



आईएफटीएम विश्वविद्यालय, मुरादाबाद, उत्तर प्रदेश

IFTM University, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh

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BASICS OF ENGLISH TENSES & THEIR USAGE

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TENSES

FUTURE

PRESENT

PAST

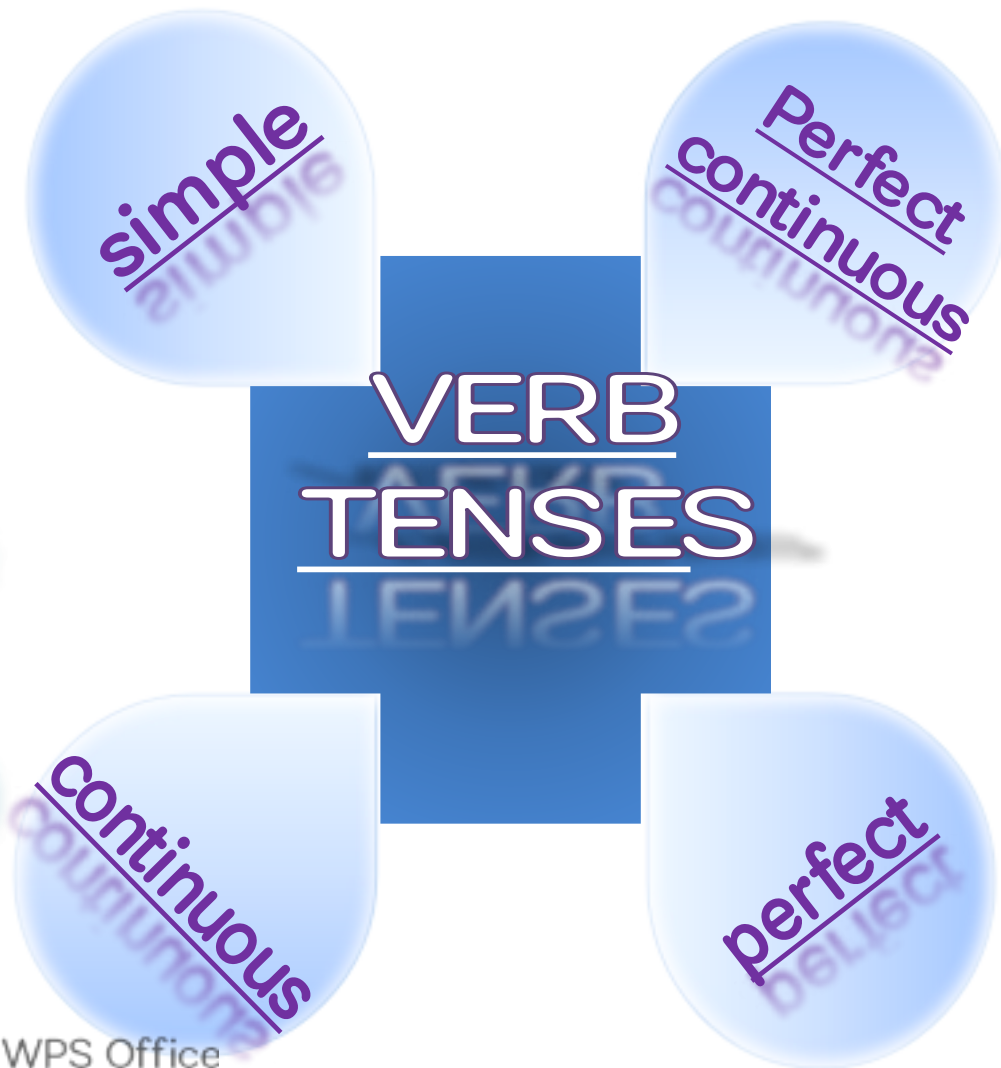


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INTRODUCTION

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The word Tense is derived from a Latin word “tempus” which means **time**. A verb indicates the time of an action, event or condition by changing its form.



BASED ON TIME FRAME



Present Tense :---

Present tense expresses an unchanging, repeated, or reoccurring action or situation that exists only now. It can also represent a widespread truth.

Past Tense :---

Past tense expresses an action or situation that was started and finished in the past.

Future Tense :---

Future tense expresses an action or situation that will occur in the future.



BASED ON ASPECT

--- nature of action

described by the verb.

Indefinite Tense

The three **indefinite tenses** or **simple tenses** describe an action but do not state whether the action is finished.

Continuous Tense

The three **continuous tenses** or **incomplete tenses** describe an **unfinished/on-going** action.

Perfect Tense

The three complete tenses or **perfect tenses** describe a **finished** action.

Perfect Continuous Tense

To combine the complete tenses and the incomplete tenses, to describe an action which **was in progress and then finished**



TWELVE POSSIBLE VERB TENSES

VERB TENSES

PRESENT

Present Indefinite
Present Continuous
Present Perfect
Present perfect
continuous

PAST

Past Indefinite
Past Continuous
Past Perfect
Past Perfect
continuous

FUTURE

Future Indefinite
Future Continuous
Future Perfect
Future Perfect Continuous



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Abbreviations used in the presentation

- S – Subject
- O – Object
- Vb₁ - First form of the verb
- Vb₂ - Second form of the verb
- Vb₃ - Third form of the verb





Simple Present (do/does)

1. If the subject is singular:

S + Vb₁ + s/es + O

e. g. , Ashok sells toffees.

2. If the subject is plural:

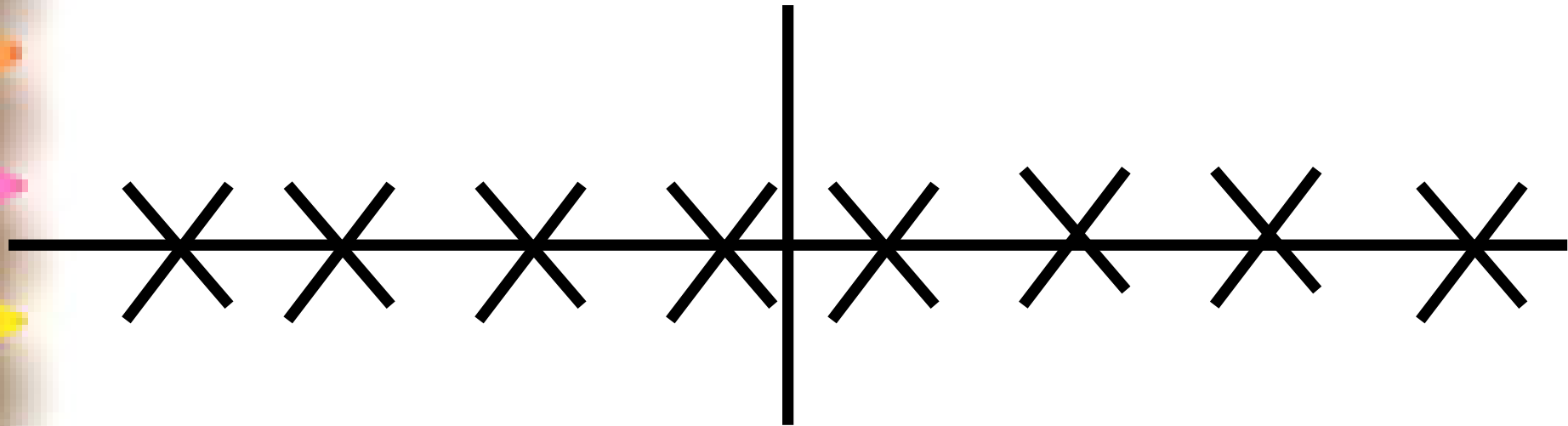
S + Vb₁ + O

E. g. : Children perform on the stage.



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.

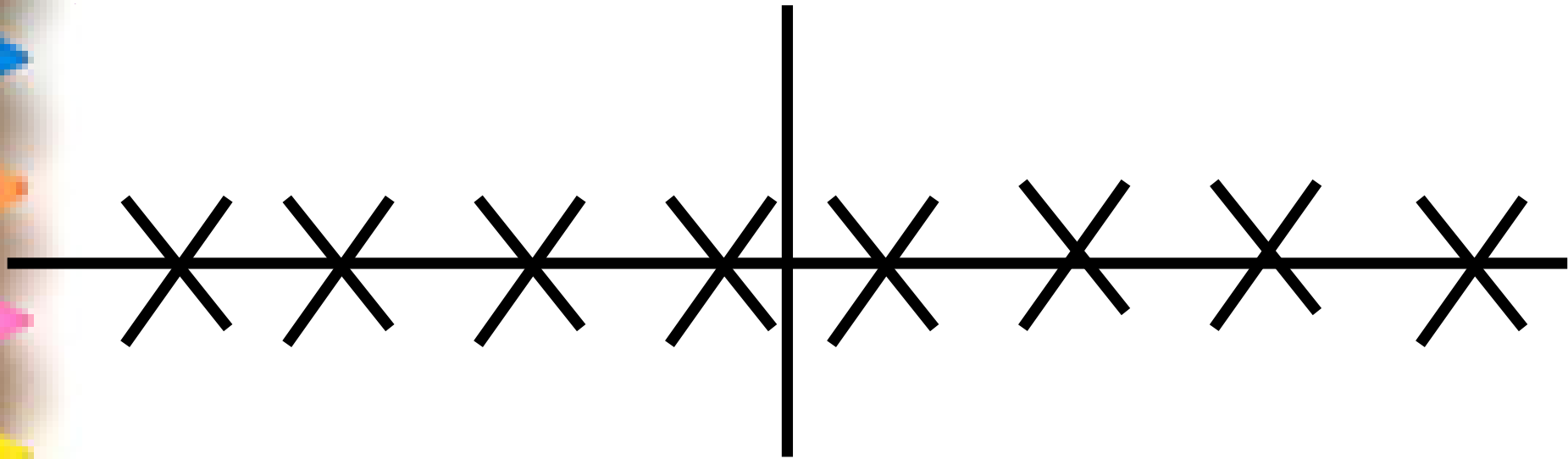
They *always* eat lunch together.



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The Simple Present Tense

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



Snow falls in December in Shimla.

Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius.



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Present Continuous (is/am/are)

1. If the subject is singular:

S + is/am + Vb₁ + ing + O

e. g. , He is flying a kite.

2. If the subject is plural:

S + are + Vb₁ + ing + O

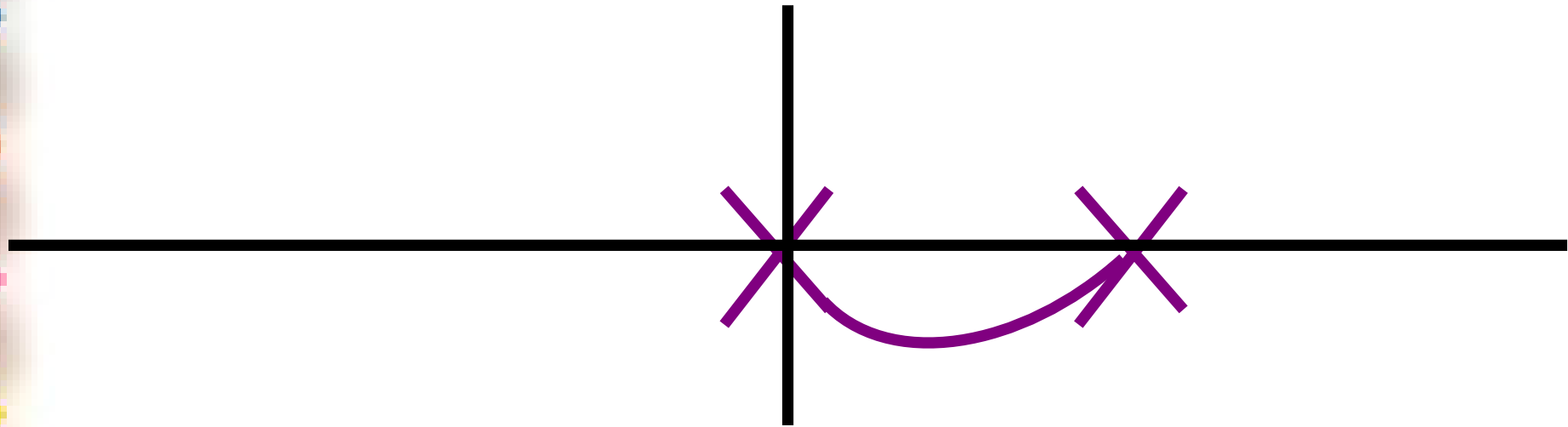
e. g. , They are flying kites.

‘am’ is used with ‘I’; ‘is’ is used with ‘he/she’;
‘are’ is used with ‘we/they/you’.



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.



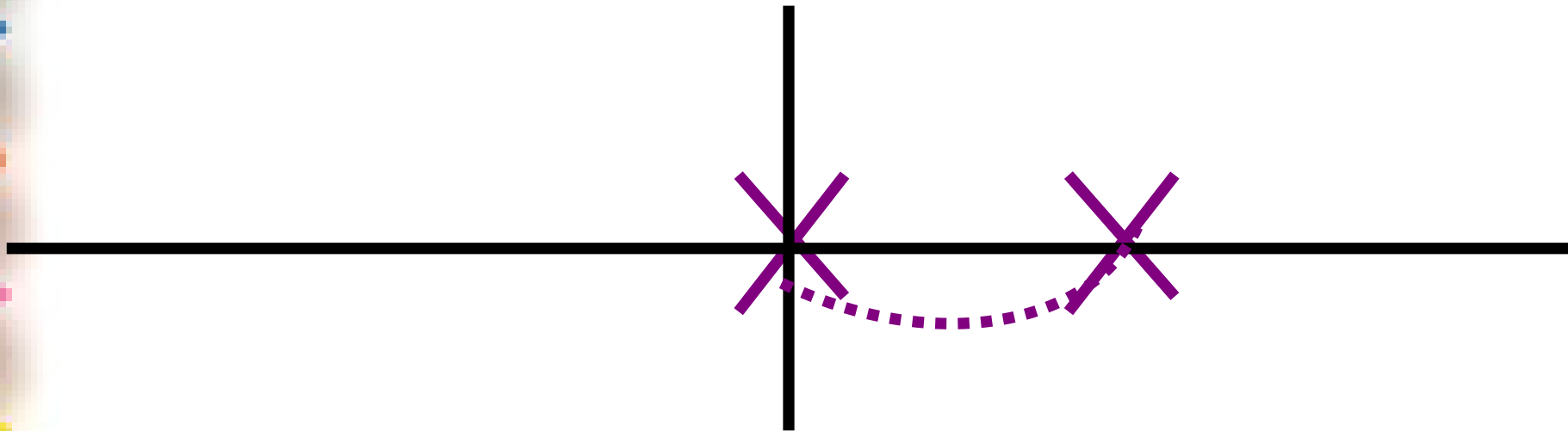
She is typing a paper for her class.

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.



Jai is living in Mumbai, but he might move soon.





Present Perfect (has/have)

1. If the subject is singular:

S + has + Vb₃ + O

e. g. , He has finished his work.

2. If the subject is plural:

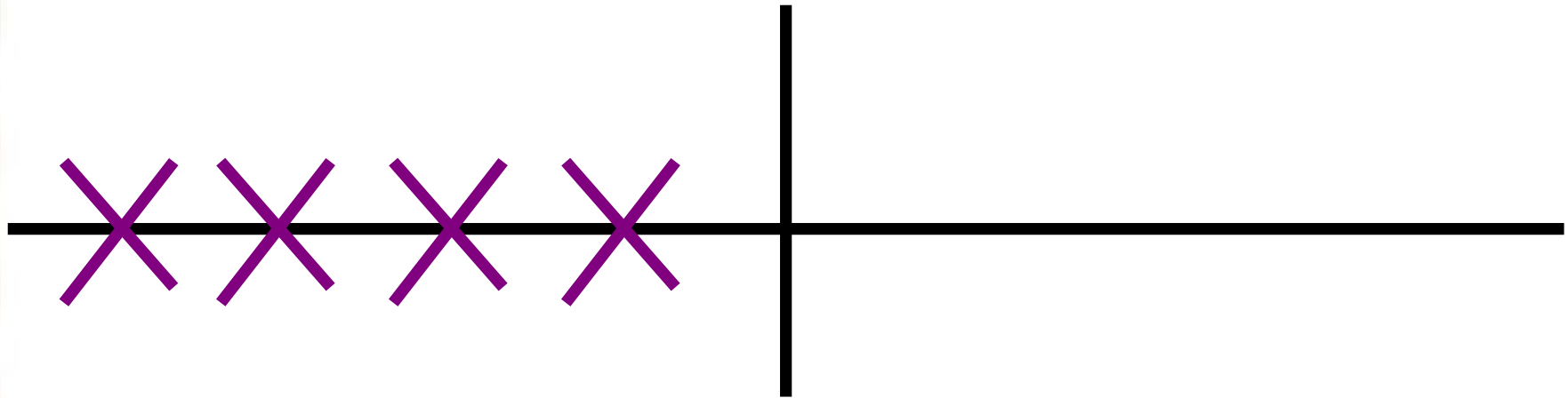
S + have + Vb₃ + O

e. g. , They have finished their work.



The Present Perfect

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

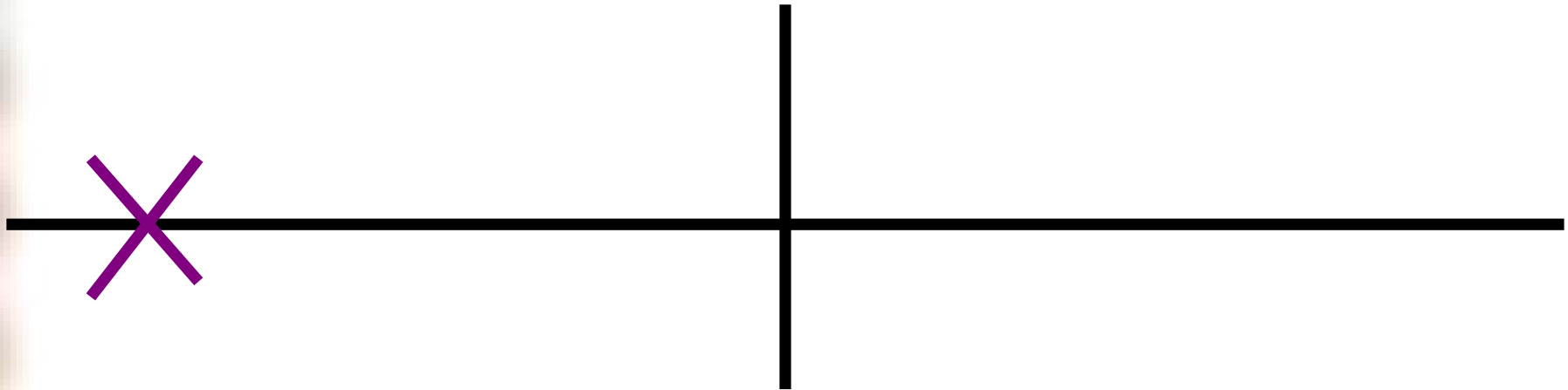


He has lived in Mumbai for two years. (He began living in Mumbai two years ago and he still lives there.)



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 Vizag.

(Specific dates and times are not mentioned.)



Present Perfect Continuous (has been/ have been)

1. If the subject is singular:

S + has + been + Vb₁ + ing + since/for (+time) +
O

e. g. , He has been dancing for four hours.

2. If the subject is plural:

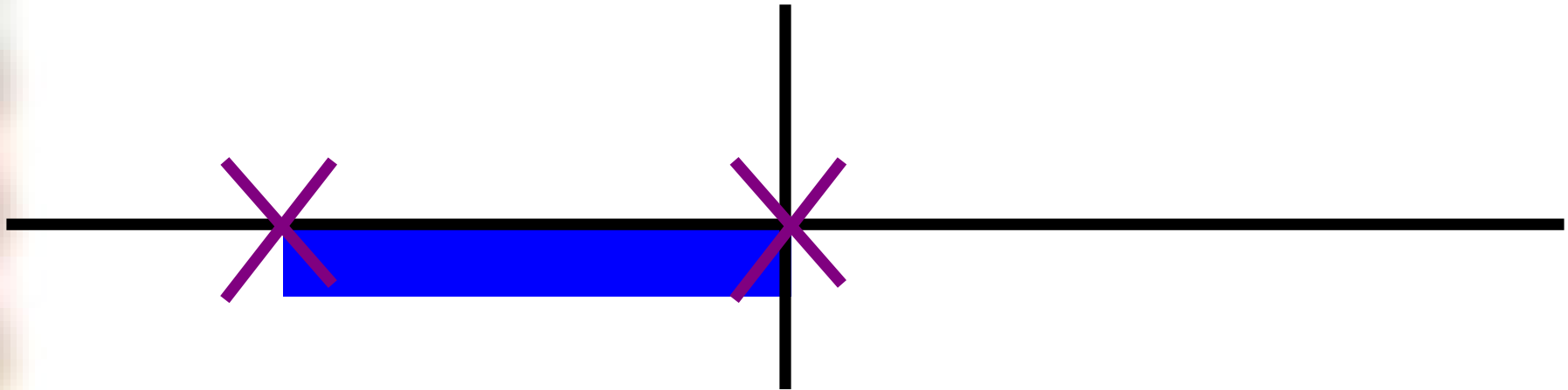
S + have + been + Vb₁ + ing + since/for (+time) +
O

e. g. , We have been doing the work since 7:00a.
m.



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.

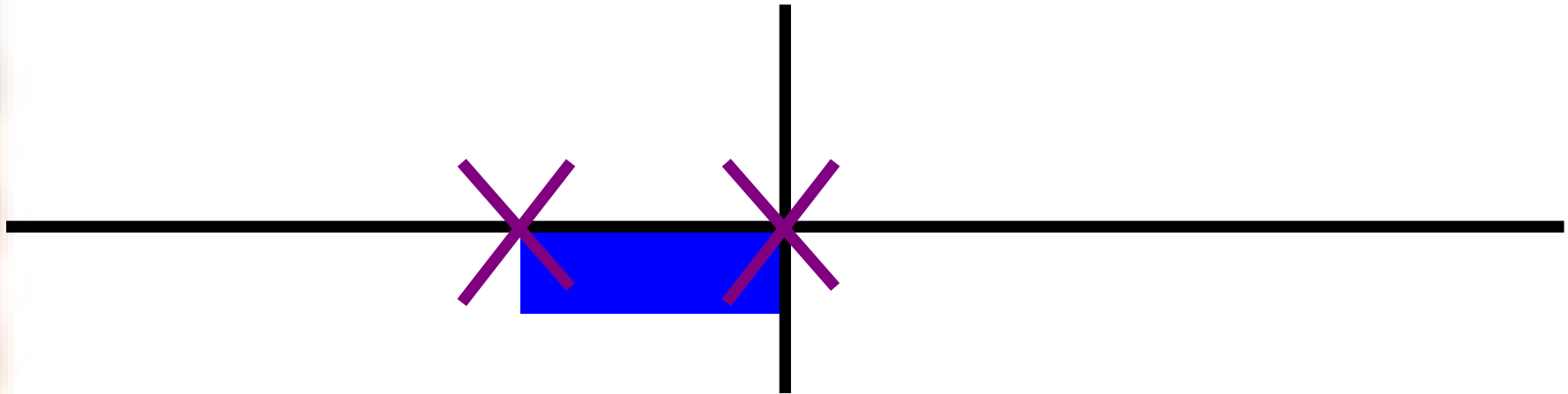
She has been cooking all day.

(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 Gurgaon for the last two months, but she plans to move soon.





Simple Past (did)

Whether the subject is singular or plural, rule remains the same:

S + Vb₂ + O

Jai bought two toffees.





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.

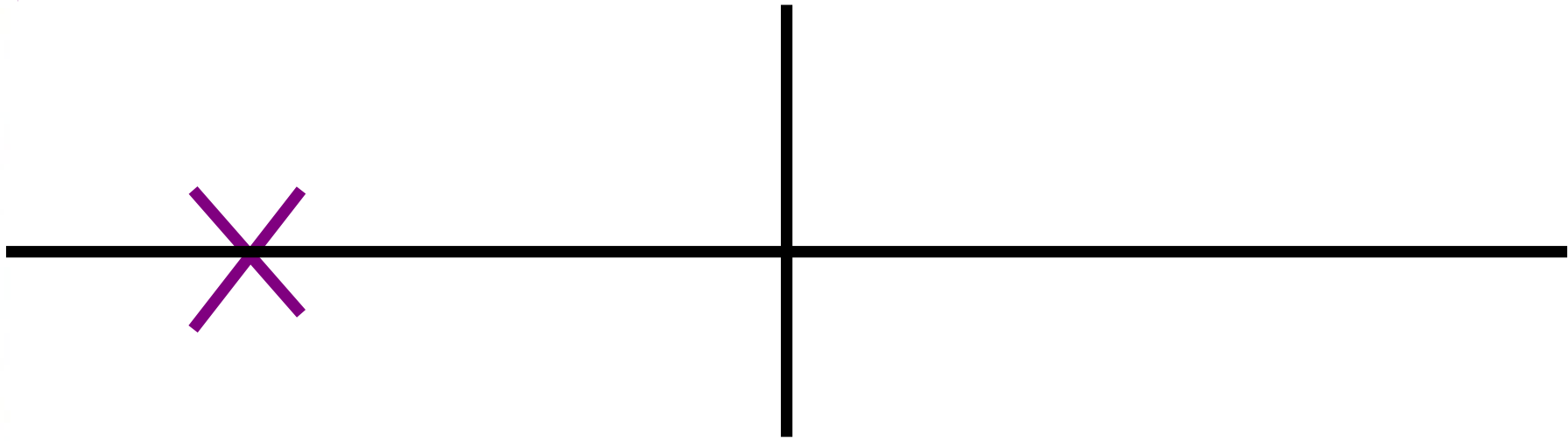
We went out to dinner last night.



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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 SJC in 1991. (I no longer attend SJC.)

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





Past Continuous (was/were)

1. If the subject is singular:

S + was + Vb₁ + ing + O

e. g. , He was eating a burger.

2. If the subject is plural:

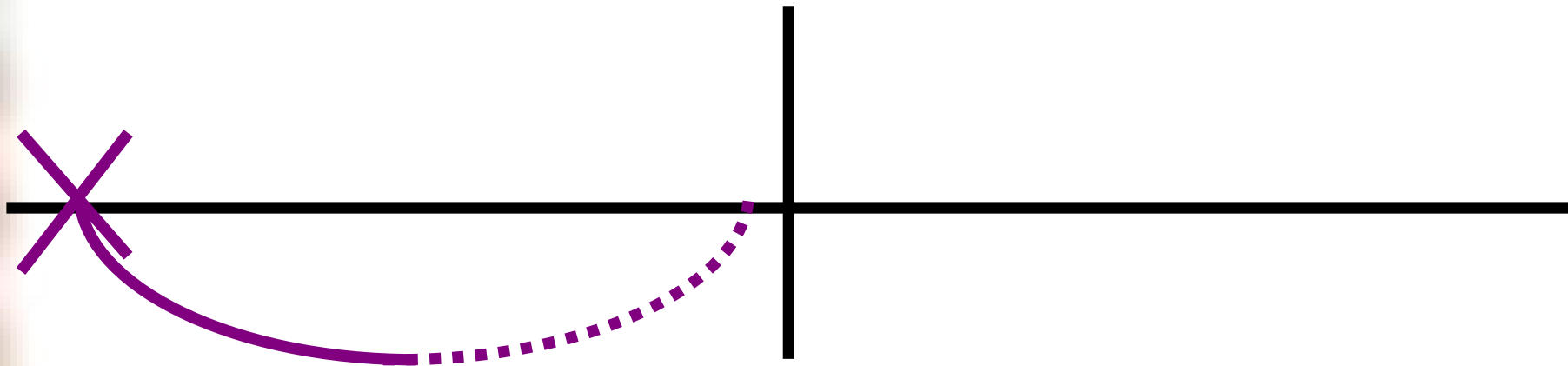
S + were + Vb₁ + ing + O

e. g. , They were flying kites.



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.

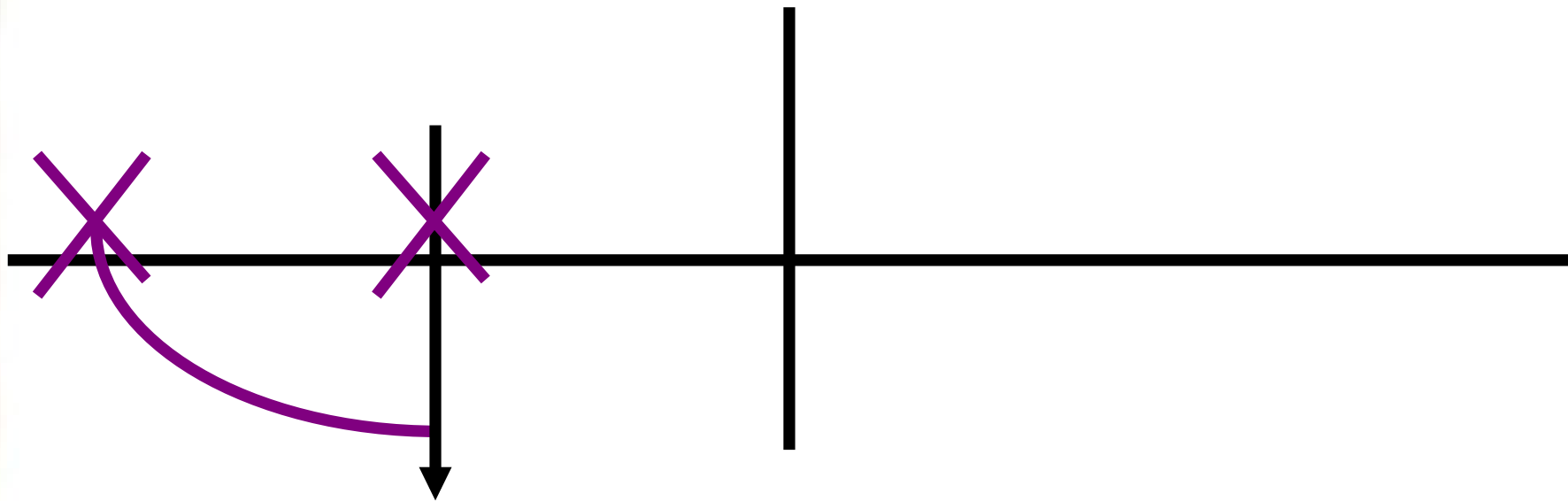


I was studying for an exam while my mother was cooking dinner.
We were walking in the park around 7 p.m. last night.



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 neighbours stopped by for a visit.



Past Perfect (had)

Whether the subject is singular or plural, rule remains the same:

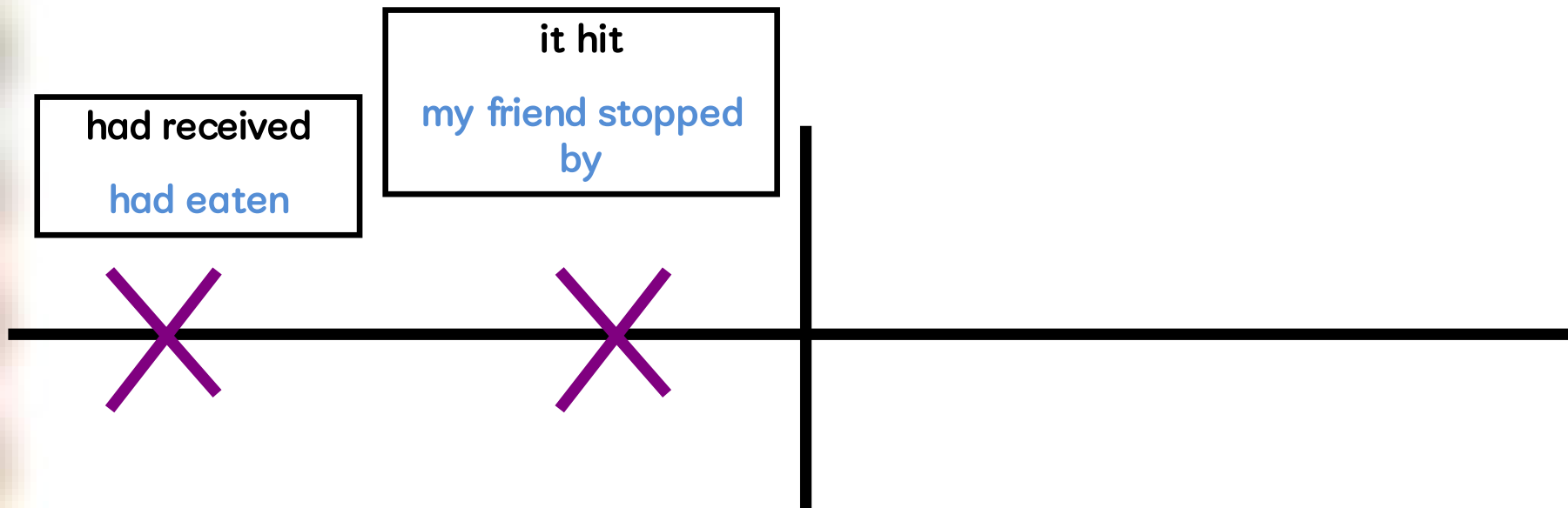
S + had + Vb₃ + O

e. g. , He had killed the snake.



The Past Perfect

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



The Titanic had received many warnings before it hit the iceberg.
I had already eaten when my friend stopped by to visit.





Past Perfect Continuous(had been)

Whether the subject is singular or plural, rule remains the same:

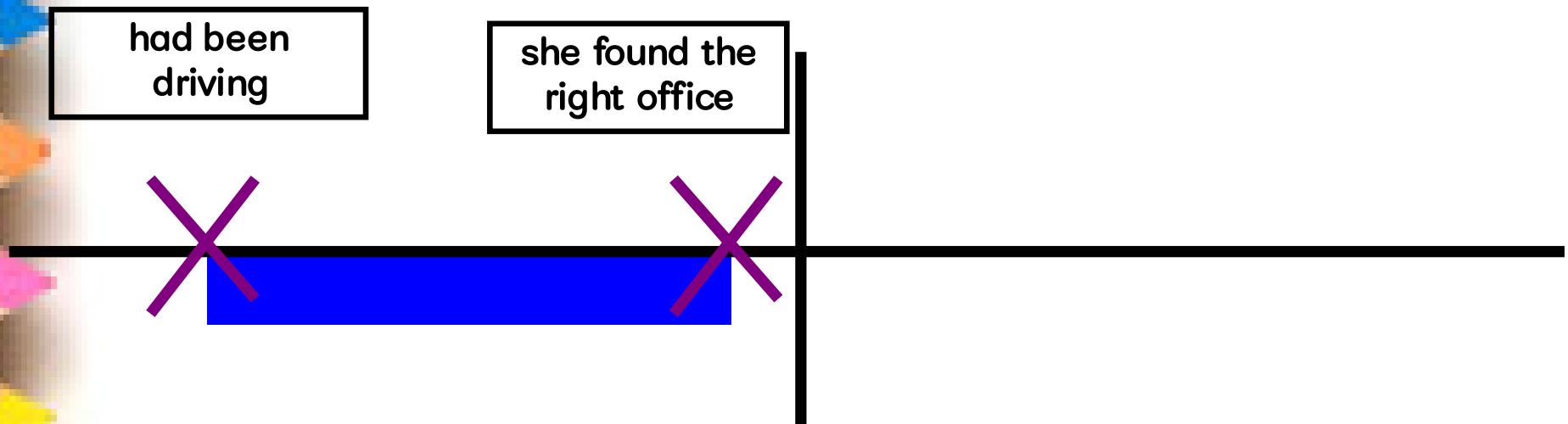
S + had + been + Vb₁ + ing + since/for (+time)
+ O

e. g. , They had been talking for over an hour.



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.



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





Simple Future (will/shall)

Whether the subject is singular or plural, rule remains the same:

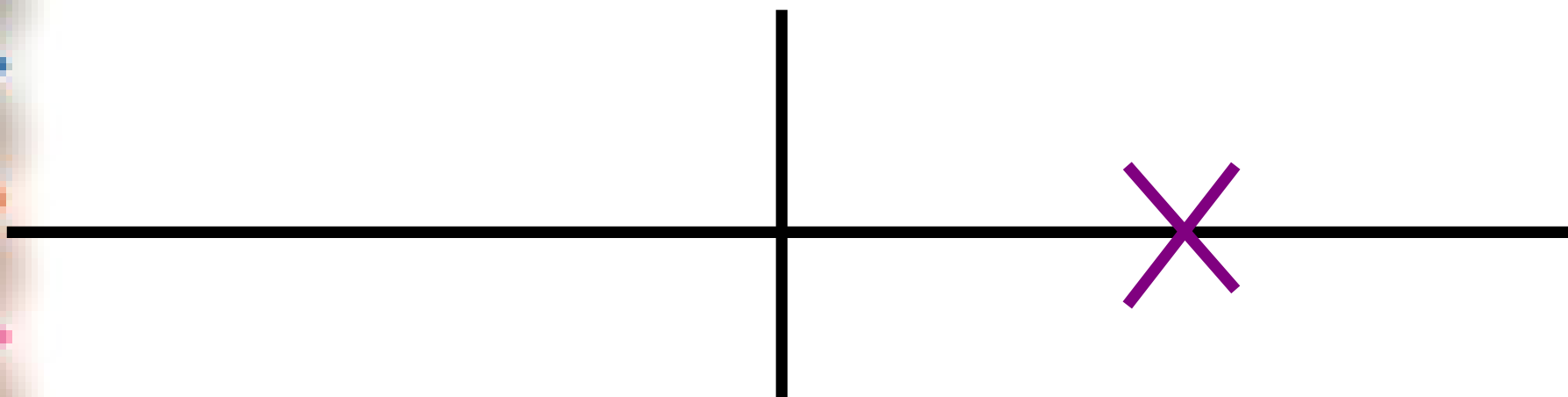
S + will/shall + Vb₁ + O

e. g. , She will go there in the evening.



The Future Indefinite

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



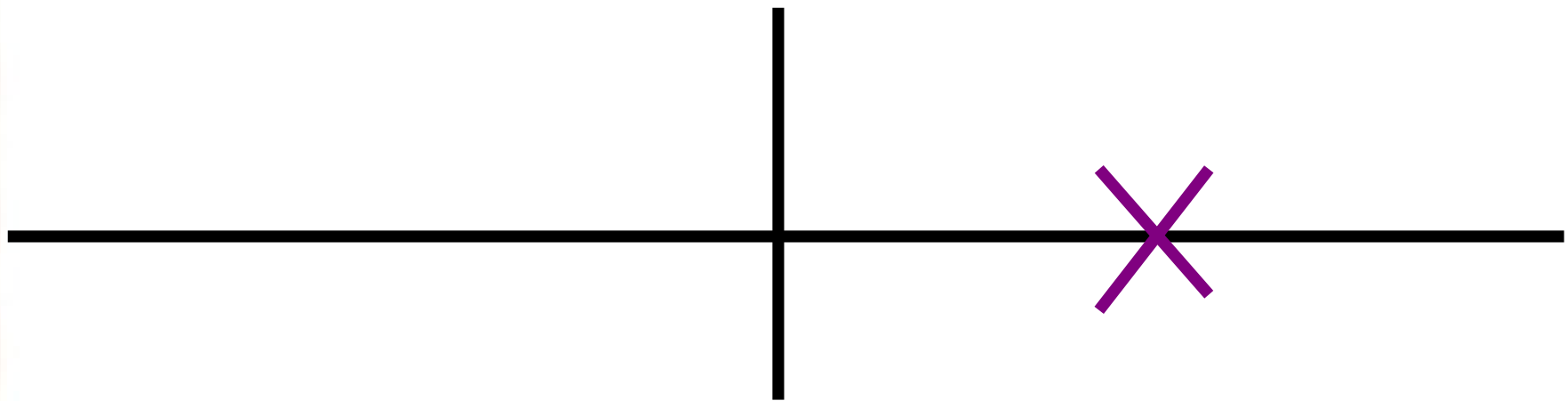
Tripti will graduate in June.
Meera is going to Varanasi next week.



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The Future Simple

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.





Future Continuous (will be/shall be)

Whether the subject is singular or plural, rule remains the same:

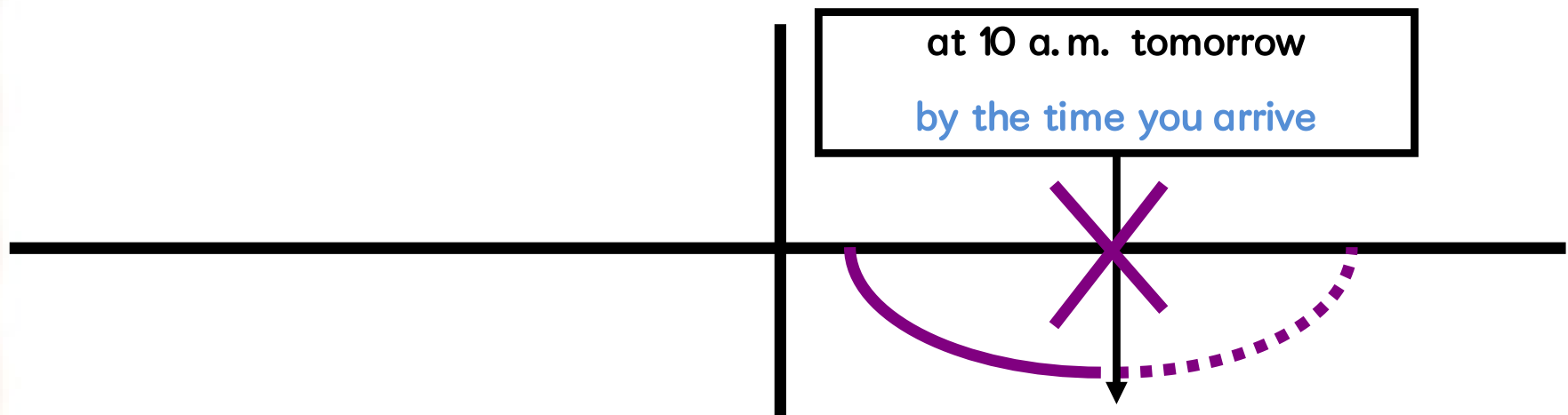
S + will/shall + be + Vb₁ + ing + O

e. g. , They will be running 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 English at 10 a.m. tomorrow.
They will be moving their furniture out of the house by the time
you arrive tomorrow.





Future Perfect (will have/shall have)

Whether the subject is singular or plural, rule remains the same:

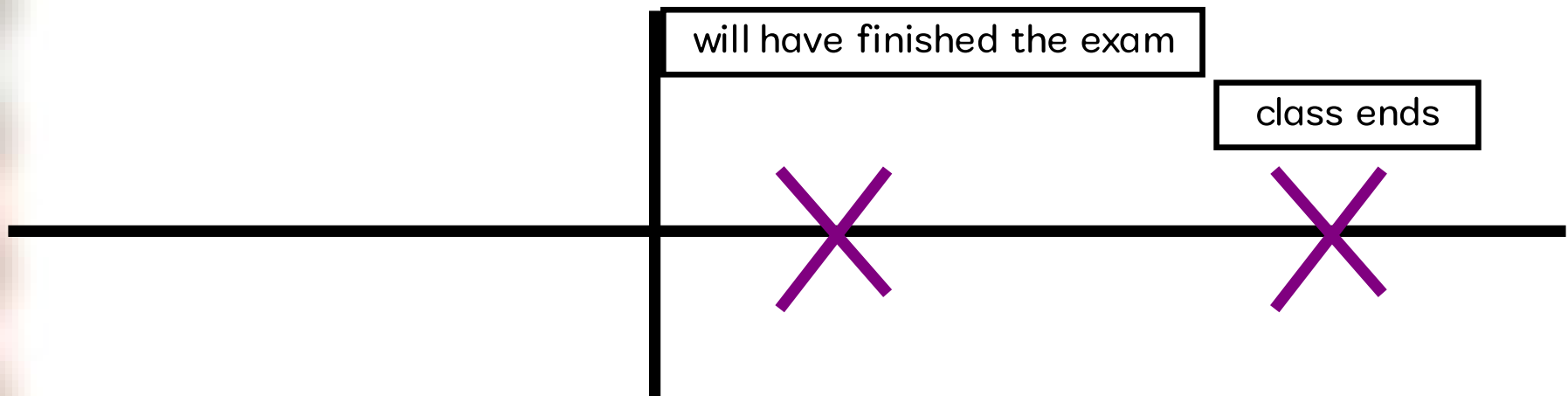
S + will/shall + have + Vb₃ + O

e. g. , Tanay will have finished the work.



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 Continuous (will have been/ shall have been)

Whether the subject is singular or plural, rule remains the same:

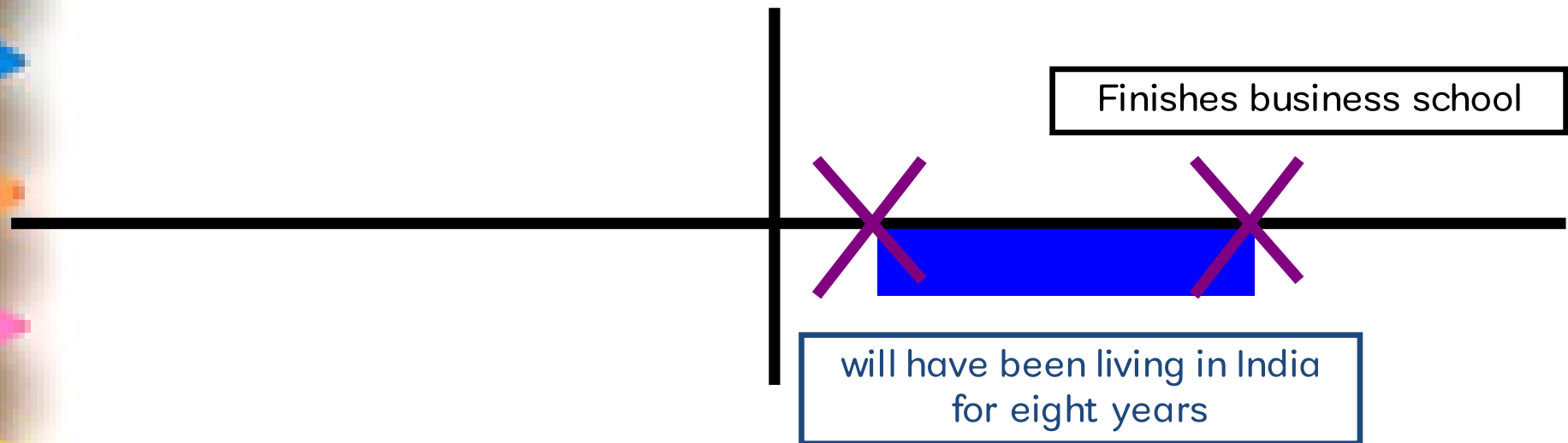
S + will/shall + have + been + Vb₁ + ing (+time)
+ O

E. g. : Jai will have been dancing on the stage 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 business school, we will have been living in India for eight years.



Remember!

Whenever you are writing you should try to stay in the same tense all the way through.





THANK YOU
Any Queries ???



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