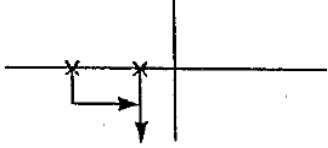
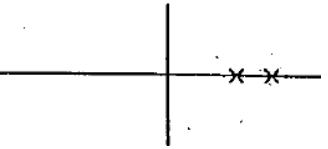
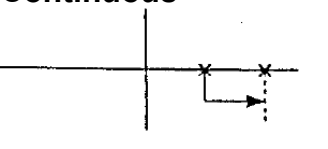


Help Centres – English Support



Perfect and Perfect Continuous Verb Tenses

Tense	Affirmative/Negative/Question	Use	Signal Words
Present Perfect 	A: He has spoken already. N: He has not spoken. Q: Has he spoken?	- emphasizing the result (exact time not mentioned) - action that began in the past and continues to the present - action that stopped recently	since, for, just, ever, never, yet, still, already, so far, till now, up to now, recently
Present Perfect Continuous 	A: He has been speaking Spanish for two years. N: He has not been speaking. Q: Has he been speaking?	- emphasizing the duration of an activity (how long) - action is in progress immediately before now or up to now	for, since, all day, all morning, all week, how long?
Past Perfect 	A: He had spoken to the teacher before class. N: He had not spoken. Q: Had he spoken?	- action that was finished before another in the past	already, just, before, for

Tense	Affirmative/Negative/Question	Use	Signal Words
Past Perfect Continuous 	A: He had been speaking to me when she interrupted him. N: He had not been speaking. Q: Had he been speaking?	- action that was happening before another in the past (duration)	for, since, how long
Future Perfect 	A: He will have spoken to the principle by Monday. N: He will not have spoken. Q: Will he have spoken?	- action that will be finished at a certain time in the future	by Monday, in a week
Future Perfect Continuous 	A: By 10 o'clock, he will have been speaking for two hours. N: He will not have been speaking. Q: Will he have been speaking?	- action taking place before a certain time in the future	for ..., the last couple of hours, all day long