

LESSON 88

468 Perfect continuous

Present participle

if ... then ...

We form the perfect continuous tenses by using the verb "have", the word "been" and the present participle of the main verb.

Present perfect continuous: I have been working

Past perfect continuous: I had been working

Future perfect continuous: I will have been working

How do we form the perfect continuous tenses? We form ... by using the verb "have", the word "been", and the present participle of the main verb

Give me an example, please. I have been studying for two hours

We use the present perfect continuous to say how long an action has been in progress so far. We are "measuring" the duration of the action up to now. For example, if you arrive at work at 9 a.m., then at 10 a.m. you can say "I have been working for one hour so far"; later, at 11 a.m., you can say "I have been working for two hours so far".

When do we use the present perfect continuous? We use the present perfect continuous to say how long an action has been in progress so far

Give me an example, please. I have been living in this house for six months so far

469 **We use the past perfect continuous to communicate the duration of an action up to a particular point in the past. We are "measuring" how long the action had already been in progress at that point. For example, the sentence "I had been cooking for twenty minutes when she arrived" means that I started cooking and then twenty minutes later she arrived.**

When do we use the past perfect continuous? We use the past perfect continuous to communicate the duration of an action up to a particular point in the past

Give me an example, please. I had been living in this house for one month when I bought my new bed

We use the future perfect continuous to communicate the duration of an action up to a particular point in the future. For example, "At the end of this lesson, we will have been studying for ... minutes".

When do we use the future perfect continuous? We use the future perfect continuous to communicate the duration of an action up to a particular point in the future

Give me an example, please. I will have been living in this house for eight months at the end of this year

How long had you been sitting in this room for when I came in? I had been sitting in this room for ... when you came in

Since when have you been studying English? I've been studying English since ...

How long will you have been living in this place for when this year (or season) ends? I'll have been living in this place for ... when this year (or season) ends

Since when? Since ...

Notice that there is no important difference between saying "I have been living here for two months" and "I have lived here for two months". When speaking about duration, we can normally use either the perfect continuous tenses or the perfect tenses.

470 What's the difference between saying "I have been living here for two months" and "I have lived here for two months"? There is no important difference between saying ...

ruler

Who was the last ruler of your country?

The last ruler
of my country was ...

Could you draw a completely straight line without the help of a ruler?

No, I couldn't ...

earth

astronomical

geographical

Generally speaking, what's the difference between "Earth" and "world"?

Generally speaking, ... is that we
use the word "Earth" in the astronomical
sense, and "world" in the geographical sense

How far's the Earth from the sun?

The Earth's about
93,000,000 miles from the
sun (or 150,000,000 kilometres)

What's mud?

Mud's a mixture of earth and water

by means of

public

transport

By what means can we draw a straight line?

We can draw ...
by means of a pen or a pencil and a ruler

471 By what means do you come to school?

I come to school
by (means of a) bus, train, car etc.

Would you rather have your own means of transport than use public transport?

Yes, I'd rather have ...
~ No, I wouldn't rather have ...

Why or why not?

As a means of making money, what would you say was the best way?

As a means ..., I'd say the best way was ...

figure

What's the best way to maintain a good figure?

The best way ...

Who do you think was the greatest figure in history?

I think ...
was the greatest ...

How many figures are there in the number of your house?

There are ...
figures in the number of my house

What kind of figure am I drawing in the air with my finger?

You're drawing a square
(a circle etc.) in the air with your finger

couple

If a couple can't have a child, what can they do?

If a couple ...,
they can adopt one

If you went to live in another country, do you think you would quickly
adopt the way of living in that country?

Yes, if I went to ...,
I think I'd ... ~ No, if I went to ..., I don't think I'd ...

Why or why not?

472 **cruel**

Who do you think was the cruellest character in history?

I think ...
was the cruellest ...

college

What's a college?

A college is a kind of school, or part of a university

burn

If we put a piece of wood or paper into a flame, what happens to it?

If we put ..., it burns

take a bath



Dictation 56

He won first prize/ for being the best student/ in his class./ I'm determined to carry
on studying/ until I can speak English/ really well./ My dad taught me/ how to fix
my bike./ He was a real gentleman,/ and showed good manners/ in all situations. /
Although he is retired,/ he is still very famous/ and can't go out in public/ without
being followed by a crowd./ Some people take mud baths/ for their health./ It was
after midnight/ when the nurse got an opportunity/ to take a break./ What we eat
influences/ the way we feel.



Do Revision Exercise 37