

the system of tenses

How many tenses are there in English?

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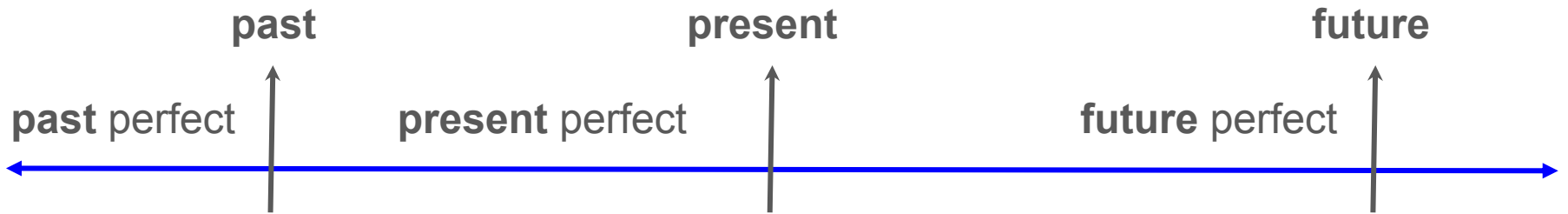
12 but actually it's just 3... or maybe 3x4?

**past**

**present**

**future**





**past**

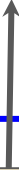
**present**

**future**

past perfect

present perfect

future perfect



SIMPLE

*I wrote the essay last night.*

*I write my diary every day.*

*I will write the email straight away.*



**past**

**present**

**future**

past perfect

present perfect

future perfect

SIMPLE

*I wrote the essay last night.*

*I write my diary every day.*

*I will write the email straight away.*

PROGRESSIVE

*I was writing the blog post the whole night.*

*I am writing this sample sentence **right now**.*

*I will be writing the article the whole weekend.*



