



ФАКУЛЬТЕТ  
ИНОСТРАННЫХ ЯЗЫКОВ  
НСУ

**21 May 2020**

# **SEQUENCE OF TENSES**

## **webinar**

**Olesya A. Valger**

Lecturer for English Department  
Faculty of Foreign Languages  
Novosibirsk State Pedagogical University

[olesyavalger@gmail.com](mailto:olesyavalger@gmail.com)

# OUR PLAN TODAY:

1. Exercise 72.

**(please ask your questions in the chat)**

2. Sequence of Tenses – your examples.

**(I am going to comment on some problematic examples anonymously)**

3. Q&A on Sequence of Tenses.

-----the end of the webinar-----

4. Q&A on other topics.



Ex. 72. Say whether the action of the object clause precedes, follows or is simultaneous with the action of the principal clause in the following sentences:

1. He asked me what work I *was doing* and whether I *intended* to go to a University.
2. Has she been telling you why she *wants* to chuck her job?
3. I'm afraid I'll *be doing* the washing tomorrow.
4. She claimed that she *had met* Monty on her way home. Monty had told her that I *would* probably *come* to his place later.
5. Then I thought about Mother. She would certainly ask me where I *had been* all day.
6. I don't believe anyone *has troubled* to think about that.
7. She said she *would be staying* in town next day to do some shopping.
8. It's not true she *is* my friend.
9. I'll tell you what he's *doing*.
10. He had told me he *had been* on the island for fifteen years.
11. I will say that we *have agreed* to provide for the child.
12. I don't think that I *shall* ever *work* for your father.
13. Out of the corner of my eye I saw the youths *had stopped* talking and *were watching* us.
14. I hope you *know* what you're *doing*.
15. I'll let you know what the situation *is*.
16. I don't know whether he *was* a fool or a wise man.
17. I'll tell Marcel that you'll *take* over the actual direction immediately.
18. In the hotel the waiter told me that an American *had been staying* there for three months.
19. It is strange that he *didn't speak* to you.
20. It was also rumoured that Dan *had got* married.

## Exercise 72.

Please ask  
your questions  
in the chat

**Table 1. The action in the principal clause is in a past or future-in-the-past form.**

The action in the subordinate clause is:	THE TENSE FORM IN THE PRINCIPAL CLAUSE	THE TENSE FORM IN THE SUBORDINATE CLAUSE	EXAMPLES
<b>SIMULTANEOUS</b>	THE PAST INDEFINITE THE PAST CONTINUOUS THE PAST PERFECT THE PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS ANY FUTURE-IN-THE-PAST	THE PAST INDEFINITE  THE PAST CONTINUOUS	We knew that the story was true. I saw that Monica was smiling. Tom wasn't listening to the story that Father was telling. We had been informed that the deal was cancelled. Charles would not agree that the war was lost.

**I was asleep and did not hear that aliens were parking in my backyard.**

**We knew that Mark always came back from his trip.**

**Did I see what I thought it was?**

**Harold decided that he wanted to invade England.**

**My friends knew what my mother looked like.**

**I found out who was my father – I found out who my father was.**

**PRECEDING**

THE PAST INDEFINITE  
THE PAST CONTINUOUS  
THE PAST PERFECT  
THE PAST PERFECT  
CONTINUOUS  
ANY FUTURE-IN-THE-PAST

THE PAST  
PERFECT  
  
THE PAST  
PERFECT  
CONTINUOUS

The police learned where the criminals had been and what they had been doing that night.  
The lady on the phone was asking if her letter had been delivered.  
Maria explained that Jacob had already told them about the ghost he had seen.  
Louise realized she would regret the things she had done.

**Ann asked the question that she had been thinking about for a long time.**

**The detectives were going to find out what had happened to Mr. Smith in that house.**

**Lisa thought that she had taken the wrong pills.**

**Mary was going to visit her granny at the hospital where she had been when she was 7 years old.**

**I was staying in my room when the film had ended.**

**I asked Mom if she had made the dinner.**

**Tom remembered that they had crashed his car last time.**

**Grandfather was sitting in the garden and thinking of the bird that had been building its nest for two hours.**

**He thought he had prepared for the exam excellently.**

**FOLLOWING**

THE PAST INDEFINITE  
THE PAST CONTINUOUS  
THE PAST PERFECT  
THE PAST PERFECT  
CONTINUOUS  
ANY FUTURE-IN-THE-PAST

THE FUTURE-IN-  
THE-PAST TENSES  
  
+ other means of  
expressing future  
viewed from the past

The children did not know what would happen to them one year later.  
Officer Thompson asked what would happen next, in my opinion.

The witch predicted the queen would be getting  
more and more powerful until she died.

Mathew apologised for the time  
his story was going to take.

**She realized that she would be doing her homework all day.**

**I understood that my anxiety would be getting worse until I took my pills.**

**My friend told me what he had been going to do before the epidemic started =>**

**My friend told me what he was going to do when the epidemic ended.**

**Jane was writing a new book that would give an incredible popularity to her.**

**He forced me to tell where the hostage would be kept.**

**I asked Tom what would happen in his opinion.**

**People did not understand how they would live now that the Union had been collapsed.**

**They asked me what I would say about this situation.**

**Olesya Alekseevna said that we would be taking all our exams.**

**I heard he had to leave Russia because of a violation of the criminal code.**

**I realized my English wouldn't be getting better until I started learning it.**

## Table 2. The action in the principal clause is in one of the present tenses.

The action in the subordinate clause is:	THE TENSE FORM IN THE PRINCIPAL CLAUSE	THE TENSE FORM IN THE SUBORDINATE CLAUSE	EXAMPLES
<b>SIMULTANEOUS</b>	THE PRESENT INDEFINITE THE PRESENT CONTINUOUS THE PRESENT PERFECT THE PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS	THE PRESENT INDEFINITE THE PRESENT CONTINUOUS	<p><b>I understand that you are confused.</b></p> <p><b>We know what you are thinking about right now.</b></p> <p><b>Jessica has always thought you are a clever person.</b></p> <p><b>For centuries, the farmers have been working on this land you are planning to flood.</b></p>

**For many years I have lived here where you are planning to move in.**  
**He has always thought you are like horror shows – disturbing and sudden.**  
**Mary is watching a movie that is on right now.**  
**I'm thinking about the fact the world is so huge.**

**PRECEDING**

THE PRESENT INDEFINITE

THE PRESENT CONTINUOUS

THE PRESENT PERFECT

THE PRESENT PERFECT  
CONTINUOUS

THE PRESENT  
PERFECT

THE PRESENT  
PERFECT CONTINUOUS

THE PAST INDEFINITE

THE PAST CONTINUOUS

**Do you know that Taylor and Kim have divorced?**

**I'm trying to learn what has been going on while I was away.**

**Listen, this is what really happened that morning.**

**The professor is sad that the students were missing classes.**

**Do you know that Mary has left for New York?**

**Do you know what happened last night?**

**The monsters are sad that nobody was going down into the dark basement for three years.**

**Look, this accident happened / occurred last month.**

**Are you enjoying the pictures you made during the vacation?**

**I know you crashed my car last week.**



**FOLLOWING**

THE PRESENT INDEFINITE

THE PRESENT CONTINUOUS

THE PRESENT PERFECT

THE PRESENT PERFECT  
CONTINUOUS

THE FUTURE  
INDEFINITE

THE FUTURE  
CONTINUOUS

THE FUTURE  
PERFECT

+ other means of  
expressing the future

**Grandma, I think this tree will need more sunlight and water.**

**Marge is trying to calm Tom down and tell him  
he will be recovering soon.**

**The lawyer has promised  
the boss will have signed the papers  
by the morning.**

**Jerry is talking with his mother about what he will be doing without friends.  
I don't think she will have finished this project by the end of the week if she tried.**

**Table 3. The action in the principal clause is in one of the future tenses.**

The action in the subordinate clause is:	THE TENSE FORM IN THE PRINCIPAL CLAUSE	THE TENSE FORM IN THE SUBORDINATE CLAUSE	EXAMPLES
<b>SIMULTANEOUS</b>	<p>THE FUTURE INDEFINITE</p> <p>THE FUTURE CONTINUOUS</p> <p>THE FUTURE PERFECT</p>	<p>THE PRESENT INDEFINITE</p> <p>THE PRESENT CONTINUOUS</p>	<p>If Mary calls the butler will tell her that I cannot answer the phone.</p> <p>Don't worry, we will be learning all the things we need.</p> <p>By 7 p.m. the mafia boss will have realized that there is nothing in the briefcase and that we are leaving the country on his plane.</p>

**Mary will ask whether I am working.**

**If the teacher calls Mother I will tell her I am ill.**

**If you forget about the lasagna the microwave will give you a signal that it is burning.**

**PRECEDING**

THE FUTURE  
INDEFINITE

THE FUTURE  
CONTINUOUS

THE FUTURE  
PERFECT

THE PRESENT  
PERFECT

THE PAST  
INDEFINITE

**I will apologise for the umbrella I have taken by mistake,**

**And now you will be telling me you have never been in love.**

**Margaret will be forever sorry that she crossed my path.**

**I will apologize for the soup that has been left unsalted.**

**You will regret that you've gone to this place.**

**FOLLOWING**

THE FUTURE  
INDEFINITE

THE FUTURE  
CONTINUOUS

THE FUTURE  
PERFECT

THE FUTURE  
INDEFINITE

THE FUTURE  
CONTINUOUS

THE FUTURE  
PERFECT

+ other forms of  
expressing the future

**We will inform you about what will happen next.**

**The architect will agree  
that the renovation will cost a fortune.**

**Tomorrow, George will buy the medicine that  
he will have to take for the rest of his life.**

**Next summer I will go to the Maldives where I will earn a lot of money.  
I will tell you what Mary will expect from this.**

**Next week we will learn the information which will be necessary for our future job.**

**Mary will apologize that she will have failed to come back by 7 a.m.**

**COMMON PROBLEMS THAT ARE NOT WORTH A SLIDE:**

**ARTICLES WITH CLASS NOUNS IN THE SINGULAR!**

**JOHN HAS – MARY DOES – I HAVE – I DO**

**HE WAS WRITING, not HE WRITING**

**SHE WILL BE WRITING, not SHE WILL WRITING**

**HE DIDN'T REALIZE**

**TO LEAVE SOME PLACE – TO LEAVE FOR SOME PLACE**

**TO HAPPEN TO SOMEBODY, TO LISTEN TO SOMETHING**

**FEEL**

**ALL THINGS – ALL THE THINGS**

**STAY AT HOME / STAY HOME**

**English – but THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**Names: CHARLES, CHARLEY, JOHNNY, LOUIS and LOUISE**

**THANK YOU FOR JOINING THE WEBINAR.**

**ALSO: THE HOMEWORK FOR MAY, 28  
WILL BE IN THE WEBSITE TONIGHT.**

**NEXT WEEK WE ARE HAVING OUR CLASS ON FRIDAY, MAY 29**