# 6 Reasons to Use Future Perfect in English

will have (will've / 'll've) + past participle (3rd form)

positive: I will have (will've / 'll've) made lunch by the time you get home.

I will not have (won't've) made lunch by the time you get home.

question: Will you have (you've) made lunch by the time I get home? / Yes, I will (have). / No, I won't (have).

#### 1. To talk about actions in the future that will be **completed** at an undetermined time **before** another future time:

I think some fans will have left before the end of the match.

Future Perfect is sometimes called 'past in the future' because we use it to imagine both the past and the future:

Future Time 1 (time of completion not specified): Future Time 2: Fran will have run five miles by nine o'clock.

The action in *Future Time 1* – run – will be past by the time *Future Time 2* occurs. We imagine the **past in the future** – the completion of an action / time before a later future time. It emphasises the **completion** of an activity before a **deadline**. The time when the earlier action will be complete is not specified, because it is either unknown or unimportant. **Typical contexts** when it is used include:

making appointments: Yes, I will've finished my meeting when you call at twelve. when + verb phrase

scheduling travel plans: Jason will have landed at JFK by Tuesday lunchtime.

making arrangements: You'll have had lunch, won't you, so let's leave at about two. - [time is known]

predicting the weather: It will have stopped raining by then, so we can go for a walk. by then

#### 2. To talk about future schedules:

On Wednesday the project will have already been delivered to the company.

Lars will've finished his report as soon as / once you stop distracting him!

as soon as / once

We feel quite sure that your book will've been published by March. by + day / date / month, etc.

Call me at six, 'cause I will have had my phone off for most of the day. for + time / all...

# 3. To plan travel arrangements:

If they leave here at nine, the bus will have gone by the time they get there. by the time + verb phrase No, the boat won't have sailed at eight o'clock, so you have plenty of time.

The boys believe they will have reached the mountain top by tomorrow.

I think the plane will have probably landed in twenty minutes. ún + number + minutes, days, etc.

Yes, Sue believes that, due to the traffic, she won't have got there on time.

### 4. With adverbs and modal verbs of probability:

Dad should have definitely watched the match.

Pat could have certainly achieved a good grade in English.

Tania might have probably made a cake for the party.

They may have possibly stopped at Waitrose.

definitely watched the match.

certainly

probably

probably

## **5.** To give **reasons** and **excuses**:

I can't meet you at 9pm because I will have worked from / since early morning. from / since + time George won't have got home till 8.30pm, so he won't be able to play badminton. till + time on + date Cecily won't have had time to pick up a takeaway prior to our arrival. Prior to + time in not sure I will have finished harvesting the crops in August. from / since + time in time to pick up a takeaway prior to our arrival.

### 6. To talk about life milestones / anniversaries:

Next week she will have lived in Bulgaria for two months. wext week / month / year, etc.

By 2024 we will've been married for eleven years.

As of Friday, Jackie will have worked here for eight years. as of + day, date, etc.

This time next week they will have known each other for ten years.

By that time, Wendy and Chazz will have been engaged for two months.

this time next week / month, etc.

by that / this / the stated time

I worry that we still won't have completed our home renovation. still [in negative sentences]