Longtime Affair - POV

Welcome to this POV for this lesson. Same story, different versions, let's get started.

First, we go to the past, 10 years ago…

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Ten years there was a very small man, named Jim. Jim was only one foot tall. Even though Jim was 48 years old, people always perceived him as a child. In the eyes of the public, Jim was just a cute little boy. Jim hated this. He said 'I want people to accept me as I really am. I want them to give me unconditional respect. I don't want people to go on treating me like a child.' So Jim went to the gym and exercised everyday. He became very strong.

He also learned kickboxing and one day a tall man saw him, laughed and said 'you're such a cute little man.' Jim got angry. He yelled and said 'I'm going to kick your ass.' He kicked the man and they started to fight. The fight lasted for 20 hours. The men's hands and legs became intertwined and they fell down. Jim finally broke free from the man, than he jumped up and kicked the man in the head. Jim won the fight and he yelled, 'no matter how you slice it, I just kicked your ass.'

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All right, that's our past version. Now let's move to the perfect version.

Here we go… since last year…

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There was a very small man, named Jim. Jim is only one foot tall. Even though Jim is 48 years old, people have always perceived him as a child. In the eyes of the public, Jim is just a cute little boy. Jim has always hated this, but since last year he has become very upset. Everyday he has said, 'I want people to accept me as I really am. I want them to give me unconditional respect. I don't want people to go on treating me like a child.' So, since last year, Jim has gone to the gym and exercised everyday. He has become very strong.

He has also learned kickboxing. Well, one day a tall big man saw him, laughed and said 'you're such a cute little man.' Jim got angry. He yelled and he kicked the man. They started to fight. The fight lasted for 20 hours. The men's hands and legs became intertwined and they fell down. Jim finally broke away from the man. Then he jumped up and kicked him in the head. Jim won the fight and he yelled, 'no matter how you slice it, I just kicked your ass.'

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In that version you notice that we used the present perfect, the have gone, have been form because it's something that has continued through the past for a while. It started in the past and kept going for a while. For example, people have always perceived him as a child. That's been happening for a long time, starting when he was young until now. People continue to perceive him, have continued to perceive him as a child. It started in the past and kept going for a while.

Then again we talked about going to the gym, where since last year Jim has gone to the gym and exercised everyday, starting last year up until now. Then finally, we changed to the past tense, because we're talking about one specific event, the fight. That happened in the past it's over and it was just a short event in the past. It started and finished in the past, it's done. It's not a long time period, it's short and complete. So we used the simple past for that.

That's all you need to know about grammar, don't think too much about that.

On to version number three, into the future…

We can imagine, this is my idea for a movie and I'm telling you the story of what I think should happen, what I think will happen in this movie. Here's my movie idea in the future, ten years from now…

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Ten years from now there will be a very small man, named Jim. Jim will only one foot tall. Even though he'll only be 48 years old, people will think he's a child. People will perceive him as a child. In the eyes of the public, Jim will be a cute little boy. Jim will hate this. He's going to say, 'I want people to accept me as I really am. I want them to give me unconditional respect. I don't want people to go on treating me like a child.' So Jim will go to the gym and exercise everyday. He will become very strong. He'll also learn kickboxing.

One day a tall man is going to challenge him, laughed and say 'you're such a cute little man.' Jim will get angry. He'll yell and kick the man. They'll start fighting. The fight will last 20 hours. The men's hands and legs will become intertwined and they'll fall down. Jim will finally break away from the man and then he'll jump up and kick him in the head. Jim will win the fight and he'll yell, 'no matter how you slice it, I just kicked your ass.'

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The future is fairly simple and easy. You have learned going to and will. However, in normal speech we don't say going to and will, we change the pronunciation and say 'll, like Jim'll or the man'll challenge him. Jim'll fight him. We don't say Jim will, we say Jim'll and add the 'll sound to the subject.

The other thing we do instead of going to we say gonna. Jim's gonna get angry, not Jim is going to get angry. Jim's gonna. Jim's gonna = Jim is going to. Jim's gonna.

That's how we actually use the future in normal speech, so when you hear gonna or 'll, that means the future.

Please go back now and listen to each section. Pause and try to tell that version yourself. Try to tell the story using the past, 10 years ago and try it again with since last year and the final

time in the future. If you have trouble or it's difficult just relax, this takes time. Go back and listen repeatedly and carefully. Hear how the verbs and vocabulary changes. Don't get upset if you can't tell the story yourself, that takes time. Listening is the most important part.

All right, I will see you next time. Move on.