Kee
Hi guys! This is Kee from BBC Learning English, and today I’m going to tell you the differences between until and by.

We use until to talk about doing something up to a certain point in time. If I say: I have to take care of my dog until 5pm, it means I will start taking care of my dog now and stop taking care of it at 5pm.

On the other hand, we use by to talk about doing something before a future time or deadline. If I say: I have to finish an essay by 5pm, it means I can start any time but I will make sure that at 5pm I have finished writing the essay. So, I may even finish it at 3pm or any time before 5.

So we use until to describe doing something up to a certain point in time and we use by to describe doing something before a future time or deadline.