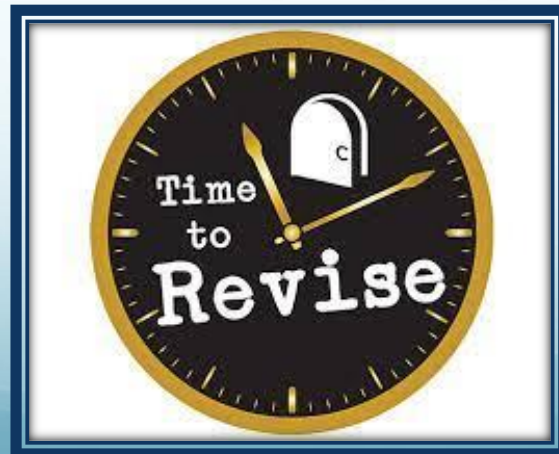


Verb tenses revision

Raffaella Antinucci

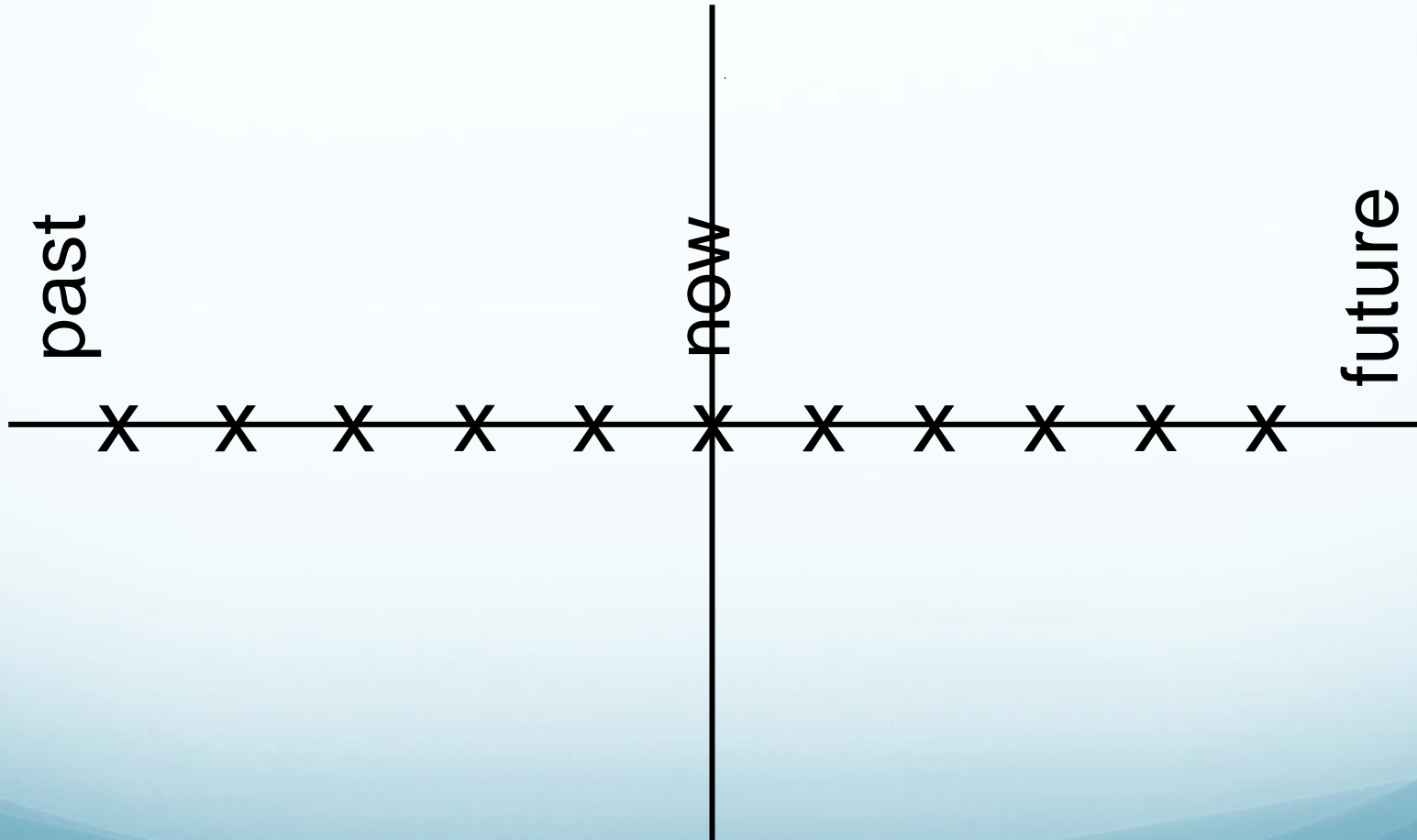


CONTENTS

1. Present simple
2. Present progressive
3. Past simple
4. Present Perfect
5. Future forms
6. Hypothetical sentences and present conditional (type 1 and 2)



1. THE PRESENT SIMPLE – USES



Present simple – Main uses

- To describe repeated actions or habits

I get up at seven every morning

I go to the gym once a week

She often studies in the library

Present simple – Main uses

- To talk about things that are always or generally true

The sun sets in the west . Water boils at 100°

- To describe a permanent situation or a condition with no definite start or finish but which is true now

We live in London

- To express future meaning with actions and events that are part of a fixed timetable

The train leaves at 8:30

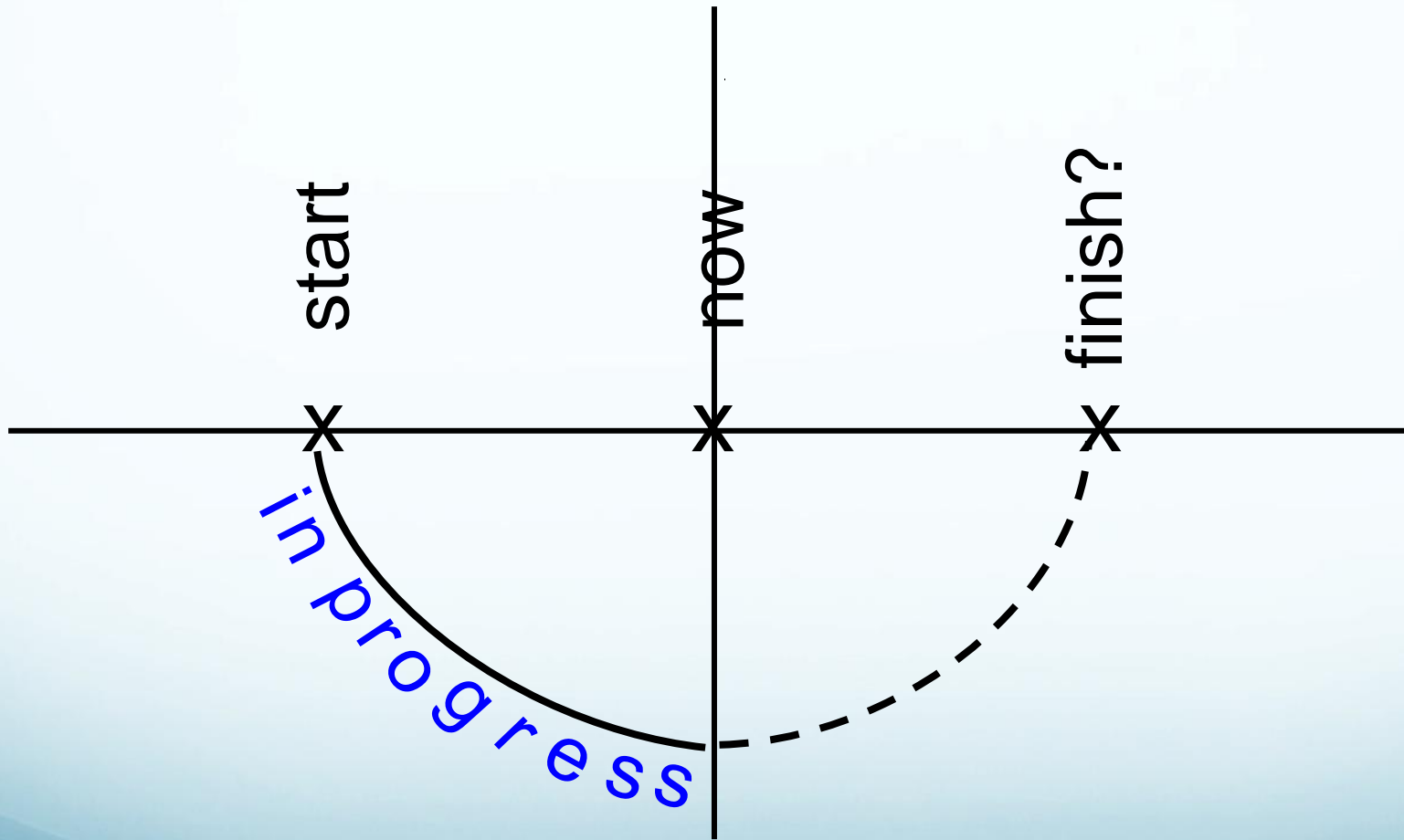
Present simple key words



Time expressions such as *every day/ week/ year, in the morning/ afternoon/ evening* and *at night*

With adverbs of frequency such as *always, usually, often, sometimes, generally...*

2. THE PRESENT PROGRESSIVE



Present Progressive – Uses

- To talk about something which is in progress **at the moment** of speaking (ongoing action)

It is raining now

- To talk about something which is in progress **around the present**, but not exactly at the time of speaking

Peter is looking for a job these days

- To talk about situations which are **developing or temporary**

Computers are becoming more and more important in our lives

Present Progressive – Uses

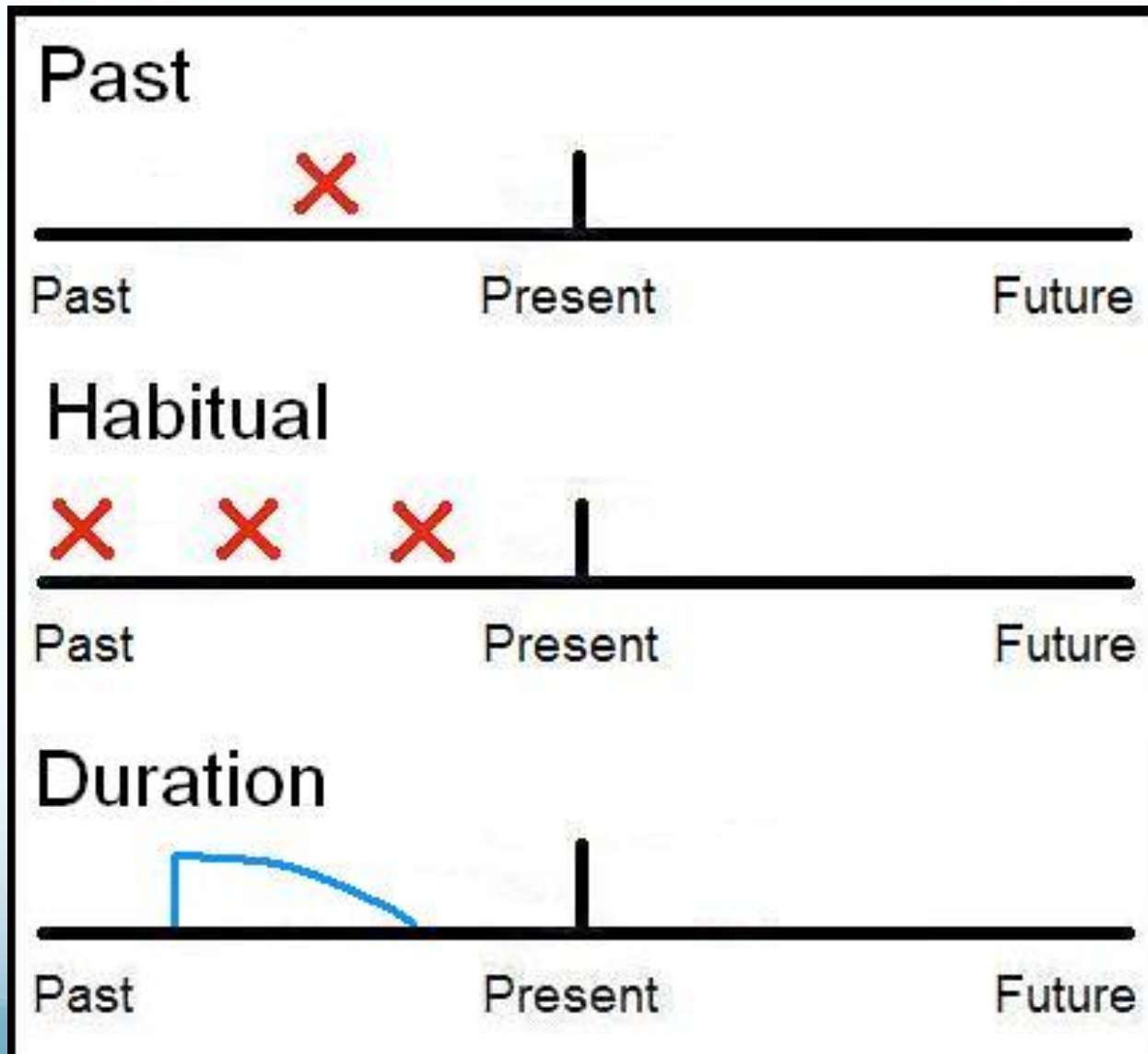
- To talk about **future arrangements** or plans
I'm meeting Peter tomorrow
- With adverbs such as *always* or *constantly* to **express complaints and annoyance**
He is always calling me late at night

Present progressive key words



With time expressions such as
*now, at the moment, at present,
these days, nowadays and today,
currently, constantly*

3. PAST SIMPLE



The past simple is used:

1. to talk about actions **completed** in the past at a definite time (ex. I met her yesterday/in 2007);
2. to talk about **past routines or habits** (ex. They never drank wine);
3. to talk about **past situations or conditions** or events **over a period of time in the past** (ex. I lived in London for 5 years);
4. to describe **consecutive past actions** (ex. Yesterday evening I **went** to the stadium, **watched** the game, **ate** a hot dog, and (then) went home);
5. in the if-clause of **conditional** sentences of **type 2** (ex. If I **had** enough money, I'd buy a new car).

Past simple key words



Past dates and times
(days, months, years),
yesterday, ago, last
week/month/year.

4. PRESENT PERFECT – MEANING 1

- SOMETHING HAPPENED BEFORE NOW

AT AN **UNSPECIFIED** TIME

(BUT THE RESULT IS IMPORTANT **NOW**);

- **EXPERIENCES** IN OUR LIFE;

- **RECENTLY** COMPLETED ACTION (JUST, LATELY)

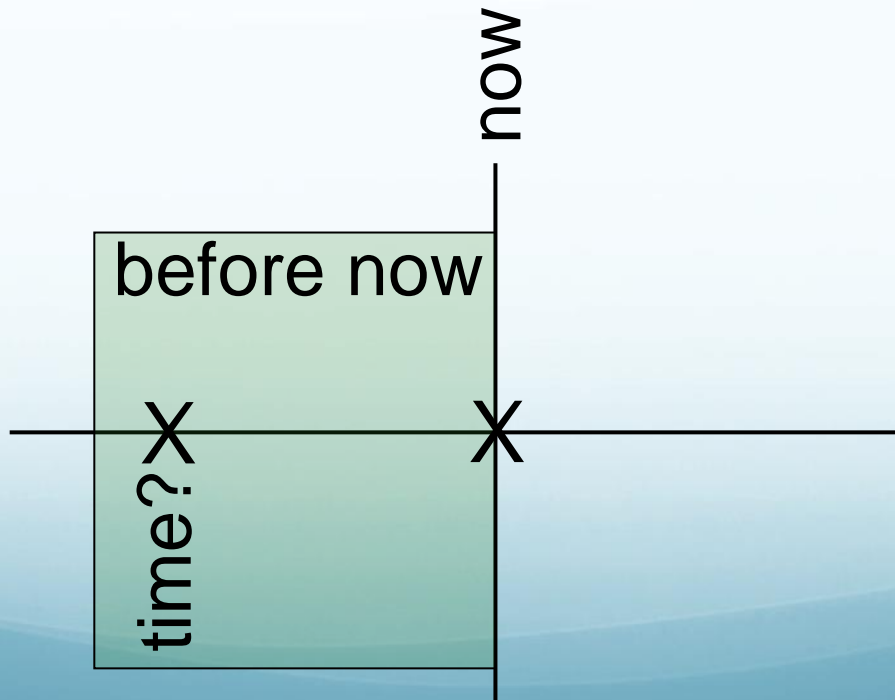
Usually with adverbs such as

**ever/never/already/just/yet/lately/recently/so far/
it's the first time...**

MEANING 1

Susan has hurt her arm.

Lucy has just returned from abroad.



PRESENT PERFECT – MEANING 2

ACTIONS WHICH STARTED IN A TIME PERIOD THAT CONTINUES UP TO NOW (DURATION FORM)

WITH TIME EXPRESSIONS SUCH AS TODAY/THIS WEEK/ ALL YEAR/FOR/SINCE

MEANING 2

I **have played** the violin **for** *six years*.

I **have played** the violin **since** *2015*.

present perfect + } *since*
for

past

present

5. FUTURE FORMS – *WILL*

1. **Instant decisions:** Ok, I'll see you on Friday.
2. **Predictions based in what we think:** It will rain in the evening.
3. **Promises and offers:** Don't worry, I'll go and buy some food for you.



Use **will** when you find expressions and verbs like:

(to) think, probably, I'm certain, I'm sure, It's likely/unlikely

It's very likely that Juventus will win the premiere league.

FUTURE FORMS – USES OF *BE GOING TO*

1. **Future plans and intentions:** I am going to buy a new laptop computer next week



2. **Predictions based on what we can see at the moment:** Look at that car! It is going to crash into the lamp post.

FUTURE FORMS – USES OF *PRESENT PROGRESSIVE*

To talk about **future arrangements**

I'm meeting Peter tomorrow

N.B. In this case there is **always a future time expression** in the sentence

6. Hypothetical sentence (type 1, possibility)

It is **possible** to fulfill a **condition** which is given in the if-clause.

Formation

If-Clause	Main Clause
Simple Present	Simple Future (will) or Infinitive/imperative or Modal + Infinitive (<i>may, might, should</i>)

If-Clause	Main Clause
If you study hard,	you will pass the exam.
If you see John tonight,	tell him to e-mail me.
If Ben gets up early,	he can catch the bus.

6. Hypothetical sentence (type 2, unreality)

It is **theoretically possible** to fulfill a **condition** which is given in the if-clause.

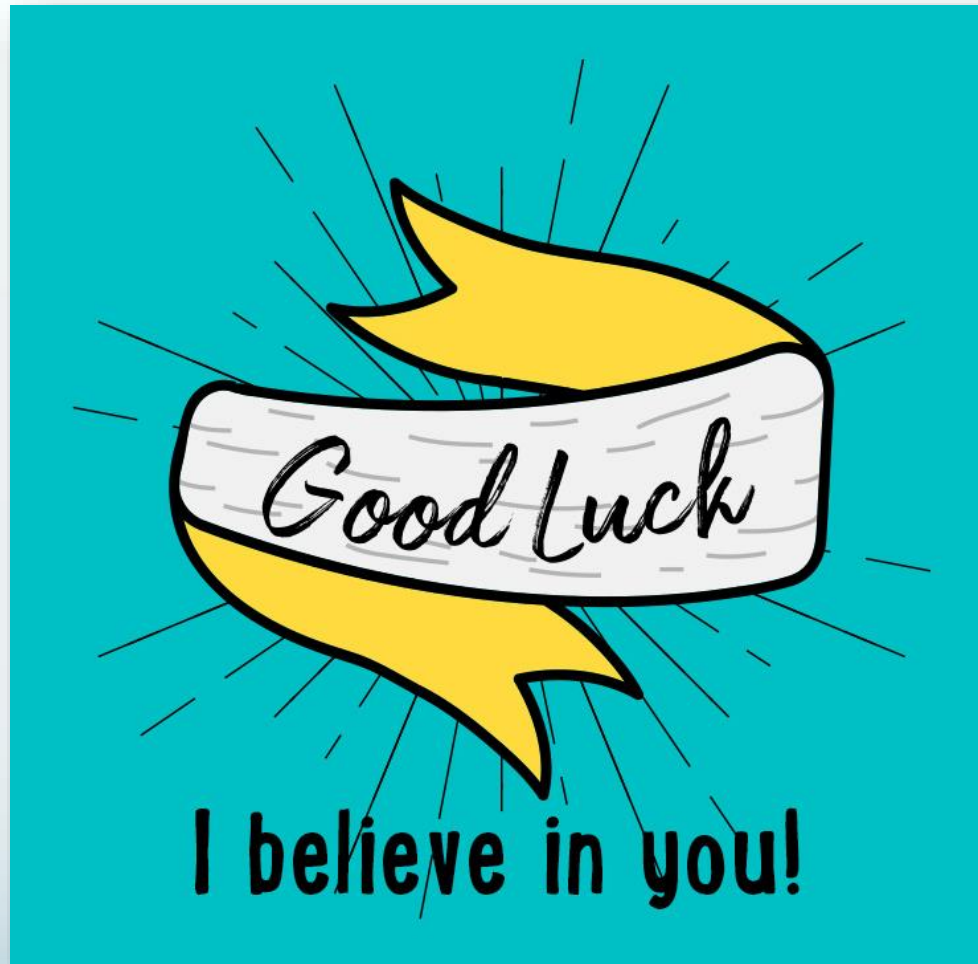
Formation

If-Clause	Main Clause
Simple Past	would + infinitive or could + infinitive or might + infinitive

If-Clause	Main Clause
If you studied hard,	you would pass the exam.
If you studied ,	you could pass the exams.
If you studied ,	you might pass the exams.

Both **were** and **was** are possible in the second conditional, with no change in meaning

If I **was/were** a politician, I'd make big changes. If I **were** you, I'd quit.



I believe in you!