



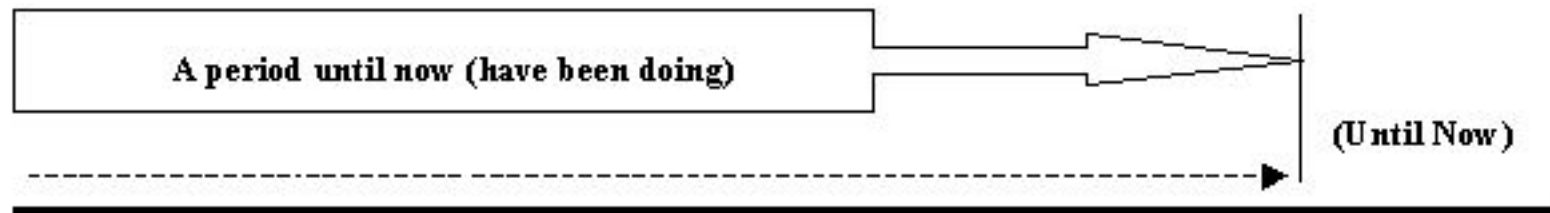
Perfect Continuous tenses in the active voice

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Present Perfect Continuous



Subject + have been + V_{ing}



The present perfect continuous tense is often used (with for or since) to describe how long something has been happening up to now.

For example:- How long *have you been studying* English?" -*I've been studying* English ***for*** four years."

-How long *have you been living* in Germany? -*I've been living* here ***since*** 1998.

The present perfect continuous is also used to refer to an event that may or may not be finished when its effect can be seen now.

For example:- Look! *It's been* snowing.

You should also use the present perfect continuous when talking about how long you have been doing your current job or working on unfinished projects:

For example:- I *have been* working at BT **for** three years.

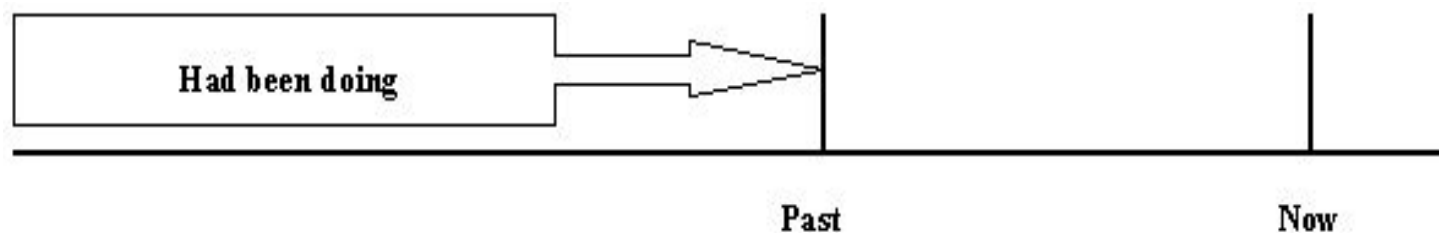
We have been exporting to China **since** 1999.




Past Perfect Continuous



Subject + had been + V_{ing}





The past perfect continuous tense is used to talk about longer situations that continued up to the moment in the past we are talking about.

For example: "By the time I *left* England we *had been living* in Bristol for five years."

"Her back *was sore* because she *had been sitting* at the computer all day."

It is also used to say how long something went on for, up to a time in the past.

For example: We apologised because we *had kept them* waiting for 3 hours.

We apologized because we *had kept them* waiting since lunchtime.

Future Perfect Continuous

Subject + will have been + V_{ing}

We use the future perfect continuous tense to talk about a long action before some point in the future. Look at these examples:

- I will have been working here for ten years next week.
- He will be tired when he arrives. He will have been traveling for 24 hours.

