

Tenses



Verb Tense Review

The Importance of Time

Verb tense expresses the time of an event or action. Time and how it is expressed in writing is very important to English readers. The English language has twelve different tenses. In this lesson, we will review the meaning of each verb tense.



TENSE MEANS TIME___

PRESENT TIME

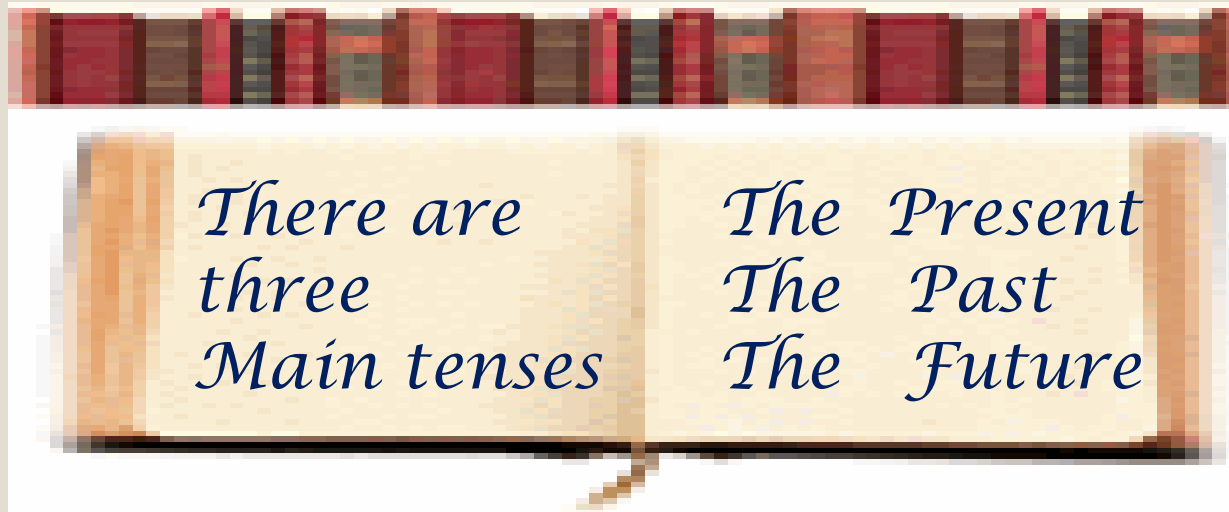


PAST TIME



FUTURE TIME





EACH TENSE HAS FOUR FORMS

❑ ***SIMPLE:** Present, Past, Future*



❑ ***CONTINUOUS:** Present, Past, Future*



❑ ***PERFECT:** Present, Past, Future*



❑ ***PERFECT CONTINUOUS:** Present, Past, Future*



Simple Present
I play.



Present Continuous
I am playing.



Present Perfect
I have played.



Present Perfect
Continuous
*I have been
playing
for two hours.*

Simple Past
I played.



Past Continuous
I was playing.



Past Perfect
I had play



Past Perfect
Continuous
*I had been play
when you came.*

Simple Future
I will play.



Future Continuous
I will be playing



Future Perfect
*I will have
play*



Future Perfect
Continuous
*I will have been
playing
for two hours at
2 o'clock.*



PRESENT CONTINUOUS TENSE

Is, am, are + Present Participle

Uses:

1. To describe an action that :

❖ Is happening at the moment of speaking.

❖ Going on over a period of time.

Examples:

1. It **is raining**.
2. She **is watching** her brother play.
3. My sister **is singing** on the stage.

PAST CONTINUOUS TENSE

Was, were + Present Participle

Uses:

1. To describe an action that

❖ Was going on at a point of time, When another action took place.

Examples:

1. It was raining at this time yesterday.
2. She was watching her brother play when the thieves entered the house.
3. He was typing in his office when the fire broke out.

FUTURE CONTINUOUS TENSE

Will be + Present Participle

Uses:

1. To describe an action:

❖ That will be in progress at a given point of time in the future.

Examples:

1. This time tomorrow, I **shall be** flying over London.
2. I **won't be going** for the party tomorrow.
3. The school team **will be going** to Agra next week.

PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

has/ have + Past participle

Uses:

To describe an action:

❖ Which has been completed or done just now, near the present time.

❖ An action that has taken place

In the past, but the action has

its effect in the present.

❖ An action that began in the past, and is continuing in the present.

Examples:

1. He **has eaten** all the biscuits.
2. He **has lived** here for ten years.

PAST PERFECT TENSE

Had + Past Participle

Uses:

To describe an action that

had already taken place in the past before another action took place in the past.

Examples:

1. When I reached the station, the train **had left**.
2. They **had** already **pulled** down the old building before the order was given.

FUTURE PERFECT TENSE

Will/ shall have + Past Participle

Uses:

To describe an action that will be completed by some point of time in the future.

Examples:

1. He **will have left** before you reach.
2. They **will have cleaned** the streets in an hour.

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Has been/ have been
+
Present Participle

Use:

To describe an action
which began in the past
but
Is still continuing in the
present.

Examples:

1. He **has been sleeping** for five hours.
2. They **have been working** since 9a.m.

PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Had been
+
Present Participle

Use:

To describe an action
that
began in the past and
continued in the past for
sometime.

Examples:

1. When I visited him,
he
had been teaching
there for five years.

FUTURE PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Will have been
+
Present Participle

Use:

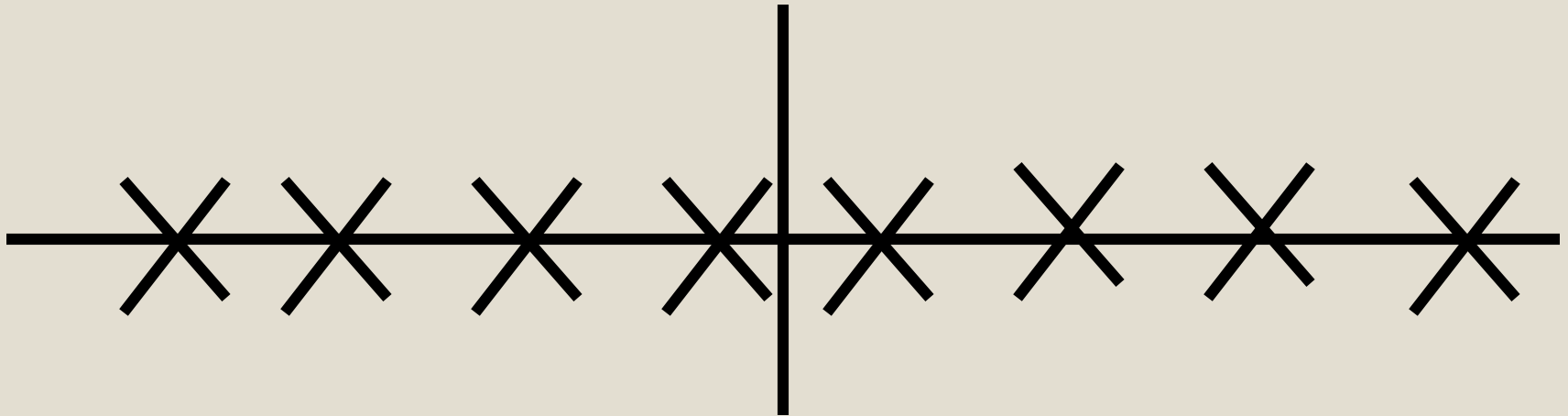
To describe an action
That will be in
progress even after a
given point of time.

Examples:

1. By next December,
We **will have been living**
here for five years.

The Simple Present Tense

Expresses a habit or often repeated action.
Adverbs of frequency such as, *often, seldom, sometimes, never*, etc. are used with this tense.



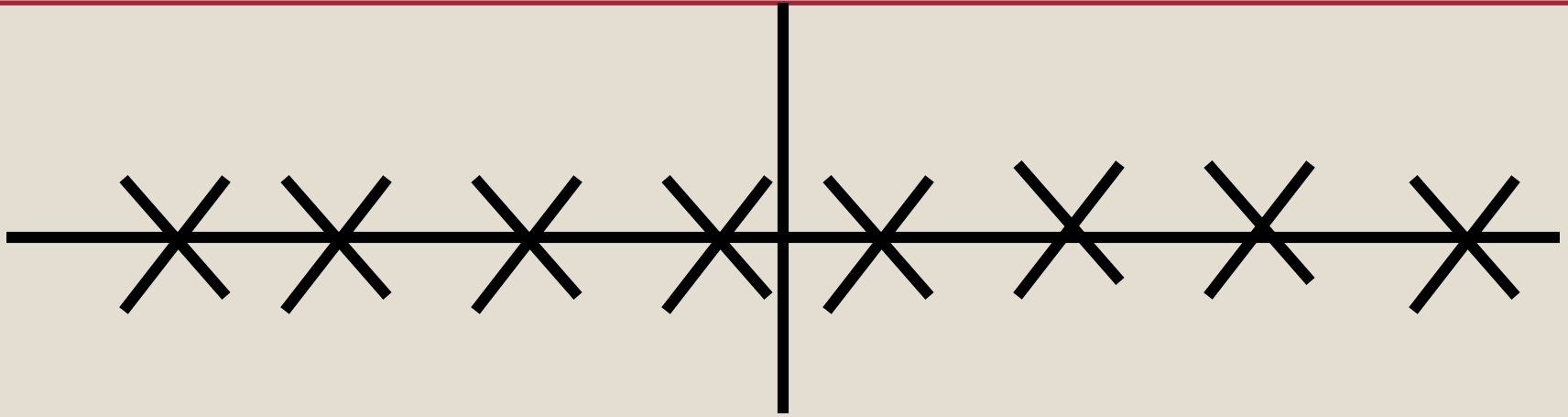
She goes to work everyday.

They *always* eat lunch together.



The Simple Present Tense

This tense also expresses general truths or facts that are timeless.



Snow falls in the December in Minnesota.
Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius.



SIMPLE PRESENT TENSE

**Present Form Of verb
OR
Present Form Of Verb
+
's' or 'es'**

USES

- ☐ Repeated Actions
- ☐ Habitual Actions
- ☐ Universal Truth
- ☐ A Future Action



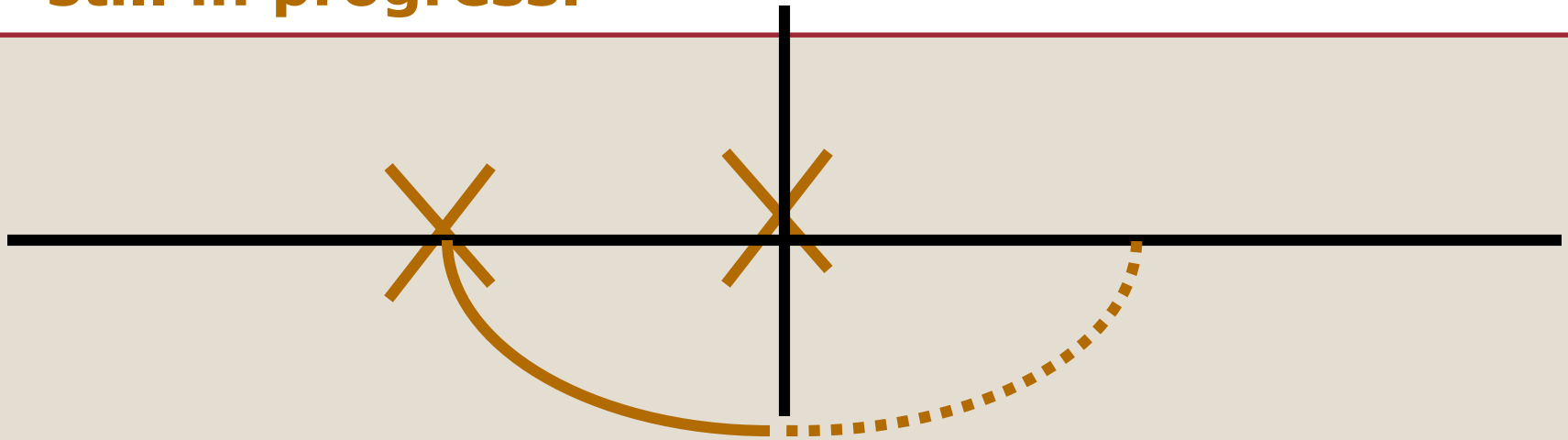
Examples:

1. I drink tea daily.
2. She drinks tea daily.
3. I sing well.
4. She sings well.

5. Honesty is the best policy.
6. Our school re-opens in July.
7. Ram doesn't go to school .
8. I don't like to read sad stories.
9. Does he know the way?
10. Doesn't he play rugby?

The Present Progressive

This tense is used to describe an action that is occurring right now (at this moment, today, this year, etc.). The action has begun and is still in progress.



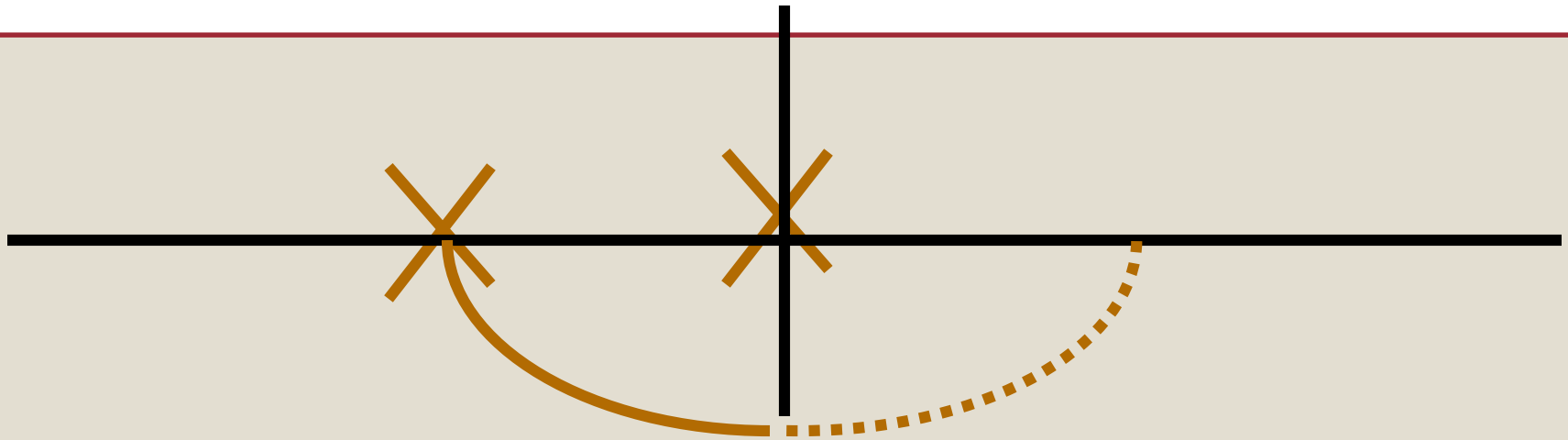
She is typing a paper for her class.

He can't talk. He is fixing the sink right now.



The Present Progressive

The present progressive can also be used to describe an action that is occurring in the present, but is temporary.



John is living in Modesto, but he might move soon.



The Simple Past

We use the simple past to indicate exactly when an action or event took place in the past.



I visited my sister yesterday.
We went out to dinner last night.



The Simple Past

The simple past is used to describe actions and/or events that are now completed and no longer true in the present.



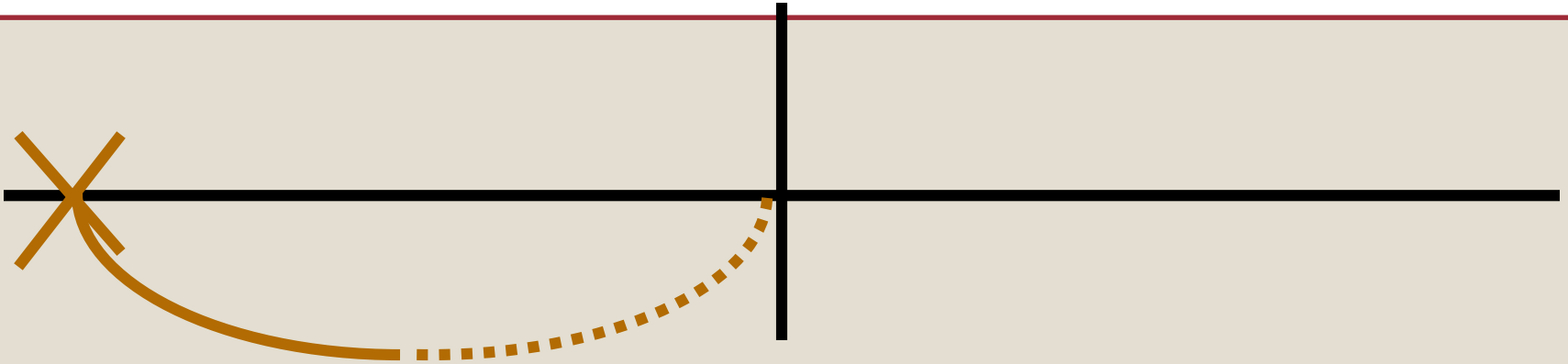
I attended MJC in 1998. (I no longer attend MJC.)

I saw a movie every weekend when I was a teenager. (I don't see movies very much anymore.)



The Past Progressive

The past progressive is used to talk about an activity that was in progress at a specific point of time in the past. The emphasis is on the duration of the activity in the past.



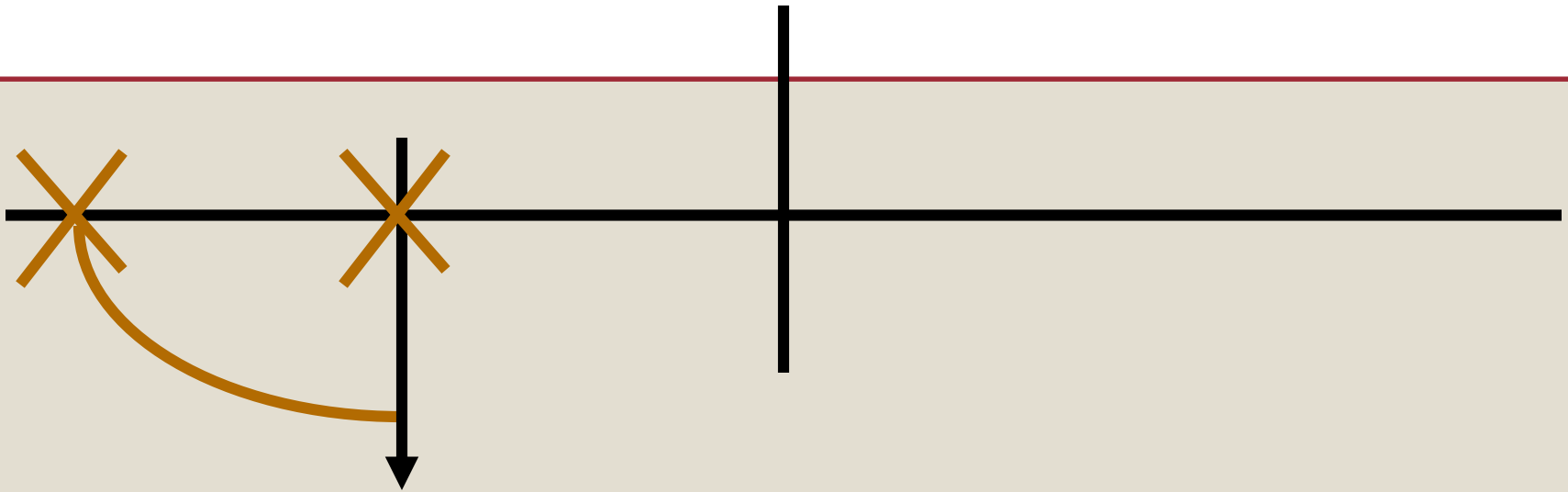
I was studying for an exam while my mother was cooking dinner.

We were walking in the park around 7 p.m. last night.



The Past Progressive

The past progressive is often used with the simple past to show that one action was in progress when another action occurred.



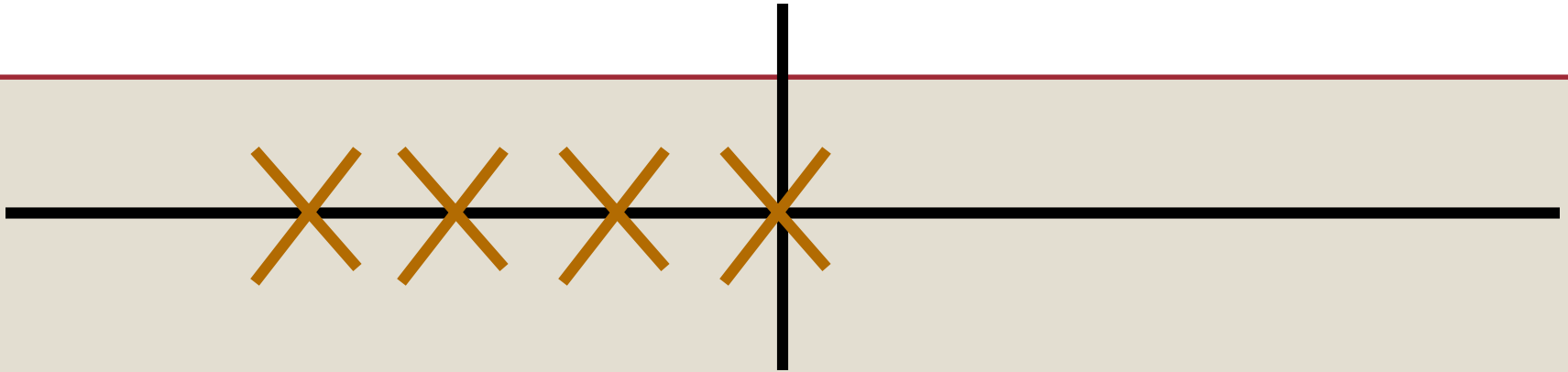
I was taking a bath when the doorbell rang.

They were eating dinner when the neighbors stopped by for a visit.



The Present Perfect

The present perfect is used to talk about an event that began in the past and continues up to the present.



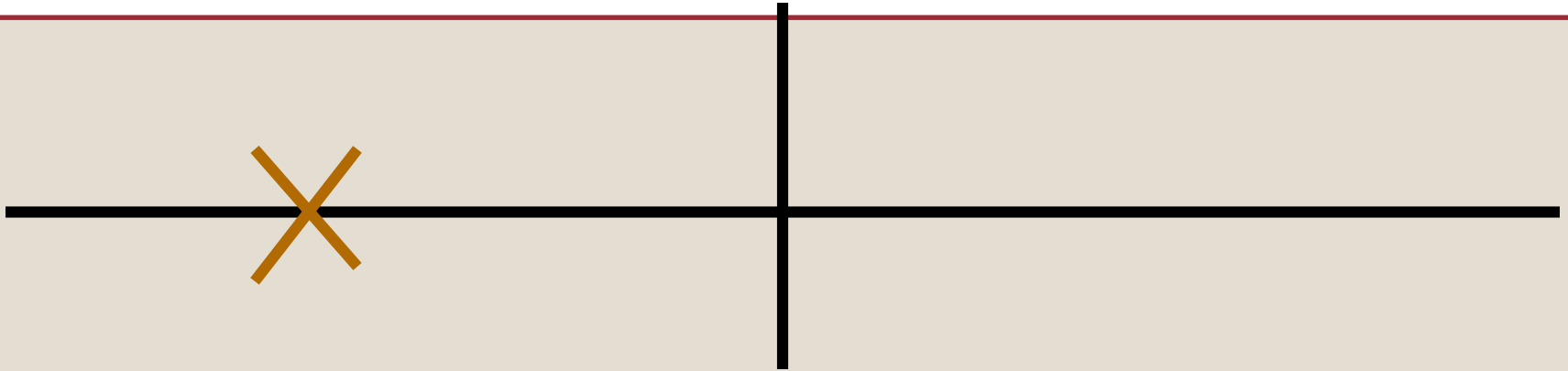
He has lived in Modesto for two years.

(He began living in Modesto two years ago and he still lives there.)



The Present Perfect

The present perfect is also used to talk about an event that was completed in the past, but the specific time of the event is not important.



I have seen that movie before.

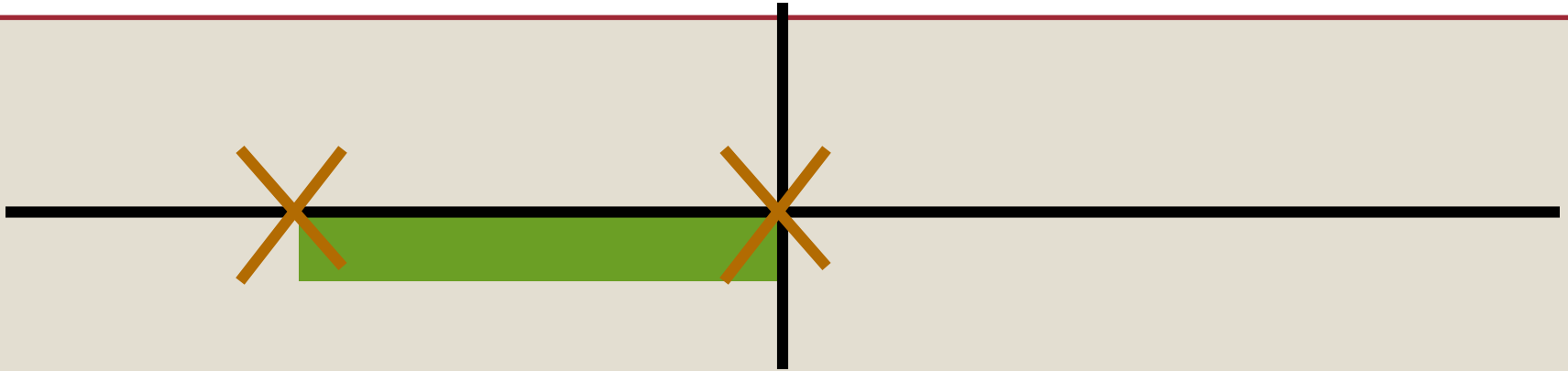
He has already visited Vietnam.

(Specific dates and times are not mentioned.)



Present Perfect Progressive

This tense is used to describe the duration of an action that began in the past and continues into the present.



He has been studying grammar for an hour.

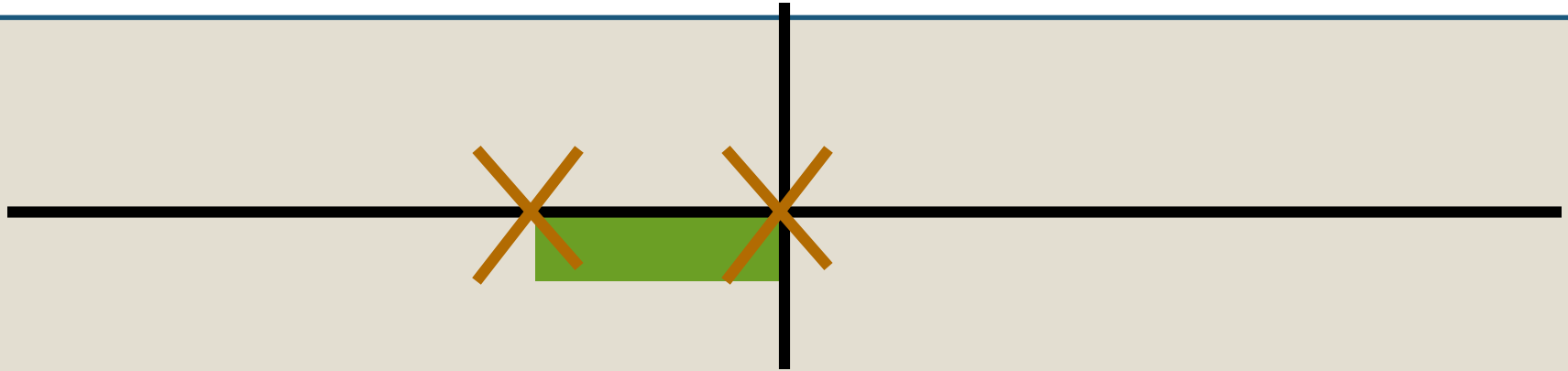
She has been cooking all day.

(He is still studying and she is still cooking.)



Present Perfect Progressive

This tense is also used to describe events that have been in progress recently and are rather temporary.



She has been living in Taiwan for the last two months, but she plans to move soon.



The Past Perfect

This tense describes completed events that took place in the past before another past event.

had received
had eaten

it hit
my friend stopped by

The Titanic had received many warnings before it hit the iceberg.

I had already eaten when my friend stopped by to visit.

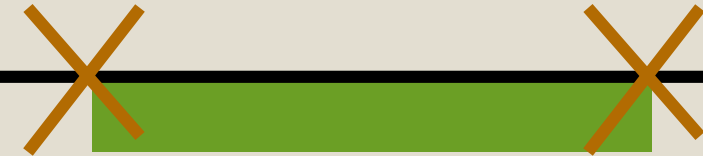


Past Perfect Progressive

This tense is used to emphasize the duration of an action that was completed before another action or event in the past.

had been
driving

she found the right office

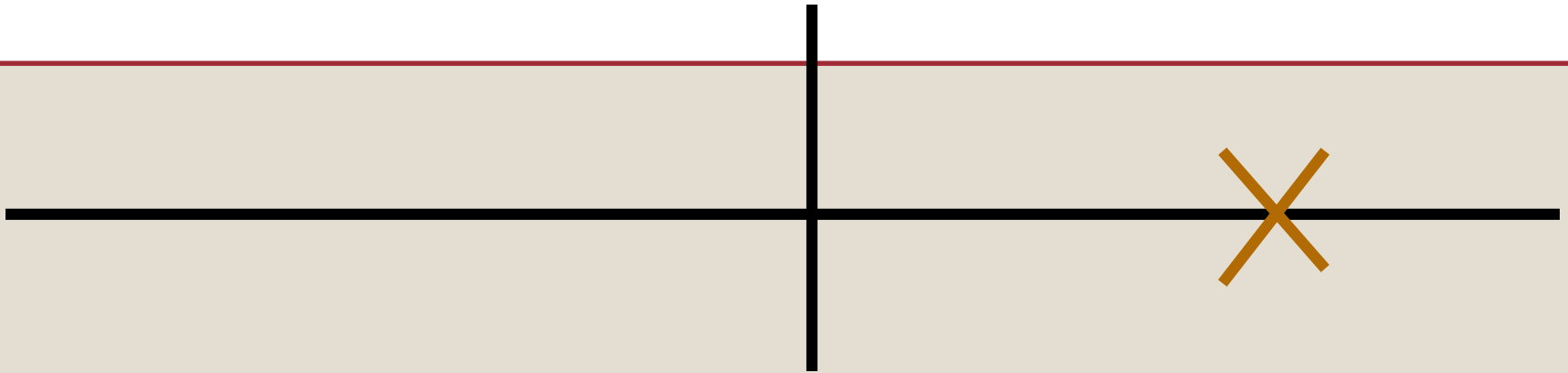


She had been driving around the city for three hours before she finally found the right office.



The Future

Will and *be + going + to* are often used to describe future actions.



Thomas will graduate in June.

Maria is going to go to Mexico next week.



The Future

The simple present and present progressive are also used to express future time. These are often used in connection with schedules.



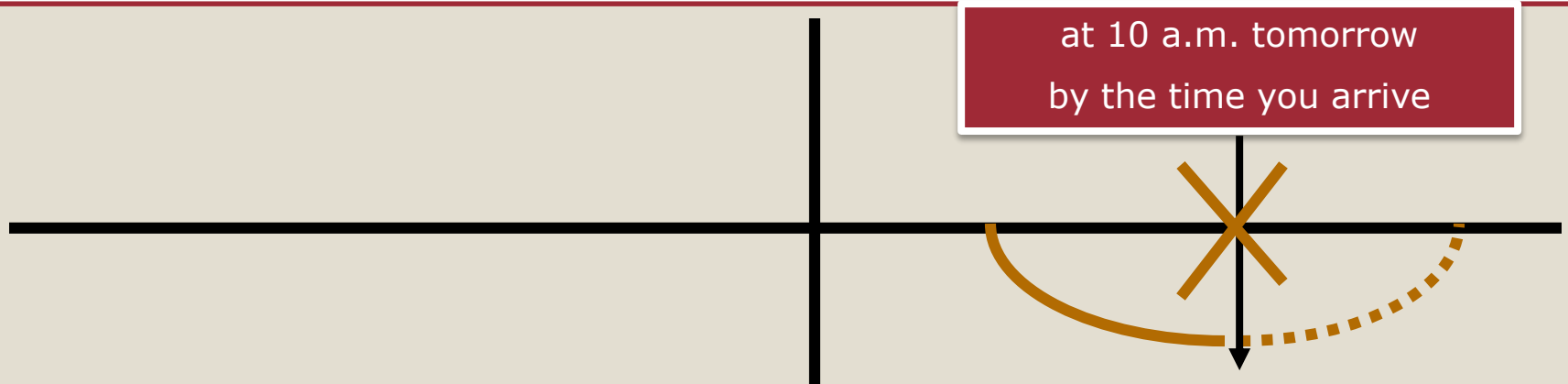
She is meeting a new client at eleven o'clock.

The train leaves at 6:00 a.m. tomorrow.



The Future Progressive

This tense is used to describe an event or action that will occur over a period of time at a specific point in the future.



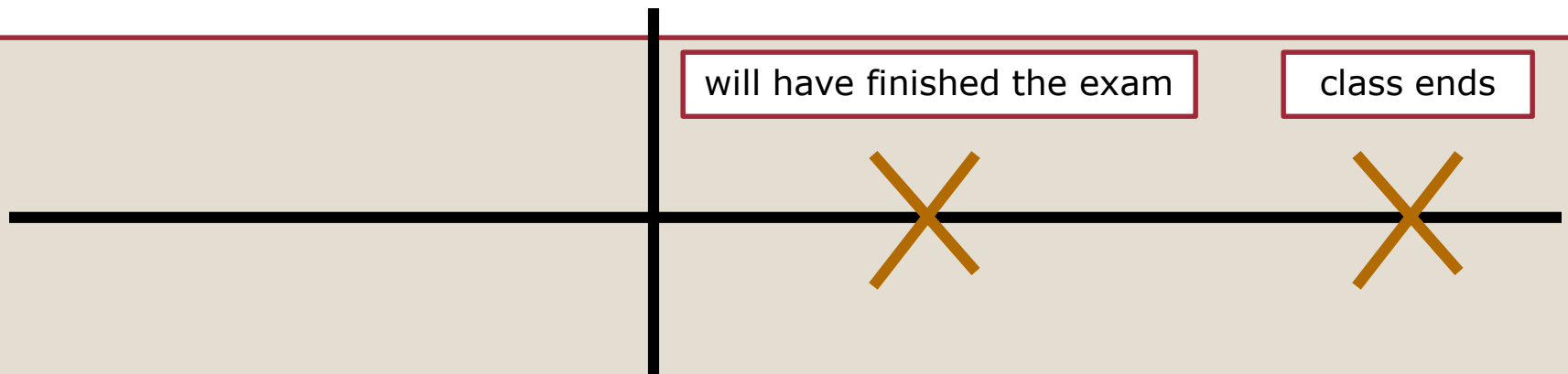
I will be teaching ESL 40 at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

They will be moving their furniture out of the house
by the time you arrive tomorrow.



The Future Perfect

This tense is used to describe an event or action that will be completed before another event or time in the future.

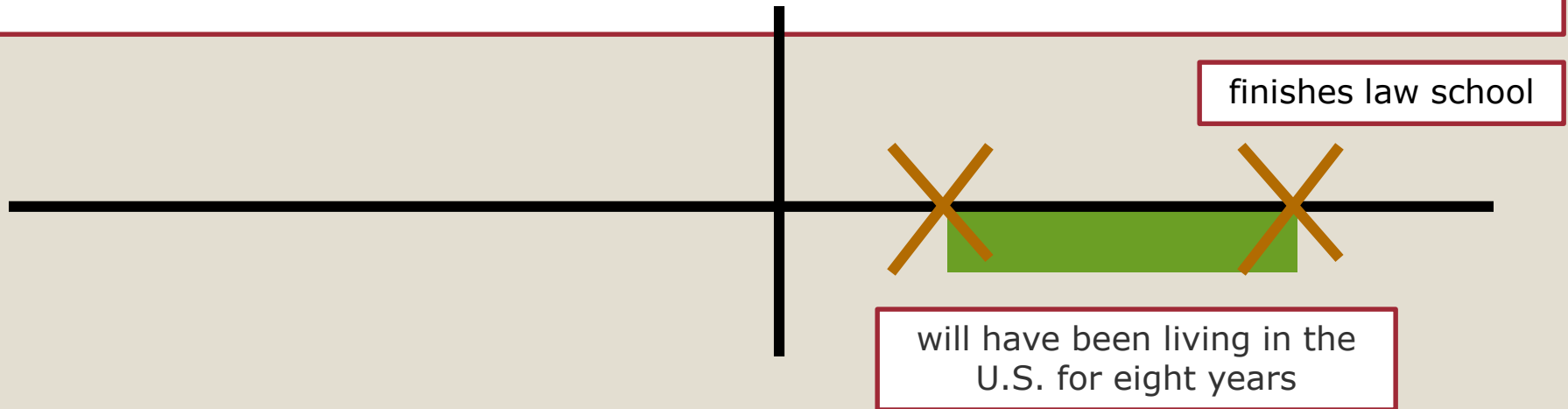


We will have finished the exam by the time class ends tomorrow.



Future Perfect Progressive

This tense describes an action that has been in progress for a duration of time before another event or time in the future.



By the time he finishes law school, we will have been living in the U.S. for eight years.





THANK YOU