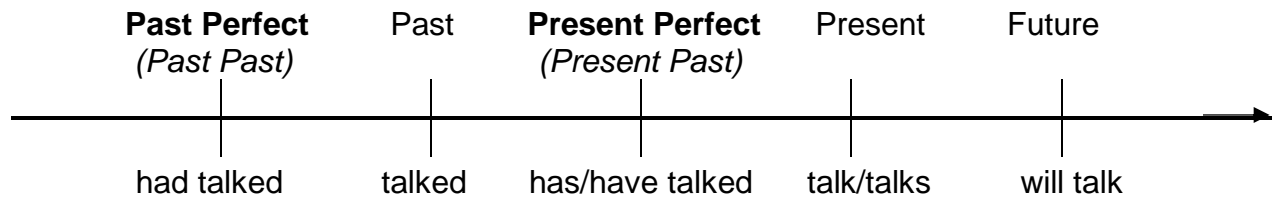


(Confusing) Past Tenses



Past Perfect:

Use: *when there are multiple past tenses in the sentence and you need to distinguish which happened first ("Past Past").*

Clues: *by the time, before, already, remembered, when, until*

1. *By the time* the detective discovered that the jewels had disappeared, the thief was long gone.
2. *Before* she became a lawyer, Elizabeth had been a doctor.
3. Carl had already promised to take Jane to the prom two days *before* Jen asked.
4. James *remembered* he had put the cookies in the oven only *when* he saw the smoke.
5. Brook knew Los Angeles so well because she had lived there for five years.
6. I did not have any money because I had lost my wallet.
7. We were unable to get a hotel room because we had not booked in advance.
8. The Smiths felt sad about selling the cabin because they had owned it for more than twenty years.

Present Perfect:

Use: *when something started in the past and is still occurring/true today ("Present Past") or when something occurred at an unspecified time in the past.*

Clues: *since, now, just, recently*, or actions that occurred in the past but continue to have current consequences, like: *cleaned, written, read, seen, met, traveled, arrived, been, become, discovered, learned, mastered, cured, finished*

1. Ever *since* the country was founded, democratic theory has guided its politics.
2. You have grown *since* the last time I saw you.
3. *Now* that I have cleaned my room, I feel more organized.
4. Scientists have recently discovered a new species.
5. My husband has never read a book written by Stephen King.
6. I think I have met him once before.
7. Jason has never traveled by train.
8. Doctors have cured many deadly diseases.