

**(FUTURE PERFECT: SIMPLE  
AND CONTINUOUS)**

**TWO-WORD VERBS**

**CH. 13 PART ONE**

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Professor and Mrs. Baker have known each other since they were children. They grew up in the same town, but they went to different colleges. They hadn't seen each other for four years when they met on a ship going to England. During the trip they made up their minds to get married the following September. When they got home, they talked over their plans with their parents. At first Emily Baker's mother asked her to put off the wedding until December, but she changed her mind. That was almost forty years ago. Next September second, Dr. and Mrs. Baker will have been married for forty years. Dr. Baker will have retired, and they will have taken off for a trip around the world.

The Allens bought a house when they first moved to College Town. That was almost six years ago. By June first they will have been living in that house for six years. When Professor Miller called on them last week, he asked them about their house.

Prof. Miller: You've owned this house quite a while, haven't you?

Prof. Allen: It will be six years soon, won't it?

Prof. Allen: It will be six years in June.

Prof. Miller: Taxes are pretty high in College Town, aren't they?

Prof. Allen: Yes, they are, but it is nice to own your own home. You live in an apartment, don't you?

Prof. Miller: Yes, I do. I'd like to own a home, but I think I'll wait until I get married.

Prof. Allen: A house is a big responsibility for one person.

Prof. Allen: That's right, isn't it, Ruth?

Prof. Miller: Yes, indeed. That's right.

# Simple future perfect tense

## FORMATION

Simple future perfect tense is a verb phrase made from *will + have + past participle*. It relates the completion of an act or condition before another action or time in the future. Sentences in this tense must include (or be in the environment of) a future time expression. These are usually in the form of *when-clauses* or phrases introduced by *in, next, or by*.

T	S	V			C
		Will	Have	Part.	
Next September second	Dr. and Mrs. Baker	will	have	been	married for forty years.
By then	Dr. Baker	will	have	retired.	
	They	will	have	taken off	for a trip around the world.
By the time they get back	they	will	have	seen	many interesting sights.

# Continuous future perfect

It is a verb phrase made from *will + have + been + ing-form*. It emphasizes the duration of a future event or a present situation which reaches into the future. Two time expressions are essential with this tense:

- ( 1 ) a specific future time or event, and
- ( 2 ) the duration.

T1	S	V				P	T2
		<i>Will</i>	<i>Have</i>	<i>Been</i>	<i>-ing</i>		
By June first	the Aliens	will	have	been	living	in that house	for six years.
In September	George	will	have	been	studying	in this university	for two years.
When he gets his degree	he	will	have	been	living	abroad	for a long time.

# Choice of tense

The future perfects are used less often than other tenses, probably because what they express can be stated in other less elegant ways. Probably every continuous future perfect statement could be expressed in the simple future perfect. *The **ing-form is used to emphasize duration; the past participle is used to emphasize completion.*** Though the verb phrases are long and cumbersome, they seldom cause learners much trouble.

# Two-word verbs

call on: visit     *Professor Miller is going to call on them at seven thirty.*

hand in: submit     *Betty will hand in her English term paper today.*

make up one's mind: decide     *Nick failed to make up his mind about his major.*

put off: postpone     *The Bakers didn't put off the wedding.*

take off: leave     *The plane will take off at six*

talk over: discuss     *George said that he wanted to talk over his work with his adviser.*

# Multiple meanings/multiple patterns

Many two-word verbs express different meanings in different contexts, and thus the grammatical patterns they follow differ also. One example is the unit *take off*, which is listed below as transitive and as intransitive but not as both. In the context of clothes, *take off* means to remove and it is transitive; in the context of travel, it means to leave and it is intransitive. The comments about particular two-word verbs below apply to them as they are used in these lessons.

## Transitive/intransitive (cf. IV, 10)

The two-word verbs we have practiced so far may be classified as follows:

Transitive		Both	Intransitive
Call on	Put off	Call up	Get up
Get over (illness)	Put on	Give up	Make out
Hand in	Take off	Hang up	Show up
Look up	Talk over		Take off
Make up (mind)	Try on		
Pick out	Wear out		
Pick up			

# Separable/inseparable.

Transitive two-word verbs may be further classified as follows:

a . Inseparable two-word verbs are those whose objects never occur between the two parts of the verb.

*Professor Miller called on the Allens last week.*

*George's father got over his illness by spring..*

*Call on* and *get over* are the only two verbs in the list in § 8 which are inseparable.

b . Separable two-word verbs permit the object between the two parts in certain cases and require it there in others. Here are the rules:



1. *Short noun objects* which are not modified by a phrase or a clause may occur between the two parts of the verb or after the second part.

Professor Baker *called his secretary up*.

Professor Baker *called up his secretary*.

2. *Long noun objects* including phrases or clauses never split the two word verb. They occur after it.

Professor Baker *called up the lady who works in his office*.

3. *Pronoun objects* always occur between the two parts of a separable two-word verb.

Professor Baker *called her up*.

# Scope of two-word verbs

No one knows how many two-word verbs there are in English, but the number is very large. They are more common in speech than in writing, but some of them occur regularly in writing as there is no other natural way of expressing the same meanings. British and American two-word verbs differ rather more than other vocabulary items, and this fact sometimes leads to some very amusing misinterpretations. The meanings given in this book are all American.

## Some additional two-word verbs.

Here are twenty more common two-word verbs to memorize if you can. We shall have some practice with them in the exercises.

TRANSITIVE		INTRINSITIVE
SEPERABLE	INSEPERABLE	
call off (cancel)	call on (ask to recite)	break down (stop functioning)
do over (repeat)	go over (review)	come back (return)
fill out (complete)	keep on (continue)	come over (visit)
find out (discover)	look into (investigate)	come to (regain consciousness)
leave out (omit)	run across (discover by chance)	gel along (progress)
look over (examine)	run into (meet by chance)	pass out (faint)
pass out (distribute)		
take up (discuss)		

## Modification of two-word verbs.

Not many adverbs are used with two-word verbs. The most often used one is the word *right*, which in this context means something like immediately. It comes between the parts of the verb, even with inseparables and intransitives. When a separable verb is separated by an object and a modifier, the object precedes and the modifier follows.

When the alarm clock rings, Bill *gets right up*.

When a problem seems hard, Jack *gives right up*.

When you don't know a word, you should *look it right up*.

# THE END OF PART 1