

	← PAST ←	↓ PRESENT ↓	→ FUTURE →
SIMPLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rome was not built in one day. The Bible was written over a period of more than one thousand years. I was told that you would be in the office on Friday, but you weren't there. Who was Titanic directed by? Not many people know that our national anthem was written by a very famous composer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It's often said that time heals all wounds, but I think that a little more help is needed sometimes. Football is played and watched everywhere in the world, although it is not the most popular sport in every country. Rice is generally preferred to bread in most of the countries of East Asia. 	<p><i>Notice: it's equally common to use get as well as be when we talk about the future</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donald Trump has just announced that he's going to be arrested on Tuesday, but I'll believe it when I see it. That phone is going to get broken if you keep throwing it around like that. You will be notified when your new passport is ready.
CONTINUOUS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While the film was being made, the two main actors were having a secret love affair. During the time that they were being filmed they did a very good job of persuading everyone that their relationship was only professional. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yet another film is being made at the moment about Winston Churchill, but I don't know who he's being played by this time. The next FIFA World Cup is being held in North America in 2026. My new book is getting published next week. <i>(see the note above right about the future tense)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next time you hear from me, I'll be getting served cocktails on a beach in the Caribbean! <p><i>Maybe this is possible, but the sentence below, with "be" instead of "get" sounds unlikely, if not impossible!</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next time you hear from me, I'll be being served cocktails.....
PERFECT SIMPLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little public attention had been paid to advances in nuclear physics until the news of the first atom bomb. We had been told about how beautiful the sunrise over Machu Picchu is, but I was amazed to experience it nonetheless. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many books have been written about Cleopatra and her relationships with Rome's rulers. I've just been invited to a very important ceremony in London. I suppose that I'll have to buy a new suit. Since the war began, Ukraine's home games have been played in Poland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I need to warn you. If you park your car in that neighbourhood, it will either have been stolen or vandalised by the time you go back to pick it up! Hopefully my suit will have been repaired by Wednesday, as I have an important business meeting! You will have been notified by now. (!!)
PERFECT CONTINUOUS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I had been being sent a lot of annoying notifications on Facebook, so I finally decided to uninstall it. <p><i>That sounds impossible, but the same sentence with "get" is not impossible.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I had been getting sent a lot of annoying notifications..... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We've been being told for a very long time that global warming is a reality that we will have to face seriously one of these days. <p><i>Does this sound or look OK to you? I have heard an English native speaker use this construction, but maybe only once!</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We've been getting told <i>(sounds better?)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2032 the Sagrada Familia in Barcelona will have been being/getting built for 150 years! <p><i>Nobody would ever say this, but this is what it would look like!</i></p>