,” Philip replies, “there is plenty of space next to the pool.”

“Oh, but does the pool have a special shape?” Gregory asks, concerned. “Margaret does not like ordinary, boring things. I have been trying to find something special for her.”

“Well, this one is just a rectangle,” Philip answers. “But look at this house! They are redoing all the gardens and the pool. In a week, they will have been working for six months! But it will be finished by the date you want to move.”

“Oh, that pool looks very nice,” Gregory agrees. “How many floors does the mansion have?”

“This one has just one floor, but it is very spacious,” Philip explains.

“Oh, no,” Gregory says, turning the page in Philip’s house portfolio. “Margaret likes to have at least two different floors. You must have something with three
floors! But I have not seen any so far, and in a few minutes, we will have been looking at mansions for a whole hour!”

“Well,” Philip replies, smiling, “I had not been planning to show you this one until the end, but I will show you now.” He turns several pages in the portfolio.

“Wow, what a beautiful house!” Gregory exclaims. “Have many people been visiting it lately to see if they want to buy it? Have the current owners been trying to sell it for very long?”

“They had been trying to sell it for a few months two years ago, but it was very expensive,” Philip explains. “They had been considering their options for a long time before they decided to try selling it again. They think maybe it is too expensive for anyone to buy it.”

“This is the house for me and Margaret!” Gregory shouts happily. “There is nothing too expensive for me! This house is just what I have been looking for all this time.”

“Perfect!” Philip replies. “How about you and Margaret come with me to visit the house tomorrow? I have been feeling very curious to meet her since you first mentioned her. She obviously has excellent taste in homes. I am sure we will have a lovely conversation about it.”

Gregory looks at Philip like he is crazy. “You cannot be serious! Margaret is my pet cat... Who would be crazy enough to try to have a conversation with a cat?”
Essay Writing

H) Answer the following questions. Write a short essay for each.

1. Gregory has been looking for the perfect house so Margaret will be happy. What have you been doing lately to help someone else?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

2. Philip had been reading about Gregory before their meeting, almost like he was studying for a test. How long had you been preparing for your last meeting or test? What had you been doing to get ready?

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
I HAVE BEEN RUNNING FOR HOURS!

AND I HAVE RUN ENOUGH!
Perfect vs. Perfect Progressive

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Present Perfect vs. Present Perfect Progressive
(with Time Expressions)

The perfect tenses are used for finished actions. The progressive tenses are used for actions that continue.

So, the present perfect progressive tense talks about a finished action, with an emphasis on its duration. In other words, in our view the action went on for a long time.

Let’s look at an example:

**Present perfect:** I have eaten all the cheese. It is gone now.
(I completed the action of eating the cheese. There is no more cheese left.)

**Present perfect progressive:** I have been eating cheese all afternoon. I feel sick now!
(It is important how long I was eating the cheese. That is why I feel sick.)

In the example above, we use the present perfect progressive tense to talk about an action that we think about as happening over a long period of time (all afternoon).

In the example in the present perfect, we do not think about the action as happening over a long period of time. We think of it as simply a finished action. It is not important how long it goes on (continues).

This is the difference!

We use the present perfect tense when an action has an effect in the present.

We use the present perfect progressive tense when an action has an effect in the present and we think about it as going on for a long time.
Exercise 1

A) Fill in the correct form of the verb in the present perfect or the present perfect progressive tense. Then say whether we think the action went on for a long time or not.

(Hint: we use the present perfect progressive tense only if the duration of the action is important for what happens next.)

1. The children _________________________ (finish) their lunch. They are not hungry anymore, so now they want to play.
   Do we think of the action as going on for a long time?__________________

2. Emily_________________________ (sleep) for an hour. We should wake her up now.
   Do we think of the action as going on for a long time?__________________

3. The kittens _________________________ (play) all evening. They are sleepy now.
   Do we think of the action as going on for a long time?__________________

4. Matthew _________________________ (call) me twice. I do not know what he needs.
   Do we think of the action as going on for a long time?__________________

5. Tim _________________________ (study) for five years. Now he is finally graduating!
   Do we think of the action as going on for a long time?__________________
# Exercise 3

A) Match the sentences from the first table with the sentences in the second table. Write them in the spaces below.

**Table 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The basketball team has been practicing.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jane has washed all the dishes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We have won the game!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have been reading a lot of news articles lately.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew has been working very hard on the project.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>They are clean now.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>He is almost ready to hand it in to his professor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We are the champions!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They are really improving a lot!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I understand a lot about current events.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.  

2.  

3.  

4.  

5.  


Exercise 4

A) Complete the sentences below using the present perfect or the present perfect progressive tense to describe the picture.

1. She __________________________
   (wait) for nearly nine months. She is ready to meet her baby!

2. The ladies ______________________
   (decide) what to wear to the party. Now they are ready!

3. Penelope ______________________
   (check) the time. Now she is worried because she will be late for her class!

4. He ____________________________
   (answer) phone calls all day! He wants a break!
4. We have been asking about the schedule for weeks.

5. They have been playing tennis all afternoon.

B) Fill in the correct form of the verb in the present perfect progressive tense.

1. Have you been going to the gym lately?

2. Has Pam been studying for the exam?

3. Has she been waiting for very long?

4. Have you been watching the series since it started?

5. How long have they been working on this project?

D) Turn these sentences into negative sentences and questions.

1. They have been learning about art history at school.
   Negative:
   They have not been learning about art history at school.
   Question:
   Have they been learning about art history at school?

2. She has been getting up very early lately.
   Negative:
   She has not been getting up very early lately.
   Question:
   Has she been getting up very early lately?
Exercise 12

A) Complete the sentences below using the future perfect or the future perfect progressive tense to describe the picture.

1. The kids will have fed all the ducks in the pond by the time we go home.

2. The cat will have been sleeping for hours before it wakes up for its dinner!

3. Meredith will have put on her witch costume before the party starts.

4. The farmer will be tired tonight! He will have been working all afternoon!
Practice Speaking English with English Grammar Dialogues

20 Simple Dialogues in the Perfect Progressive Tenses

By Really Learn English
Copyright

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with English Grammar Dialogues
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How to Use the Dialogues

Use the dialogues to practice the perfect progressive tenses and speaking English.

It is important to read the dialogues aloud.

The special thing about these dialogues is that they only use one main tense per dialogue. Moreover, there are five dialogues for every tense. That way, the student can practice each tense to perfection.

There are several ways to use the dialogues:

- In a private lesson, the teacher and student read the dialogue together. The teacher reads the lines of the first character, and the student reads the lines of the second character. Then they switch and re-read the dialogue. Now the student reads the lines of the first character, and the teacher reads the lines of the second character.

- With more than one student, divide the students into pairs. Student A reads the lines of the first character, and Student B reads the lines of the second character. Then they switch and re-read that dialogue. Now Student A reads the lines of the second character, and Student B reads the lines of the first character.

- After reading, encourage a conversation on the topic and using the same tense.

Since contractions are very common in spoken English, the dialogues have many contractions. Refer to the contraction table at the end of this book to see all contractions and their full forms.

IMPORTANT: To get the most out of these materials, make sure the students understand all the words used. Do not let them guess words from context. If the students encounter a new or unclear word, explain to them what it means, or have them use the dictionary. For more on this, read the article Building Vocabulary and Some Common Mistakes.
Past Perfect Progressive, Dialogue 1

Description: Allan and Samantha are having some car trouble.

**Allan:** Oh, no! I think it’s a flat tire!

**Samantha:** Oh, I’d been hearing strange noises coming from that side of the car for weeks!

**Allan:** Yes, I’d been meaning to take it to the mechanic to get it checked out before we left for our weekend trip. I’d been thinking about all the trip preparations and I guess I forgot!

**Samantha:** Yes, I forgot, too. I’d just been working so hard all last week, you know? We had been trying to finish that big project at the office.

**Allan:** Yes, we’d both been thinking about other things during the days before we left! I’d been trying to finish all the improvements we started on the house for the last month. I’m glad that’s finally done.

**Samantha:** Well, yes, but what about the car? What about our romantic weekend trip? We’d been planning it for ages! I’d really been looking forward to it.

**Allan:** I’d been waiting to get away from the house for weeks!

**Samantha:** Well, we can’t let this ruin our trip. That’s for sure!

**Allan:** I agree. I’d been thinking that something unfortunate might happen.
Samantha: I have to admit that I’d been getting a little worried, too. Everything seemed to be so perfect! And now this has happened!

Allan: Well, don’t worry. For now I’ll just change the tire. As a matter of fact, my friend Ed had been helping at the house last week, do you remember? Well, one day he got a flat tire on the way over! He was very near the house, so I drove to where he was and helped him change the tire.

Samantha: It’s almost like you’d been practicing for today’s little disaster! Before you said that, I’d been thinking that we were in real trouble! Now I’m relieved.

Allan: But of course we’ll also need to go to the mechanic.

Samantha: Why is that? I thought you had been getting ready to change the tire yourself!

Allan: Of course, but this spare tire can’t be used for very long. Ed didn’t know that, and he’d been driving on the spare tire for weeks before he got a big mechanical problem with his car. He’d been thinking he was a real expert because he changed the tire with just my help, but the repairs were really expensive!

Samantha: Oh, I’d been feeling better, but now I’m not so sure!

Allan: Don’t worry, this won’t take us long. Let’s first change the tire. Then we can look for a gas station or a mechanic to get a strong, new tire and keep traveling.

Samantha: You know, I’d been checking the map just before the tire went flat. There’s a gas station very close, and we’re not far from the cabin where we will stay!

Allan: I’d been wondering how much longer we needed to drive! That’s certainly good news!

Samantha: Exactly. So let’s get that tire changed and get to the mechanic. We will still be in our cabin before dinner!
### Future Perfect Progressive Rules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who?</th>
<th>Form of verb</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I/He/She/It/You/We/They</td>
<td>will have been</td>
<td>He will have been working.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>verb + ing</td>
<td>They will have been working.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>You will have been working.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who?</th>
<th>Form of verb</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I/He/She/It/You/We/They</td>
<td>will not have been</td>
<td>It will not have been working.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>verb + ing</td>
<td>We will not have been working.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>She will not have been working.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who?</th>
<th>Form of verb</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Will I/he/she/it/you/we/they</td>
<td>have been</td>
<td>Will I have been working?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>verb + ing</td>
<td>Will you have been working?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Will they have been working?</td>
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### Contractions Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full Form</th>
<th>Contraction</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I have</td>
<td>I’ve</td>
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<tr>
<td>He has</td>
<td>He’s</td>
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<td>She has</td>
<td>She’s</td>
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<td>It has</td>
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<td>You have</td>
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<td>We have</td>
<td>We’ve</td>
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<td>They have</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have not</td>
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<td>Has not</td>
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