Examples:

1   **At that time** many new computer programs were being developed for use in businesses.
2   Computers may soon take over many daily tasks, but **in the meantime** ordinary people must continue to do them themselves.
3   Computer magazines keep us informed about **contemporary** issues in the computing world.

3   **After given time-references:**

	Time relaters		
Adjectives	following	later	next
Adverbials	afterwards	since	by the end
	after that	by the time	soon
	eventually		next

Examples:

1   **Since** the development of the chip, computers have become cheaper and more compact.
2   You should have a good idea of the various applications of computer software **by the time** you finish reading this book.
3   Although initial versions of word-processing programs were not very complex, **later** versions were much more sophisticated.

Sample paragraph:

Computers, as we know them *today*, have not been around for a long time. It was not *until* the mid-1940s that the first working digital computer was completed. But *since* then, computers have evolved tremendously. Vacuum tubes were used in the first-generation computers only to be replaced by transistors in the second-generation computers *at the beginning* of the early 1960s. *By the end* of the 1960s, transistors themselves were replaced by tiny integrated circuit boards and, consequently, a new generation of computers was on the market. Fourth-generation computers are *now* produced with circuits that are much smaller than *before* and can fit on a single chip. *Even now*, new technologies are being developed to make even better machines.

Exercise 1

Read the following paragraph and, as you read, underline the time relaters.

During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, many easy ways of calculating were devised. Logarithm tables, calculus, and the basis for the modern slide rule were invented during this period. It was not until the early 1800s that the first calculating machine appeared and, not too long after, Charles Babbage designed a machine which became the basis for building today's computers. A hundred years later, the first analog computer was built, but the first digital computer was not completed until 1944. Since then, computers have gone through four generations: digital computers using vacuum tubes in the 1950s, transistors in the early 1960s, integrated circuits in the mid-60s, and a single chip in the 1970s. In the 1980s, we saw computers become smaller, faster, and cheaper. Earlier this decade, computers became portable, from laptops to palmtops. At the rate computer technology is growing now, we can expect further dramatic developments before the end of the century.