



B2

GRAMMAR SHEETS

Free English Grammar Resource

1 Future Perfect Continuous & future in the past

FORM

Future Perfect Continuous: will have been + verb + -ing → duration up to a future point

Future in the past: was / were going to, would → the future seen from a past moment

USE

Use the Future Perfect Continuous to emphasise how long something will have been happening. Use was going to and would for plans and predictions made in the past.

EXAMPLES

- By May, she'll have been running the company for a decade.
- I was going to call you, but I lost my phone.
- We knew the trip would be expensive.

PRACTICE 1

Complete the sentences with a suitable form of the verb in brackets.

1. By midnight, the surgeons _____ (operate) for nine hours.
2. Next month, I _____ (teach) at this school for twenty years.
3. Sorry about the mess — we _____ (tidy) up, but the guests arrived early.
4. She promised she _____ (be) home before dark.
5. I thought the film _____ (start) at eight, not nine.

2 Third Conditional

FORM

If + past perfect, would have + past participle

Contractions are common: If you'd told me, I'd have helped.

USE

Use the Third Conditional to imagine a different past and its different past result.

EXAMPLES

- If you had told me earlier, I would have helped you.
- She wouldn't have missed the flight if she'd left on time.
- What would you have done if you'd been in my position?

PRACTICE 2

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. If we _____ (book) earlier, we would have got cheaper tickets.
2. He _____ (pass) the exam if he had studied harder.
3. If it _____ (not / rain), we would have had the party outside.
4. I wouldn't have taken the job if I _____ (know) about the long hours.
5. _____ you _____ (accept) the offer if they had made it?

3 Mixed Conditionals

FORM

Past cause → present result: If + past perfect, would + verb

Present cause → past result: If + past simple, would have + past participle

USE

Mix the two halves when the condition and the result belong to different times.

EXAMPLES

- *If I had taken that job, I would be living in London now.*
- *If she weren't so stubborn, she would have apologised.*
- *We wouldn't be lost now if you had brought the map.*

PRACTICE 3

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. If I _____ (save) more when I was younger, I would be richer now.
2. If he weren't so careless, he _____ (not / lose) his passport last week.
3. She would have called you if she _____ (have) your number.
4. If we hadn't missed the ferry, we _____ (be) on the island by now.
5. If you spoke Spanish, you _____ (understand) what he said yesterday.

4 Wish / If only

FORM

wish + past simple: present regrets · wish + past perfect: past regrets

wish + would: annoyance about behaviour we want to change

USE

Use wish and if only to express regret or irritation about how things are, were, or keep being.

EXAMPLES

- *I wish I knew the answer.*
- *If only we hadn't sold that flat.*
- *I wish you would stop interrupting me.*

PRACTICE 4

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. I wish I _____ (can) come to the party tonight, but I'm working.
2. If only I _____ (listen) to your advice last year.
3. She wishes she _____ (live) closer to her family.
4. I wish the neighbours _____ (stop) playing loud music every night!
5. He wishes he _____ (not / say) that at the meeting yesterday.

5 Modal perfects: deduction & criticism about the past

FORM

must have / can't have + past participle: certainty about the past

might / could have + past participle: possibility · should have: criticism or regret

USE

Use modal perfects to make deductions about past events or to say that a past action was a mistake.

EXAMPLES

- *You must have left your keys at the office.*
- *She can't have finished already!*
- *We should have booked a table.*

PRACTICE 5

Choose the correct option.

1. The ground is wet. It (must have / should have) rained during the night.
2. He (can't have / mustn't have) written this — it's not his handwriting.
3. I (should have / must have) apologised, but I was too proud.
4. They're very late. They (might have / should have) got stuck in traffic.
5. You (could have / must have) told me you were coming — I'd have cooked dinner!

6 Advanced passive: impersonal structures

FORM

It is said / believed / thought that + clause

Subject + is said / believed / expected to + infinitive (to be, to have + past participle)

USE

Use these structures to report general opinions and claims, especially in news and formal writing.

EXAMPLES

- *It is believed that the painting is a forgery.*
- *The company is reported to be in difficulty.*
- *He hates being told what to do.*

PRACTICE 6

Rewrite each sentence using an impersonal passive structure. Begin as shown.

1. People say that the water here is very clean. (The water here ...)
2. Journalists believe that the minister will resign. (It ...)
3. People think the fire started in the kitchen. (The fire ... + to have)
4. Everyone expects prices to rise. (Prices ...)
5. People know that he is generous. (He ...)

7 Causative: have / get something done

FORM

have / get + object + past participle: someone does it for you

have + person + verb · get + person + to + verb: arrange for a person to do it

USE

Use causative structures when you arrange for someone else to do something for you.

EXAMPLES

- *We're having the roof repaired next week.*
- *I must get my eyes tested.*
- *She had her assistant book the flights.*

PRACTICE 7

Rewrite the sentences using **have + object + past participle**.

1. A mechanic serviced my car yesterday. (I ...)
2. The dentist is going to check my teeth tomorrow. (I ...)
3. Someone cut Maria's hair last week. (Maria ...)
4. A tailor is making him a suit. (He ...)
5. Someone stole their luggage at the airport. (They ...)

8 Reporting verbs

FORM

+ -ing: admit, deny, suggest · + object + to: advise, warn, persuade, remind

+ to: offer, promise, refuse, agree · + preposition + -ing: apologise for, insist on, accuse ... of

USE

Reporting verbs summarise what someone said. Each verb has its own grammatical pattern.

EXAMPLES

- *He denied taking the money.*
- *They persuaded us to stay another night.*
- *She apologised for being late.*

PRACTICE 8

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. She admitted _____ (break) the vase.
2. The doctor advised him _____ (take) more exercise.
3. They accused the manager of _____ (hide) the truth.
4. He offered _____ (lend) me his car.
5. I suggested _____ (meet) at the entrance.

9 Reduced relative clauses

FORM

Active meaning: who / which + verb → verb + -ing (the man standing by the door)

Passive meaning: who / which + be + past participle → past participle (the goods sold online)

USE

Reduce relative clauses to make writing more compact, especially in formal and academic texts.

EXAMPLES

- *The woman talking to Ali is our new director.*
- *Documents signed before 2020 are no longer valid.*
- *Anyone wishing to attend should register online.*

PRACTICE 9

Rewrite each sentence with a reduced relative clause.

1. The man who is standing by the door is my uncle.
2. The products which were damaged in transit will be replaced.
3. Students who want extra practice can join the club.
4. The road which connects the two villages is closed.
5. The novel, which was published in 1958, became a classic.

10 Participle clauses

FORM

-ing: same time or reason (Feeling tired, ...) · Having + past participle: earlier action

Past participle: passive meaning (Built in 1890, the house ...) · Negative: Not knowing ...

USE

Participle clauses replace full clauses of time, reason or result, making sentences more economical.

EXAMPLES

- *Feeling tired, she went to bed early.*
- *Having finished the report, he emailed it to his boss.*
- *Seen from above, the island looks like a star.*

PRACTICE 10

Rewrite each sentence using a participle clause.

1. Because he felt nervous, he spoke too quickly.
2. After she had checked the figures, she signed the contract.
3. Because it was built in a hurry, the bridge soon developed problems.
4. As I didn't know what to say, I stayed silent.
5. After they had missed the last bus, they had to walk home.

11 Advanced gerund & infinitive structures

FORM

need + -ing = passive meaning (The car needs washing.)

adjective + to + infinitive · preposition + -ing · (not) worth + -ing

USE

These patterns are extremely common in natural English; the choice of form is fixed by the structure.

EXAMPLES

- *The plants need watering.*
- *I was surprised to hear the news.*
- *There's no point in arguing.*

PRACTICE 11

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. Your hair needs _____ (cut).
2. We were delighted _____ (receive) your invitation.
3. It's not worth _____ (repair) this printer.
4. She's interested in _____ (apply) for the position.
5. The instructions were too complicated _____ (follow).

12 Ellipsis & substitution

FORM

Agreement: So do I. · Neither / Nor can I. · Opinion: I think so. I hope not.

Nouns: one / ones · Actions: do / did so

USE

Use ellipsis and substitution to avoid repeating words, which makes speech and writing more natural.

EXAMPLES

- *"I loved the ending." "So did I."*
- *"Is it going to snow?" "I hope not."*
- *These gloves are worn out — I need some new ones.*

PRACTICE 12

Complete the sentences with a suitable substitute word.

1. "I can't stand horror films." "_____ can I."
2. "Will the meeting be long?" "I hope _____."
3. My laptop is older than the _____ you bought last month.
4. "Lena passed her driving test." "_____ did her brother."
5. "Do you think they'll agree?" "I think _____."

13 Inversion after negative adverbials

FORM

Never / Rarely / Seldom + auxiliary + subject: Never have I seen ...

Not only ... (but) also · No sooner ... than · Under no circumstances ...

USE

Begin a sentence with a negative or limiting adverbial and invert subject and auxiliary for emphasis. This is a formal, dramatic style.

EXAMPLES

- *Never have I seen such a mess.*
- *Not only did they arrive late, but they also forgot the tickets.*
- *No sooner had we sat down than the phone rang.*

PRACTICE 13

Rewrite each sentence beginning with the word(s) given.

1. I have never heard such nonsense. (Never ...)
2. She rarely shows her feelings. (Rarely ...)
3. We had no sooner left than it started to pour. (No sooner ...)
4. They not only cancelled the flight, they also lost our luggage. (Not only ...)
5. You must not open this door under any circumstances. (Under no circumstances ...)

14 Cleft sentences

FORM

It-cleft: It was the manager who / that made the decision.

Wh-cleft: What I need is more time. · All I want is an apology.

USE

Cleft sentences reorganise information to put emphasis exactly where you want it.

EXAMPLES

- *It was the manager who made the final decision.*
- *What annoys me is his attitude.*
- *All I want is a quiet weekend.*

PRACTICE 14

Rewrite each sentence as a cleft sentence beginning as shown.

1. Her honesty impresses me most. (What ...)
2. Tom broke the window. (It was ...)
3. We need more time. (What ...)
4. The design makes this phone special. (It's ...)
5. I only want an apology. (All ...)

Mixed Grammar Review

Choose the correct option.

1. If she'd taken the earlier train, she (would arrive / would have arrived) on time.
2. If I weren't afraid of heights, I (would have climbed / would climb) the tower with you yesterday.
3. I wish you (told / would tell) me the truth from now on!
4. He (can't have / shouldn't have) seen us — we were behind the curtain.
5. The suspect is believed (to leave / to have left) the country.
6. We're getting the kitchen (painting / painted) next month.
7. She denied (to copy / copying) the answers.
8. Anyone (wishing / wished) to attend should register online.
9. No sooner (we had arrived / had we arrived) than the trouble began.
10. (What / That) surprised everyone was his calm reaction.

B2 Grammar Sheets — Answer Key

Practice 1 · Future Perfect Continuous & future in the past

1. will have been operating 2. will have been teaching (or: will have taught) 3. were going to tidy 4. would be 5. was going to start (or: would start / started)

Practice 2 · Third Conditional

1. had ('d) booked 2. would have passed 3. hadn't rained 4. had ('d) known 5. Would ... have accepted

Practice 3 · Mixed Conditionals

1. had ('d) saved 2. wouldn't have lost 3. had 4. would ('d) be 5. would have understood

Practice 4 · Wish / If only

1. could 2. had ('d) listened 3. lived 4. would stop 5. hadn't said

Practice 5 · Modal perfects: deduction & criticism about the past

1. must have 2. can't have 3. should have 4. might have 5. could have

Practice 6 · Advanced passive: impersonal structures

1. The water here is said to be very clean. 2. It is believed that the minister will resign. 3. The fire is thought to have started in the kitchen. 4. Prices are expected to rise. 5. He is known to be generous.

Practice 7 · Causative: have / get something done

1. I had my car serviced yesterday. 2. I'm going to have my teeth checked tomorrow. 3. Maria had her hair cut last week. 4. He is having a suit made. 5. They had their luggage stolen at the airport.

Practice 8 · Reporting verbs

1. breaking 2. to take 3. hiding 4. to lend 5. meeting

Practice 9 · Reduced relative clauses

1. The man standing by the door is my uncle. 2. The products damaged in transit will be replaced. 3. Students wanting extra practice can join the club. 4. The road connecting the two villages is closed. 5. The novel, published in 1958, became a classic.

Practice 10 · Participle clauses

1. Feeling nervous, he spoke too quickly. 2. Having checked the figures, she signed the contract. 3. Built in a hurry, the bridge soon developed problems. 4. Not knowing what to say, I stayed silent. 5. Having missed the last bus, they had to walk home.

Practice 11 · Advanced gerund & infinitive structures

1. cutting 2. to receive 3. repairing 4. applying 5. to follow

Practice 12 · Ellipsis & substitution

1. Neither / Nor 2. not 3. one 4. So 5. so

Practice 13 · Inversion after negative adverbials

1. Never have I heard such nonsense. 2. Rarely does she show her feelings. 3. No sooner had we left than it started to pour. 4. Not only did they cancel the flight, (but) they also lost our luggage. 5. Under no circumstances must (should) you open this door.

Practice 14 · Cleft sentences

1. What impresses me most is her honesty. 2. It was Tom who (that) broke the window. 3. What we need is more time. 4. It's the design that makes this phone special. 5. All I want is an apology.

Mixed Grammar Review

1. would have arrived 2. would have climbed 3. would tell 4. can't have 5. to have left 6. painted 7. copying 8. wishing 9. had we arrived 10. What