



BY THE TIME (phrase)

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We use by the time, meaning 'when', to connect an action that has happened or will have happened before a second action. The action that happened second comes after by the time.

[action 2]	[action 1]
By the time you wake up,	I'll have finished work!
[action 1]	[action 2]
Unfortunately the man had died	by the time the ambulance arrived.
[action 2]	[action 1]
By the time we arrived,	the other guests were already there.
[action 2]	[action 1]
By the time I got to the station,	the train had already gone.
[action 2]	[action 1]
By the time you get there	the meeting will be over.