



Mini Lesson 038 - The Perfect Continuous Tenses

Explanation:

The perfect continuous tenses combine aspects of both perfect and continuous tenses. They are used to emphasize the duration of an action or express how long something has been happening, often in relation to another event.

1. **Present Perfect Continuous** (have/has + been + verb-ing):

Used to talk about actions that started in the past and are still happening or have just finished.

- Example: *I have been studying for three hours.*

2. **Past Perfect Continuous** (had + been + verb-ing):

Used to express an action that was ongoing before another action in the past.

- Example: *She had been waiting for over an hour when the bus finally arrived.*

3. **Future Perfect Continuous** (will have + been + verb-ing):

Used to express how long an action will have been ongoing by a specific point in the future.

- Example: *By next year, they will have been working at the company for 10 years.*





Exercises:

Section 1: Fill in the Blanks

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in parentheses using the present perfect continuous, past perfect continuous, or future perfect continuous.

1. She _____ (study) English for five years.
2. By next month, we _____ (live) in this house for a decade.
3. He _____ (wait) for the doctor when I saw him.
4. They _____ (work) on the project all morning.
5. I _____ (clean) the kitchen for an hour when the power went out.
6. By the end of this year, she _____ (teach) at this school for 15 years.
7. We _____ (play) football for two hours before it started to rain.
8. How long _____ (you/run) before you hurt your ankle?

Section 2: Rewrite the Sentences

Rewrite the following sentences using the correct perfect continuous tense.

1. She is tired because she worked all night.
2. I am hungry because I am cooking since noon.
3. They were exhausted because they ran for three hours.
4. He will finish the book by 9 PM. He reads for five hours by then.
5. We are late because we wait for the bus for 30 minutes.





Section 3: Choose the Correct Option

Choose the correct form to complete each sentence.

1. She _____ (has been/was) working on the report for hours before her boss asked for an update.
2. By next week, I _____ (will have been/will have) preparing for the exam for a month.
3. They _____ (had been/have been) living in the city for years before they decided to move.
4. He _____ (will have been/have been) running his own business for five years next summer.
5. I _____ (have been/had been) practicing the piano for three hours when my friend called.

Section 4: Correct the Mistakes

Find and correct the mistakes in the following sentences.

1. I has been working here for six months.
2. By tomorrow, she will has been writing her novel for three weeks.
3. They had be practicing all morning when the coach arrived.
4. He has be waiting for the bus for over an hour.
5. By 2025, we will have be living in this city for 10 years.





Answers:

Section 1:

1. She **has been studying** English for five years.
2. By next month, we **will have been living** in this house for a decade.
3. He **had been waiting** for the doctor when I saw him.
4. They **have been working** on the project all morning.
5. I **had been cleaning** the kitchen for an hour when the power went out.
6. By the end of this year, she **will have been teaching** at this school for 15 years.
7. We **had been playing** football for two hours before it started to rain.
8. How long **had you been running** before you hurt your ankle?

Section 2:

1. She is tired because she **has been working** all night.
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3. They were exhausted because they **had been running** for three hours.
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Section 3:

1. She **had been** working on the report for hours before her boss asked for an update.
2. By next week, I **will have been preparing** for the exam for a month.
3. They **had been** living in the city for years before they decided to move.
4. He **will have been running** his own business for five years next summer.
5. I **had been practicing** the piano for three hours when my friend called.

Section 4:

1. I **have been** working here for six months.
2. By tomorrow, she **will have been** writing her novel for three weeks.
3. They **had been practicing** all morning when the coach arrived.
4. He **has been waiting** for the bus for over an hour.
5. By 2025, we **will have been living** in this city for 10 years.

