

**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**.