

Future Perfect Continuous - Structure

How do we make the future perfect continuous tense in English?

Note: This is also called the **future perfect progressive** tense.

Positive form

Use the **future perfect of be (will have been)** and then the **verb-ing form**.

Full form	Short form
I will have been playing	I'll have been playing
you will have been playing	you'll have been playing
he will have been playing	he'll have been playing
she will have been playing	she'll have been playing
it will have been playing	it'll have been playing
we will have been playing	we'll have been playing
they will have been playing	they'll have been playing

For example:

- I **will have been living** in this house for five years this July.
- He'll **have been driving** for six hours when he gets to Boston.
- They'll **have been learning** English for two years by next month.

Some notes on short forms:

1. We usually contract **will** with personal pronouns in speaking and informal writing: I'll, you'll, he'll, etc.
2. We usually contract **will** with the words **that**, **this**, **those** and **these** in speaking, and sometimes in informal writing: that'll, those'll etc.
3. We often contract **will** with nouns and other words in speaking, but not in writing. For example, we do **not** usually write: ~~John'll~~, ~~the dog'll~~, ~~nobody'll~~, etc.
4. We do **not** usually contract verbs in writing if we have a compound subject: ~~John and I'll~~.

Negative form

Put **not** after **will**.

Full form	Short forms	
I will not have been playing	I won't have been playing	*I'll not have been playing
you will not have been playing	you won't have been playing	you'll not have been playing
he will not have been playing	he won't have been playing	he'll not have been playing
she will not have been playing	she won't have been playing	she'll not have been playing
it will not have been playing	it won't have been playing	it'll not have been playing
we will not have been playing	we won't have been playing	we'll not have been playing
they will not have been playing	they won't have been playing	they'll not have been playing

*The structure in the third column is sometimes used in British English, but it is rarely used in other varieties of English. When used in other varieties, it sounds quite formal.

For example:

- You **will not have been working** here for six months by then.
- She **won't have been studying** every day.
- They'll **not have been waiting** long when you arrive.

Question forms

Invert the subject and **will**, and then put a question word (**what, who**, etc.) at the beginning for wh- questions.

Yes/No questions	
	Will I have been playing?
	Will you have been playing?
	Will he have been playing?
	Will she have been playing?
	Will it have been playing?
	Will we have been playing?
	Will they have been playing?

Wh- questions	
What Who Where When Why How etc.	will I have been playing?
	will you have been playing?
	will he have been playing?
	will she have been playing?
	will it have been playing?
	will we have been playing?
	will they have been playing?

For example:

- **Will I have been playing** basketball for three years in August?
- **Will it have been raining** for a week tomorrow?
- How long **will you have been cleaning** the apartment by midnight?
- What **will he have been doing** before the meeting?
- Where **will they have been staying**?

Short answers

Positive	Negative
Yes, I will .	No, I won't .
Yes, you will .	No, you won't .
Yes, he will .	No, he won't .
Yes, she will .	No, she won't .
Yes, it will .	No, it won't .
Yes, we will .	No, we won't .
Yes, they will .	No, they won't .