

1.3

GRAMMAR

Perfect and continuous aspect

I can use perfect and continuous aspect.

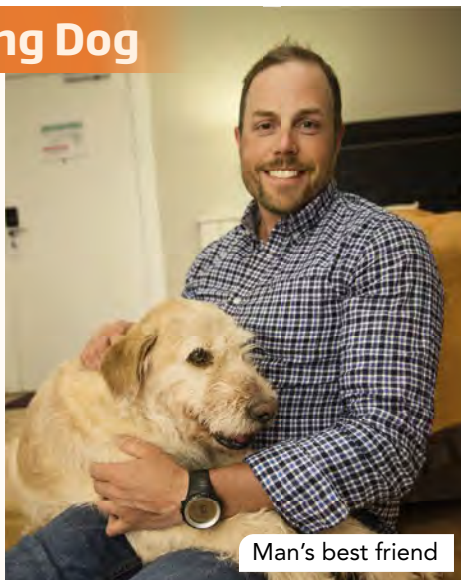
1 **SPEAKING** Look at the photo in Exercise 2. Discuss why the man and the dog are such good friends.

2 Read the article and discuss the questions in pairs.

- 1 How did the friends meet?
- 2 Why do you think the story was so popular?

Arthur the Racing Dog

A team of Swedish athletes **were taking part** in a gruelling adventure race in Ecuador when they came across Arthur (as he is now known). This homeless dog **had been wandering** around their camp, looking for food. No one knew where he **had come** from, but one meatball was enough to buy his undying friendship. From then on, he stuck with the team through mud and cold water and, 430 miles later, Arthur crossed the finishing line with his new friends. The story caught the imagination of the world's press and Arthur **has become** a celebrity. His reputation **is growing** and he **has been working** hard for a new charity, the Arthur Foundation, which collects money to look after other homeless dogs in Ecuador. But Arthur's racing days are over. He cheers his teammates on from the comfort of his new home in Sweden. One day the team will hopefully bring home first prize. They **won't have forgotten** Arthur who **will have been waiting** patiently to congratulate them. And you can be sure he **will be looking forward** to taking an active part in the celebrations!



Man's best friend

4 In your notebook, write the verb forms that complete the story correctly.

Noble, an old sheepdog, ¹*had lost / had been losing* his sight for years until he went completely blind. He was confined to the kitchen, but then help came in an unexpected form. Tiger, a young cat, ²*was adopting / had adopted* the farm as his home. He was bullied by other cats, so he decided to befriend the old dog. When the other cats ³*were bullying / had bullied* him, Tiger would run to Noble. Since then, the friendship between the animals ⁴*has grown / was growing*. They sleep together in Noble's bed and eat out of the same dish. But the most amazing thing is that the cat ⁵*was becoming / has become* Noble's guide. Tiger ⁶*has opened / was opening* new doors for him, literally and figuratively. At the end of this month, Tiger ⁷*will have been living / has been living* at the farm for just over a year and the change to both of their lives has been amazing.

5 In your notebook, write the correct forms of the verbs in brackets for each gap in the story.

I ¹*had been wanting* (want) a dog and I was happy when Dad brought home a puppy. Dad ² ? (discover) him on the street on his way home from work. As of yesterday, our dog ³ ? (live) with us for over twelve years. He ⁴ ? (have) a very happy life, but now he's very old. He ⁵ ? (find) it difficult to walk and he's almost deaf. By this time next week, he ⁶ ? (have) an operation on his hip. If the operation goes well, he ⁷ ? (play) in the garden in a few weeks.

6 **SPEAKING** Think of a story to go with the photo. Discuss with a partner and make notes about what:

- happened before the animals met,
- happened the first time they met,
- is happening in the present,
- will happen in the future.



7 **SPEAKING** Change pairs and tell each other your version of the story. Use as many verb forms as possible. Are your versions very different?

3 Read the GRAMMAR FOCUS and find an example of each tense in the text in Exercise 2. Explain why each aspect is used.

GRAMMAR FOCUS

Aspect

- You use the **continuous aspect** to describe an action in progress at a point in time and/or an action that continues over a period of time. You then use the **Present Continuous, Past Continuous** and **Future Continuous**.
- You use the **perfect aspect** to show a link between two time periods (e.g. two actions). You then use the **Present Perfect, Past Perfect** and **Future Perfect**.
- The two aspects can be combined. The **perfect continuous aspect** shows that an action has been, was or will be in progress before a point in time. You then use the **Present Perfect Continuous, Past Perfect Continuous** and **Future Perfect Continuous**.

Grammar pages 116–117