

Inglés

Revision of Grammatical Structures for Students of English (B1)



Patricia Ruiz García

DPTO. DE FILOLOGÍA

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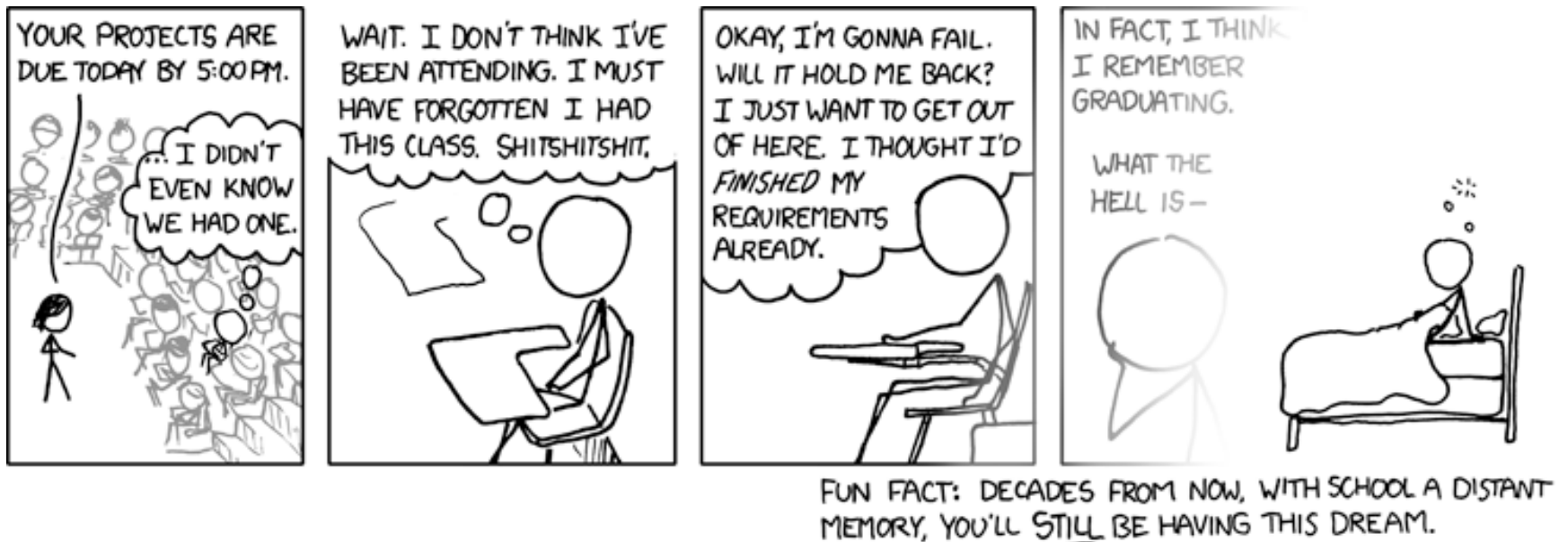
Revision of Grammatical Structures for Students of English (B1)

Patricia Ruiz García

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- All the comics included have been taken from: <http://xkcd.com>
- The exercises provided have been designed to be done online and may not be of the same type as the ones provided in class.

The following is a summary of some grammatical aspects within the English language which aims at being of use for Spanish students of English on a B1 level.



Contents

1. Let's talk about time (Tense Review)
2. It is related (Relative Pronouns and Clauses)
3. Let's get modal (Modals and Modal Perfects)
4. No matter the conditions (Conditional sentences)
5. Active or Passive: up to you (The Passive Voice)
6. Be ready to report! (Reported Speech)

1. Let's talk about time...



Click [here](#) to do some exercises on this topic.

In English we can talk about the...	using:
PAST	Past Simple Past Continuous Past Perfect Simple Past Perfect Continuous
PAST until PRESENT	Present Perfect Simple Present Perfect Continuous
PRESENT	Present Simple Present Continuous
FUTURE	Will + infinitive Be going to + infinitive Present Continuous Will + have + past participle Will +be + gerund

Present Simple

Affirmative	Negative	Questions
am/is/are	am not/ isn't/ aren't	am/is/are + S?
have/has got	haven't/hasn't got	have/has+ S+got
3 rd person singular we add –s *2 For the rest of persons the verb doesn't change.	don't/doesn't + INF.	do/does + S + INF?
Uses and examples:		
<i>•A regular habit or routine</i>		
I wake up at 8 a.m. everyday.	She hasn't got any brothers or sisters.	Are you happy with your job?
<i>•A general truth or scientific fact</i>		
The British Prime Minister lives at 10 Downing Street.	The sun doesn't set in the east.	Is Facebook a popular website?
<i>•Stative verbs *3</i>		
She loves that type of music.	I don't think so.	Do you remember his name?
Time expressions:	At 3 o'clock, in the morning/afternoon, at night, on Tuesdays, at the weekend, every day/ week..., once a month/year... How often...? And Frequency adverbs *4	

Present Continuous

Affirmative	Negative	Questions
am/is/are + -ING *2	am not/isn't/aren't + -ING	am/is/are + S + -ING?
Uses and examples:		
<i>•An action which is happening now</i>		
She is singing a song	They aren't paying attention	Are we going on the right direction?
<i>•A temporary action</i>		
I'm living in a very small flat (until I find a bigger one)	He isn't working at the moment (and can't afford buying a new TV)	Is the president sleeping properly these days?
<i>•A definite plan for the near future</i> (very similar to "be going to + INF)		
She's meeting her boyfriend tomorrow.	They aren't doing anything special for New Year's Eve	Are you getting divorced?
Time expressions:	(right) now, at the moment. Today, at present, this year, this month, these days... Future meaning: tonight, tomorrow, next Friday, next week/month/year...	

Past Simple

Affirmative	Negative	Questions
To be: was/were	Wasn't/weren't	Was/were + subject?
Regular verbs: -ed *1	Didn't + infinitive	Did + subject + infinitive?
Irregular verbs *2: 2 nd column		
Uses and examples:		
<i>•Completed actions in the past</i>		
I was at school until 3 p.m.	She wasn't ready to go.	Were you at the movies yesterday?
Peter played with the ball.	She didn't play well.	Did you play the piano at the concert?
We swam across the lake	Those children didn't swim very fast.	Did they swim or didn't they?
Time expressions*3:	yesterday, last Monday/Tuesday..., last week/month/year, in 2005, in the 1980s, in the 15 th century, when, then, ago...	

Past Continuous

Affirmative	Negative	Questions
Was/were + -ING*4	Wasn't/weren't + -ING	Was/were+ S+ -ING?
Uses and examples:		
•An incomplete action in progress at a specific time in the past		
At 8 a.m, ...		
... he was having a shower	... we weren't sleeping anymore	what were you doing?
•An incomplete action interrupted by another action the in the past		
She was reading a book,	He wasn't watching TV,	Were they playing in the garden, ...?
...when the phone rang.		
•Two incomplete actions in progress at the same time in the past		
While the teacher was explaining...		
I was listening attentively.	Mary wasn't even looking the blackboard.	were you paying attention?
Time expressions*3:		while, as

Present Perfect Simple

Affirmative		Negative	Questions
have/has + past participle		haven't/hasn't + past participle	have/has + S + past participle?
	Past participle:	Regular verbs= +-ed	
		Irregular verbs= 3 rd column	
Uses and examples:			
• <i>An action the started in the past and continues in the present</i>			
I have lived in this flat for a year.	He hasn't seen his parents since 2005.	Haven't we been here before?	
• <i>An action that took place at some point in the past but is connected to the present.</i>			
They have been best friends for years.	He hasn't met his neighbour yet.	How has he broken his leg?	
Time expressions*³:	already, just, yet, never, recently, lately, in recent years. have you ever...?, how long...? for, since.		

Present Perfect Continuous

Affirmative	Negative	Questions
have/has + BEEN + -ING	haven't/hasn't + BEEN + -ING	have/has + S + BEEN + -ING?
Uses and examples:		
<i>An action in progress that started in the past and continues in the present</i>		
I have been living in this flat for a year.	He hasn't been working so hard in his life.	How long have you been waiting for?
<i>An action whose results are still apparent.</i>		
He is tired. He's been tidying his room all night.		
Time expressions*³:	All day/night/week... how long...? For, since.	

Past Perfect Simple

Affirmative	Negative	Questions				
Had + past participle	Hadn't + past participle	Had + S + past participle?				
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="475 546 751 604">Past participle:</td> <td data-bbox="751 546 1344 604">Regular verbs= +-ed</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="475 604 751 661"></td> <td data-bbox="751 604 1344 661">Irregular verbs= 3rd column</td> </tr> </table>		Past participle:	Regular verbs= +-ed		Irregular verbs= 3 rd column
Past participle:	Regular verbs= +-ed					
	Irregular verbs= 3 rd column					
Examples:						
By the time the police arrived...						
the thefts had already left.	the door hadn't been opened.	had the neighbours seen anyone suspicious?				
Uses	•Describing a completed action which took place before another action in the past.					
Time expressions*3:	Already, by the time+past simple, after, before, until, just...					

Past Perfect Continuous

Affirmative	Negative	Questions
HAD + BEEN + -ING	HAD + BEEN + -ING	HAD + S + BEEN + -ING?
Uses and examples:		
<i>An action that had been in progress up to another action took place.</i>		
They had been playing computer games for 3 hours when the computer crashed.	The students hadn't been listening to the teacher. Then they realised it would have been important.	Had they been cleaning the house before the owner came back?
Time expressions* ³ :	for, since, all morning... + when/until/before.	

WILL + INFINITIVE

Affirmative	Negative	Questions
Will + INF	Will not/won't + INF	Will + S + INF?
Uses and examples:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A prediction</i> (future meaning) It will rain tomorrow. / It won't rain tomorrow. / Will it rain tomorrow? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Announce future facts</i> (future meaning) We'll get divorced as soon as we can. He won't go to your party, his mother has punished him. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A planned schedule</i> (future meaning) The train to London will leave from platform 5. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A sudden spontaneous decision</i> I'm tired of waiting for the bus, I'll walk home. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Make promises</i> I won't tell anybody what you've just told me. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Make offers</i> -It's very cold in this room. -I'll close the window. 		
Time expressions*³:	Later, in a couple of hours, in the future, tomorrow, next week...	

BE GOING TO + INF

Affirmative	Negative	Questions
Am/is/are going to + INF	Am not/isn't/aren't going to + INF	Am/is/are + S + going to + INF?
Uses and examples:		
<i>A planned action for the future (very similar to Present Continuous)</i>		
<p>We are going to take the 12.00 train to go to Oxford. They are not going to spend their holidays together.</p>		
<i>A prediction based on a present evidence/an action that is about to happen.</i>		
<p>Be careful! You are going to fall. Look at those black clouds! It is going to rain! There is a lot to study! This exam isn't going to be easy.</p>		
Time expressions:	later, this evening, in one hour, on June 15 th , tonight, tomorrow, next Tuesday, next week/month/year...	

Future Perfect Simple

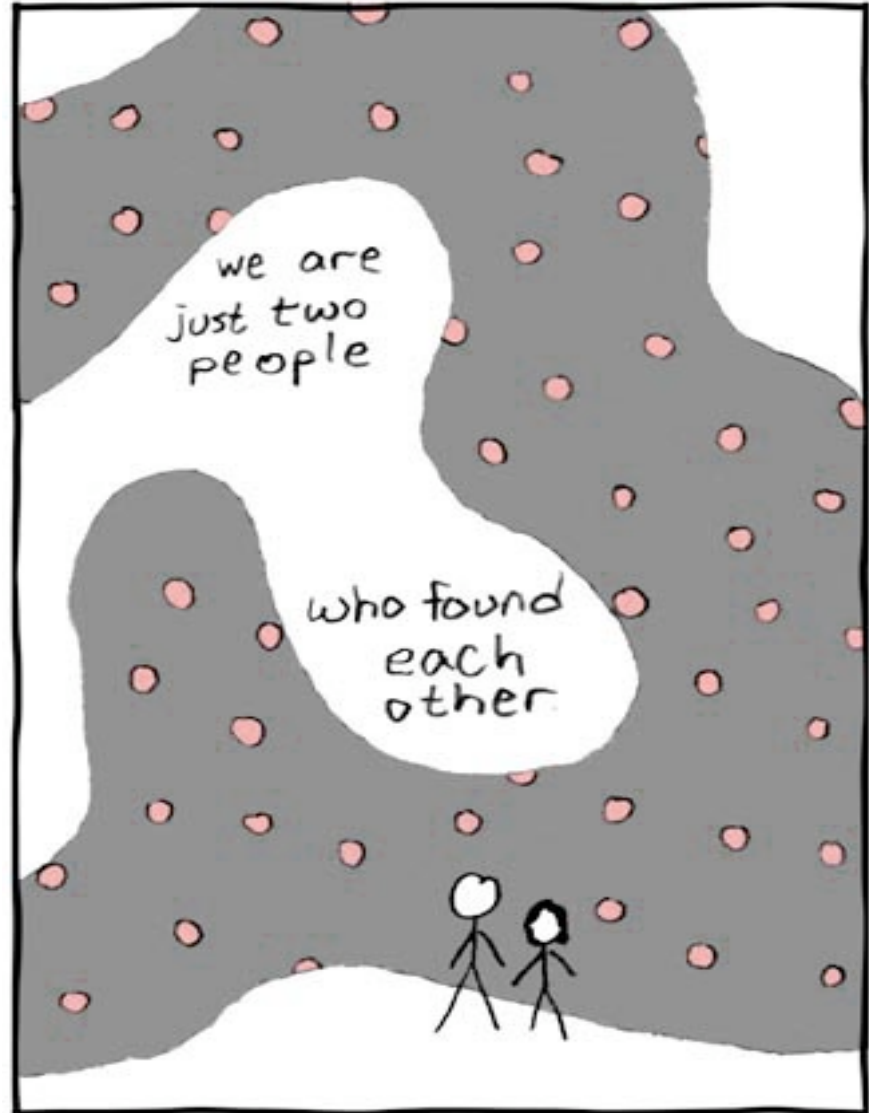
Affirmative	Negative	Questions
WILL + HAVE + past participle *3	WILL NOT + HAVE + past participle	WILL + S + HAVE + past participle
Uses and examples:		
<i>•A completed action at a certain time in the future</i>		
By the time we arrive,...		
the train will have left already.	they will not have prepared dinner yet.	will she have done her homework?
Time expressions *3:	By half past 5, by the end of the year..., in 3 months, by this time next week.	

Future Continuous

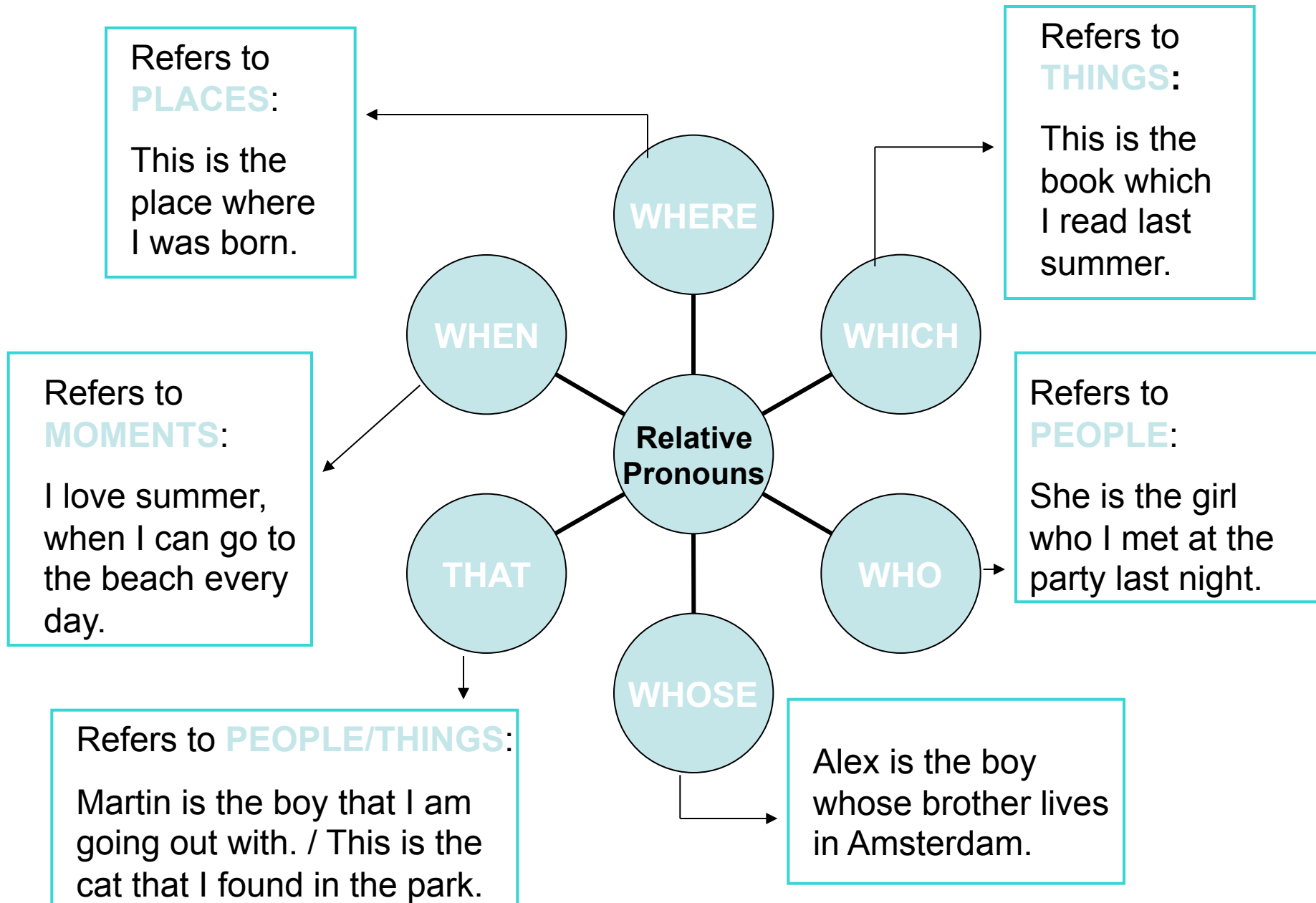
Affirmative	Negative	Questions
Will + BE + -ING	WILL NOT + BE + -ING	WILL + S + BE + -ING
Uses and examples:		
<i>•An action in progress at a certain time in the future</i>		
At this time tomorrow,		
I will be visiting my grandma.	she won't be working in this office any more.	will it still be raining?
Time expressions *3:	At this time tomorrow, next week, next Wednesday, on Monday...	

2. It is related.

Click [here](#) to do some exercises on this topic.



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Defining and non-defining relative clauses

Defining

They add essential information, so without them the sentence would be incomplete

Non-defining

They are between commas and without them the sentence is still complete

Defining relative clauses:

They add essential information, so without them the sentence would be incomplete.

Tracey is the girl **who/that** lent me her car to go to work.

Sua is the boy (**who/that**) I met in San Sebastian.

This is the watch **which/that** works without batteries.

The movie (**which/that**) we eventually went to last night was a real bore!

The sun was shining the day (**when/that**) we met.

Who/which/that/when can be omitted when they are not the subject of the clause

The neighbour downstairs is a book **whose** main character is from Iceland.

The shop **where/in which** I bought my laptop is now closed.

Non-defining relative clauses:

They are between commas and without them the sentence is still complete.

Einstein, **who** was a gifted person, used to fail most subjects at school.

The books about Percy Jackson, **which** he reads night and day, are his favourite.

He met his wife, **whose** family owns a restaurant, during his last summer holidays.

She came to the party at 3 a.m., **when** everybody had already left.

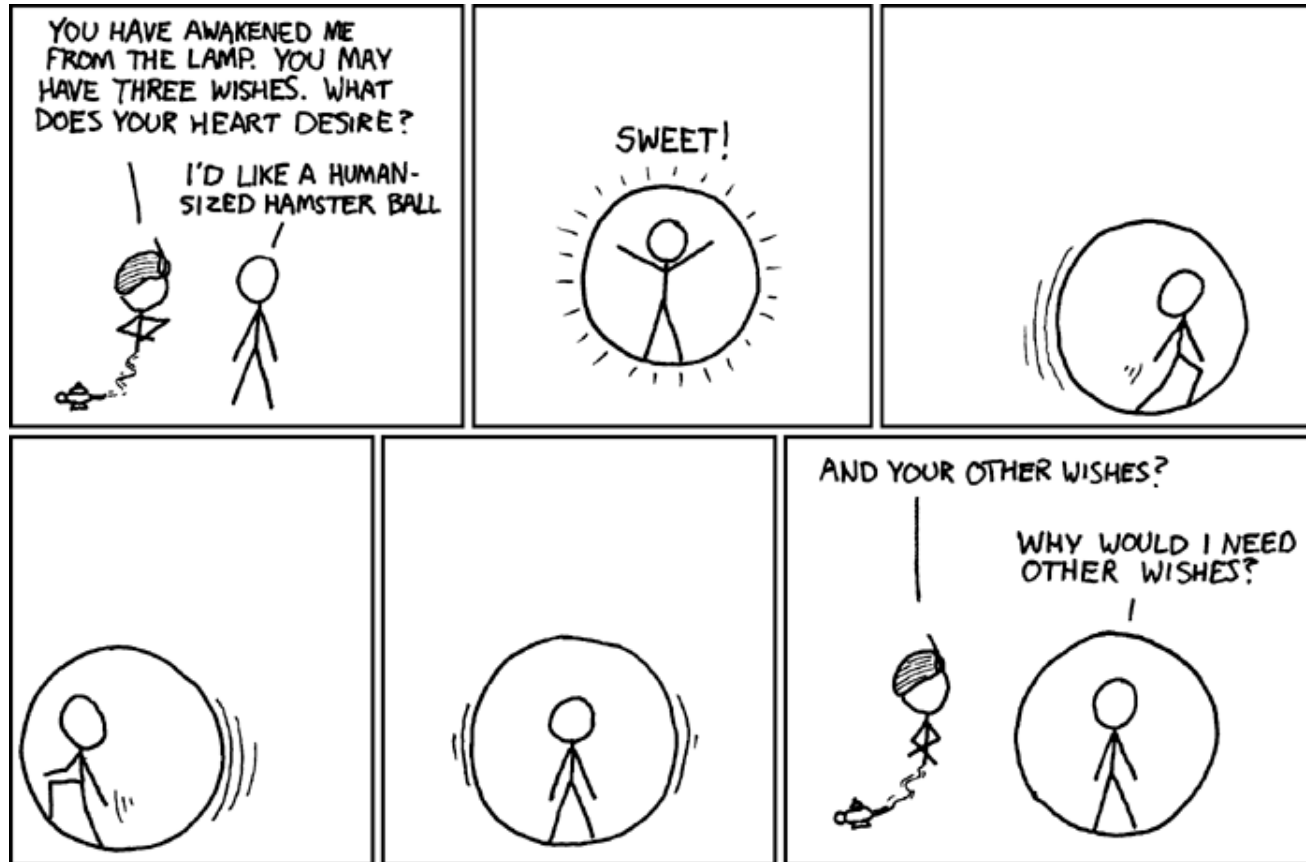
I bought this book in Mexico, **where** I was living for 5 years.

The relative pronoun can't be omitted nor replaced by that.

Relative pronouns and prepositions:

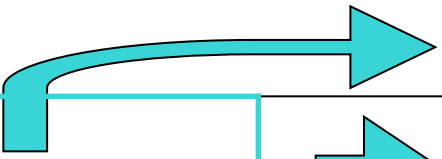
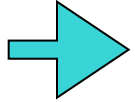
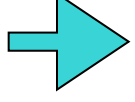
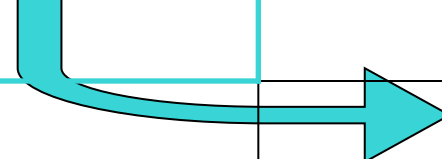
FORMAL	INFORMAL
Her flatmate, with whom it is difficult to live, is a really stubborn girl.	Her flatmate, who it is really difficult to live with, is a really stubborn girl.
He is the person to whom you need to talk.	He is the person you need to talk to.
This is the music to which I listen when I'm sad.	This is the music I listen to when I'm sad.

3. Let's get modal



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Modal verbs are:

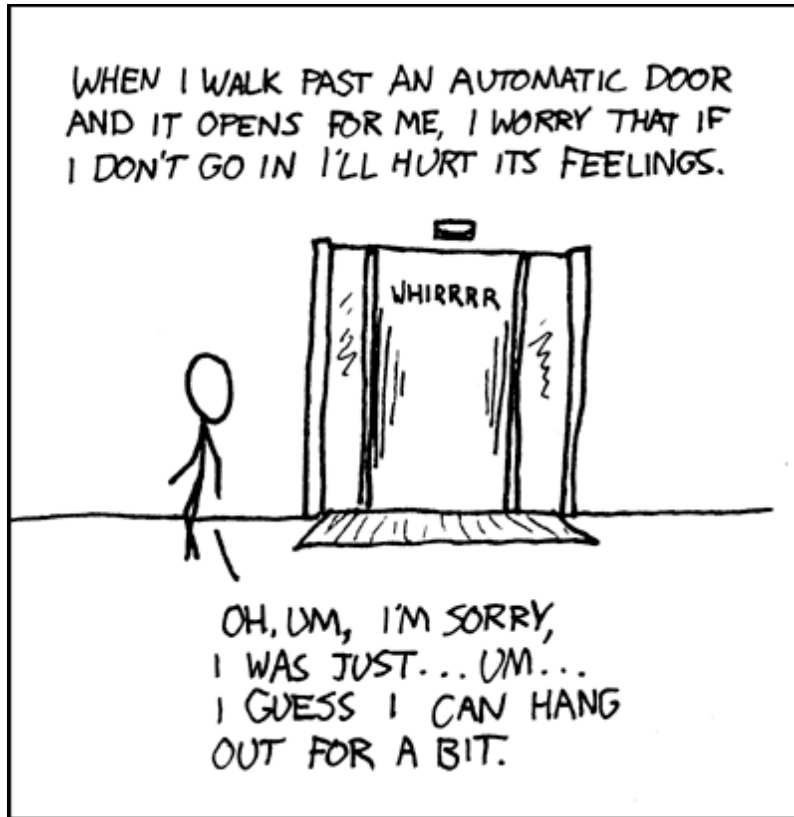
		that add a certain meaning (prohibition, permission...) to the action expressed by the main verb.
AUXILIARY		that are followed by a main verb (in the BARE INF) which describes the action itself.
VERBS		that don't need any other auxiliary for the negative or for questions (except for BE ABLE TO and HAVE TO).
		that have just one form: can, can't, could, may, might, should, ought to, needn't, must, mustn't, would. Except for: be able to, have to, don't have to.

CAN	<p>He can run faster than me. Can she come with us? We can take a bus or walk. I can lend you my car.</p>	<p><i>Ability</i> <i>Request</i> <i>Suggestion</i> <i>Possibility</i></p>
COULD	<p>I could run faster than him when I was 15. Could you lend me your cell phone? We could go by car, it'd be quicker.</p>	<p><i>Ability in the past</i> <i>Polite request</i> <i>Polite suggestion</i></p>
BE ABLE TO	<p>He is able to run as fast as Usain Bolt. He will be able to speak Russian in 2 years.</p>	<p><i>Ability (all tenses)</i></p>
CAN'T	<p>That story can't be true. The president can't solve the problems alone.</p>	<p><i>Disbelief</i> <i>Inability</i></p>
MAY	<p>He may be her father. May I come in, please?</p>	<p><i>Possibility</i> <i>Polite request</i></p>
MIGHT	<p>He might be her father.</p>	<p><i>Possibility</i></p>
MUST	<p>You must be quiet in the library. Look at the snow. It must be freezing outside.</p>	<p><i>Obligation</i> <i>Certainty that something is true</i></p>
HAVE TO	<p>You have to study a lot to become a doctor.</p>	<p><i>Obligation/Necessity</i></p>
NEEDN'T	<p>You needn't clean the fish. It's clean.</p>	<p><i>Lack of obligation</i></p>
DON'T HAVE TO	<p>You don't have to clean the fish. It's clean.</p>	<p><i>Lack of obligation</i></p>
MUSTN'T	<p>You mustn't drive without a licence.</p>	<p><i>Prohibition</i></p>
SHOULD/ OUGHT TO	<p>You should/ought to drive more carefully</p>	<p><i>Opinion / Advice</i></p>
WOULD	<p>Would you open the window, please? Would you like a cup of coffee?</p>	<p><i>Polite request</i> <i>Offer</i></p>

Modal Perfects:

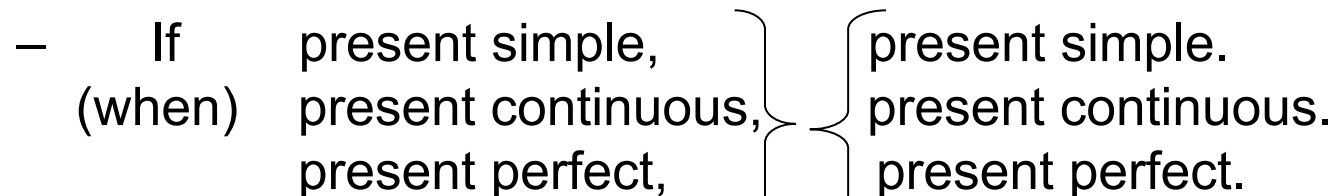
MUST HAVE	She must have cried when he left.	A certainty or logical conclusion about a past event.
MIGHT / MAY HAVE	What's that smell? He may have forgotten to throw out the rubbish.	A guess about a past action.
COULD HAVE	Peter could have become a great doctor.	The ability to do something in the past which in the end was not done.
COULDN'T HAVE	They couldn't have known we were going to come today –it was a secret!	A certainty that something did not happen.
WOULD HAVE	I would have driven all the way to your house just to see you.	Desire to do something in the past which in the end could not be done.
SHOULD HAVE SHOULDN'T HAVE	You should have given up smoking many years ago.	Advice which was (not) followed in the past.
NEEDN'T HAVE	You needn't have picked me up from the airport, I would have taken a cab.	A past action which was not necessary.

4. No matter the conditions...

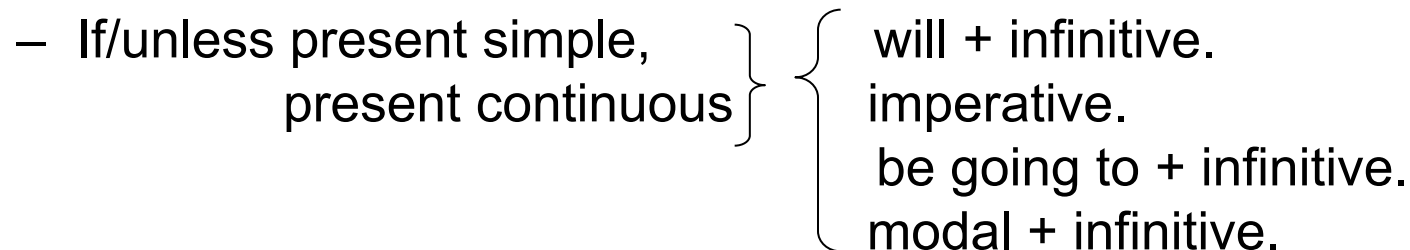


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- **Zero Conditional**

- If present simple,
(when) present continuous,
present perfect,
- 
- present simple.
present continuous.
present perfect.

- **First Conditional**

- If/unless present simple,
present continuous
- 
- will + infinitive.
imperative.
be going to + infinitive.
modal + infinitive.

- **Second Conditional**

- If/unless past simple,
- 
- would + infinitive
could/might + infinitive.
- (note that for TO BE: *were*
can be used with all persons)

- **Third Conditional**

- If past perfect,
- 
- would have + past participle.
could/might have + past participle.

Zero conditional

[REAL] to describe sthg that always happens as a result of sthg else.

- If/when you heat water up to 100 °C, it boils.
- You have to give up smoking if you want to be healthier.
- He is dreaming if he thinks I'm going out with him.
- If you haven't listened to this CD, you don't know what music is.

First conditional

[POSSIBLE and PROBABLE] to describe things that are considered true or probable.

- If you study, you will pass.
- Don't dare to contradict what I'm saying, unless you want to get a fine!
- If she is going to that party, he is going to go too.
- You should visit your friend if you he is in hospital.

Second conditional

[HYPOTHETICAL/IMPROBABLE] to talk about hypothetical or improbable present or future situations.
Also used to give advice.

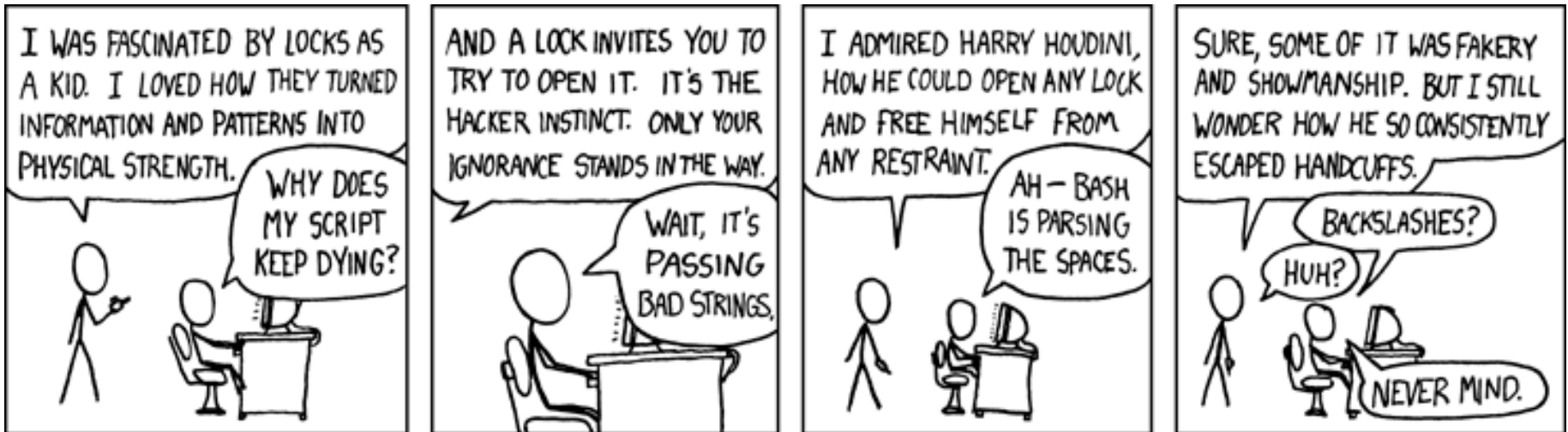
- She wouldn't travel to Asia unless she could afford it and had someone to go with.
- If I won the lottery, I might buy a Ferrari.
- More people would go to that concert if it weren't so expensive.
- If I were you, I'd try to solve that problem soon.

Third conditional

[IMPOSSIBLE] to show regret for a past situation which can no longer be changed.

- If I had known you were already here, I would have come earlier.
- He might have tried to find a better solution if you had told him you were so upset.

5. Active or Passive: up to you.



Click [here](#) to do some exercises on this topic.

The Passive Voice

The passive is used when the action is more important than the subject or when the subject is unknown:

- The thief was arrested by the police after a two-hour chase.
- My neighbour will eventually be operated tomorrow.

It is formed with the verb **TO BE** (in any tense) **and the Past Participle** of the main verb.

TENSE	ACTIVE	PASSIVE
Present simple	Anne writes a book	A book is written by Anne
Past simple	Anne wrote a book	A book was written by Anne
Present continuous	Anne is writing a book	A book is being written by Anne
Past continuous	Anne was writing a book	A book was being written by Anne
Will + inf.	Anne will write a book	A book will be written by Anne
Be going to + inf.	Anne is going to write a book	A book is going to be written by Anne
Present perfect simple	Anne has written a book	A book has been written by Anne
Past perfect simple	Anne had written a book	A book had been written by Anne
Modals	Anne can/must... write a book	A book can/must... be written by Anne
Have to + inf.	Anne has to write a book	A book has to be written by Anne.
Modal perfects	Anne could have written a book	A book could have been written by Anne

From active to passive

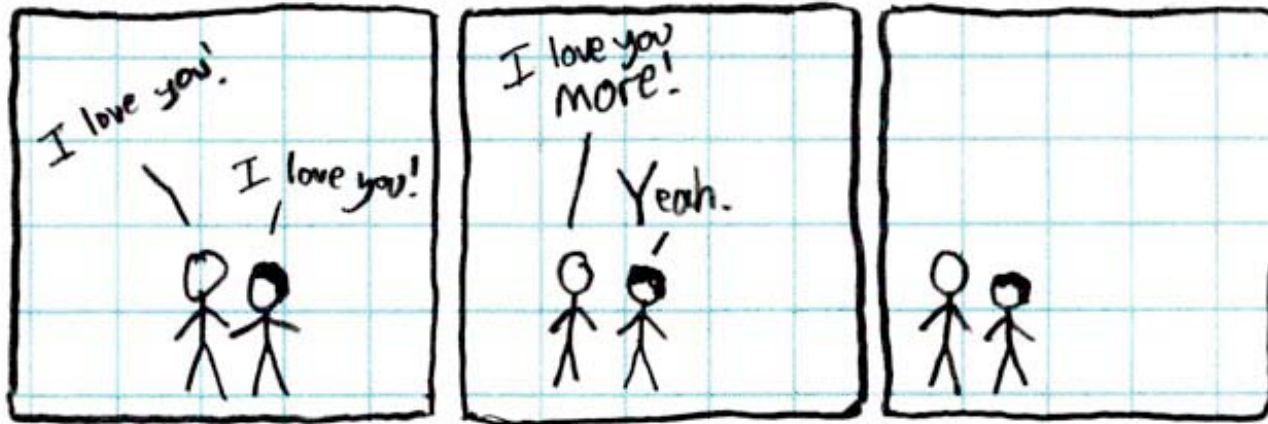
Shakespeare wrote thirty-seven plays

Thirty-seven plays were written by Shakespeare.



- The object of the active becomes the subject of the passive (37 plays)
- The subject becomes the agent (Shakespeare).
- Before the agent we add “by”.
- We keep the same tense (past simple), so TO BE goes in the past simple and WRITE takes the Past Participle form.

6. Be ready to report!



He said he loved her, she said she loved him. He said he loved her more. She agreed.

Click [here](#) to do some exercises on this topic.

Reported Speech

It is used to say what somebody has said without using the very same words:

DIRECT SPEECH:

“I’m tired”, said the old lady.

REPORTED SPEECH:

The old lady said (that) she was tired.

Changes (I): VERBS

TENSE	DIRECT SPEECH	REPORTED SPEECH
Present simple	I live in NY	She said (that) she lived in NY
Past simple	I lived in NY	She said (that) she had lived in NY.
Present continuous	I am living in NY	She said (that) she was living in NY.
Past continuous	I was living in NY	She said (that) she had been living in NY.
Will + inf.	I will live in NY	She said (that) she would live in NY.
Present perfect simple	I have lived in NY	She said (that) she had lived in NY.
Past perfect simple	I had lived in NY	She said (that) she had lived in NY.
Present perfect continuous	I have been living in NY	She said (that) she had been living in NY.
Past perfect continuous	I had been living in NY	She said (that) she had been living in NY.
Modals	I can live in NY I may live in NY I must/have to live in NY	She said (that) she could live in NY. She said (that) she might live in NY. She said (that) she had to live in NY.

Changes (II): words and expressions.

DIRECT SPEECH	REPORTED SPEECH
Now	Then
Today	That day
Tomorrow	The following/next day; the day after
Yesterday	The previous day; the day before
Tonight	That night
Last week	The previous week; the week before
Next week	The following/ next week; the week after
A month ago	A month before; the previous month
Here	There
This	That
These	Those