The English Tense System > The problem zones have been highlighted by the red colour!

Tense	Simple form	Progressive form (Continuous form)
Present Tense	Enumeration, regular activities	[----------o----------] special focus on something happening at the moment temporary activities
Past tense	(ditto)	[----------o----------] special focus on something happening at the moment [----------] background actiivity
PRESENT perfect	result	(continuity of a) process
Past perfect	(ditto)	(ditto)
Future tense		
Seven ways of expressing the future tense		

1. will-future continuous [Silver Line Grammar, Taschenbuch edition pp. 219-220]
   > neutral future / future as a matter-of-course — **Will you be coming to the party tonight?**

2. will-future [Silver Line Grammar, Taschenbuch edition pp. 216-219]
   > external circumstances — **England will have another cold day tomorrow.**
   > willingness — **Will you come to the party tonight?**

3. going-to-future [Silver Line Grammar, Taschenbuch edition pp. 214-216]
   > plan — **I'm going to be at the concert tonight. > (unless I change my mind!)**

4. simple present [Silver Line Grammar, Taschenbuch edition pp. 194-195]
   > 'timetable effect' — **The train leaves in twenty minutes.**
   > conditional or temporal clauses — **I'll make a pizza when they arrive.**
   We'll go for a walk if it stops raining.

5. present continuous [Silver Line Grammar, Taschenbuch edition p. 198]
   > arrangement — **I'm going to a concert tonight.**
   We're leaving at 2 o'clock tomorrow morning.

6. future perfect [Silver Line Grammar, Taschenbuch edition pp. 221/222]
   > completion of an activity in the future — **By Saturday the letter will have arrived.**

7. future perfect continuous [Silver Line Grammar, Taschenbuch edition pp. 222-223]
   > completion of an activity in the future while stressing the continuity of the activity
   They will have been living in New York for twenty years by the end of 2023.

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