

LESSON 43

Future in the Past

Definition: The future in the past is a grammatical tense where the time reference is in the future with respect to a vantage point that is itself in the past. In English, this tense is typically used in narrations of past events:

John left for the front; he would not return until five years later.

| Tenses | Active Voice |
|---|---|
| Simple Future in the Past | should (would) + infinitive (without «to») |
| Continuous Future in the Past | should (would) + be + Present Participle |
| Perfect Future in the Past | should (would) + have + Past Participle |
| Perfect Continuous Future in the Past | should (would) + have + been + Present Participle |

| Tenses | Active Voice Examples |
|---|--|
| Simple Future in the Past | He said he would go to the dentist. |
| Continuous Future in the Past | He was planning how he would be sipping cocktail on his vacation. |
| Perfect Future in the Past | We hoped we should have done our homework by midday. |
| Perfect Continuous Future in the Past | He told us he would have been working on the plant for 30 years next December. |

| Tenses | Passive Voice |
|---|--|
| Simple Future in the Past | should (would) + be + Past Participle |
| Continuous Future in the Past | X |
| Perfect Future in the Past | should (would) + have + been + Past Participle |
| Perfect Continuous Future in the Past | X |

| Tenses | Passive Voice Examples |
|---|--|
| Simple Future in the Past | He knew that they would be invited. |
| Continuous Future in the Past | X |
| Perfect Future in the Past | I said that the article would have been translated by 6 o'clock. |
| Perfect Continuous Future in the Past | X |