



Expressing Probability with Perfect Tenses

FUTURE PERFECT

- You also can use the future perfect to express probability or conjecture with regard to something that took place in the *recent past*. The future perfect of probability corresponds to the preterit or the present perfect:

Habr  pasado algo. →
Probablemente pas  algo. → *Something probably happened.*
Probablemente ha pasado algo. →

- Deber (de)** + perfect infinitive, which is the infinitive **haber** + the past participle, can be used instead of the future perfect to express probability in past time:

Marta debe (de) haber llamado. → *Marta must have (probably) called.*
Algo debe (de) haber pasado. → *Something probably happened.*

CONDITIONAL PERFECT

- The conditional perfect also expresses probability or conjecture with regard to:

1. An action in the (relatively) remote past, e.g.:

 Ad nde **habr an ido**? → Where do you think **they had gone**?
 l lo **habr a visto**. → I suppose he **had seen** it.
Ya **se habr a ido**, me imagino. → **He had probably left**, I imagine.

2. The (clock) time or reference to a date of a specific action, e.g.:

Habr a sido la una cuando  l lleg . → **It must have been** one o'clock when he arrived.

Habr a sido el domingo pasado cuando se cay . → **It must have been** last Sunday when he fell.

Habr an sido las dos cuando me dorm . → **It must have been** two when I fell asleep.