

SEQUENCE OF TENSES

EXERCISE 1

1. I knew that she (visit) Madrid before, so I (ask) her to recommend a good hotel.
2. She promised to help me if I (not find) the answer myself.
3. He said that they (know) each other for many years.
4. I saw that at that moment she (try) to hold back her tears at.
5. He knew that she (cry) as her eyes were red.
6. I asked her if she (go) there with me, but she said no.
7. I wanted to see her but I (not know) if she was in town.

EXERCISE 2

8. She said that the robber (attack) her.
9. He told me that he would visit them when he (return) from Spain.
10. They noticed they (fly) for three hours already.
11. Tom said that it (take) him an hour to get to the station.
12. She asked them if they (play) tennis in the afternoon.
13. Mary asked her brother if he (can) tell her the way to the shop.
14. Peter and John told me they (go) to the Kremlin the day before yesterday.

EXERCISE 3

15. Mother said she (have) a bad headache.
16. Dorothy asked Margaret if she (be) going to buy a new dress in the nearest future.
17. They told us they (visit) the Tretyakovskaya gallery next Sunday.
18. Jack said that he already (write) the letter.
19. They asked if they (finish) the work tomorrow.
20. The teacher asked the boys if they (solve) the equation.
21. He spoke so fast that I (can/not) understand anything.

EXERCISE 4

22. He declared that he (not believe) it even if he saw it with his own eyes.
23. If that man smoked less he (not develop) cancer.
24. I realized that we (meet) before.
25. My legs were stiff because I (sit) still for a long time.
26. I knew that they always (study) their lessons very carefully.
27. He said members (discuss) that matter then.
28. I heard your friend (fall) on some steps.
29. I knew my friends (not receive) any letters yet.

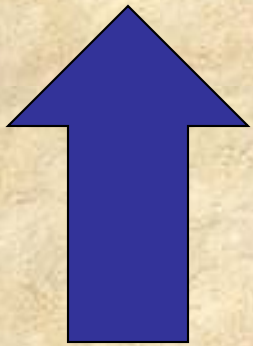
KEY

1. Had visited, asked
2. didn't find
3. had known
4. was trying
5. had been crying
6. would go
7. didn't know
8. had attacked
9. returned
10. had been flying
11. had taken
12. were playing/would play/ were going to play
13. could
14. had gone
15. had
16. was
17. were visiting/ would visit/ were going to visit
18. had written
19. would finish/ were going to finish
20. had solved
21. couldn't
22. wouldn't believe
23. would not develop
24. had met
25. had been sitting
26. studied
27. were discussing
28. had fallen
29. hadn't received

DEPENDENT SUBJUNCTIVES

We come to school

so that we can learn Latin.



**main
clause**



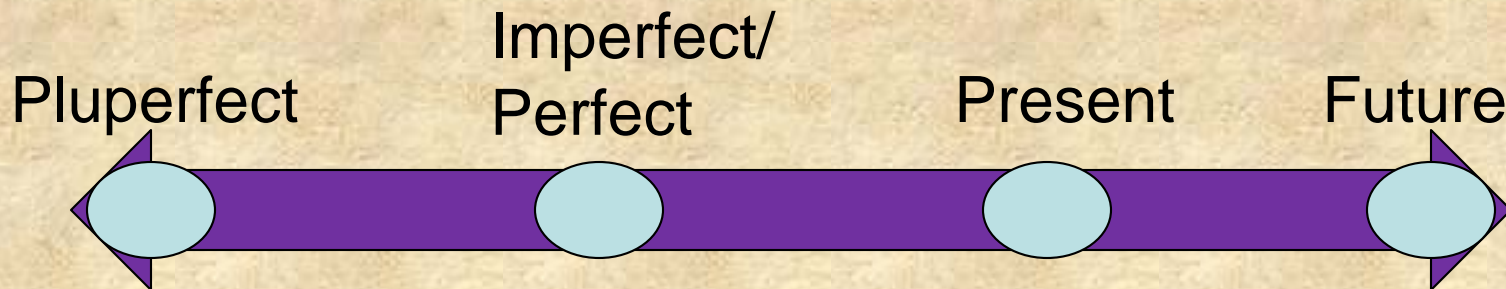
**subordinate
clause**

RELATIVE VS ABSOLUTE TENSE

- The main issue when using verbs that are not in the Indicative Mood revolves around their TENSE.
- Indicative Verbs use ABSOLUTE tense
- Subjunctive, Participial, and Infinitival Verbs use RELATIVE tense.

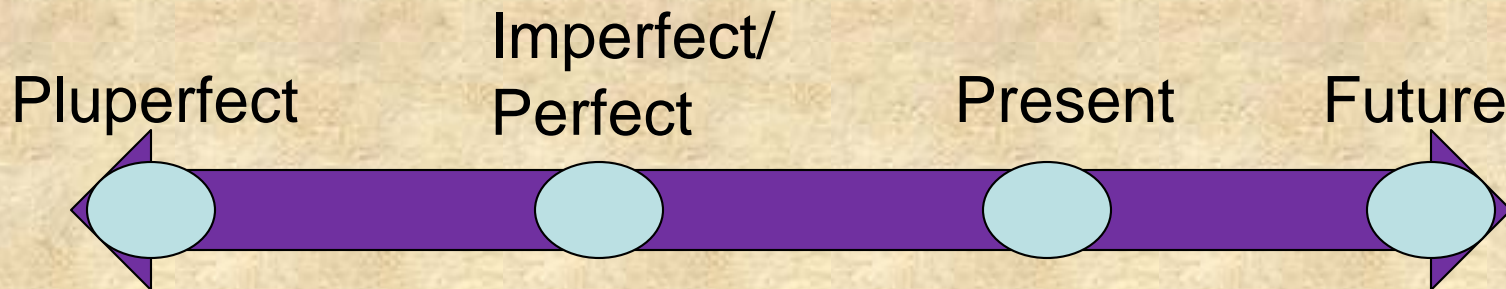
RELATIVE VS ABSOLUTE TENSE

- ABSOLUTE TENSE describes when an action is taking place along a timeline.
- It is what we would consider **NORMAL** tense.



RELATIVE VS ABSOLUTE TENSE

- **RELATIVE TENSE** describes the relationship between a subordinate verb and the main verb of the sentence. It does **NOT** correspond to the timeline.



RELATIVE VS ABSOLUTE TENSE

- In addition, there are two ways of indicating RELATIVE TENSE in Latin.
- Participles/Infinitives = Normal Rel. Tense
- Subjunctives = Sequence of Tenses

TENSES

- How can an action relate to another action?
 1. Same time
 2. Before the main action
 3. After the main action

MATH PROBLEMS...

- In the Indicative Mood, the three times when an action can take place is easily accommodated:
 - Now: *Present, Perfect*
 - Before Now: *Imperfect, Pluperfect*
 - After Now: *Future, Future Perfect*

MATH PROBLEMS...

- In the Infinitival and Participial Moods, the three times when an action can take place is easily accommodated because there are only three tenses in these moods.
 - Present: *Same Time*
 - Perfect: *Before the Main Action*
 - Future: *After the Main Action*

IN EXEMPLA...

Caesar **dicit** viros patriam **amare**. (present)

Caesar **says** that the men **love** the country.

Caesar **dicit** viros patriam **amavisse**. (perfect)

Caesar **says** that the men **loved** the country.

Caesar **dicit** viros patriam **amaturos esse**. (future)

Caesar **says** that the men **will love** the country.

MATH PROBLEMS...

- However, the Subjunctive Mood is not so easily divided because it does not break into three equally:

Present, Perfect, Imperfect, Pluperfect

Same time, Before, After

$$4 \neq 3$$

THE SEQUENCE OF TENSES

The sequence of Tenses is how the Latin language divides its tenses in order to break the four subjunctive tenses into the three time periods in which an action can take place.

It is used to help negotiate the relationship between a main verb and the dependent verb of the subordinate clause.

It has two steps:

1. Group the main verbs
2. Divide the subordinate verbs

GROUPING THE MAIN VERBS

To group the main verbs, Latin divides the 6 Indicative tenses into two groups:

Primary Tenses – deal with the present & future

-Present

-Future

-Future Perfect

-Perfect (as present completed, *have*)

Secondary Tenses – deal with the past

-Imperfect

-Pluperfect

-Perfect (simple past)

DIVIDING THE SUBORDINATES

Then, the Sequence of Tenses breaks divides the 4 Subjunctive Tenses and associates them with either the Primary or Secondary groups of Main Verbs.

With Primary Tenses → **Present** **Perfect**

With Secondary Tenses → **Imperfect** **Pluperfect**

DIVIDING THE SUBORDINATES

Finally, the Subjunctive Tenses are divided to indicate their relationship to the main verb:

	Same Time OR After Main Verb	Before Main Verb
With Primary Tenses	Present Subj.	Perfect Subj.
With Secondary Tenses	Imperfect Subj.	Pluperfect Subj.

PRACTICE

1. Main Verb = Future; Subordinate Action = Same Time
✓ Present Subjunctive
2. Main Verb = Pluperfect; Subordinate Action = Before Main Verb
✓ Pluperfect Subjunctive
3. Main Verb = Present; Subordinate Action = After Main Verb
✓ Present Subjunctive
4. Main Verb = Perfect (simple past); Subordinate Action = Same Time
✓ Imperfect Subjunctive
5. Main Verb = Future Perfect; Subordinate Action = Before Main Verb
✓ Perfect Subjunctive