

## Present Perfect Tenses

-----X-----Now----->

**1. We use the Present Perfect to indicate that something in the past is connected to something in the present.**

The child has learned fractions.

The child knows fractions now. The child had a lesson in fractions in the past. (Fractions are parts of a number: one half, one quarter, one eighth.)

**Jian-Hui:** Have you seen *Gone with the Wind*, Eileen?  
**Eileen:** Yes, I have. I liked it very much.

Eileen has seen the movie and is familiar with it. She did not specify WHEN she saw it.

**2. We use the Present Perfect with a repeated activity before now.**

I have taken the TOEFL test three times. This is the third time I have taken the TOEFL.

I took the test three times before right now. I am taking the test now.  
I am not taking the test now.

**3. We use the Present Perfect with "for" or "since" for an activity or action that starts in the past and continues into the present.**

Ahmed has lived in Cairo for six years. It's been raining for six days.

(He still lives there.) (It's still raining.)

I've been staying at the Hilton since Tuesday. The temperature has been above 30 degrees Centigrade since June 01.

Complete the chart.

	Base form	Simple Past	Past Participle
1.	know	knew	known
2.		got	
3.			taken
4.		bought	
5.	leave		
6.			cost
7.		showed	
8.	be		
9.			gone
10.	eat		
11.			made
12.		did	
13.		saw	
14.			thought
15.		grew	
16.			spent

### The Present perfect Tense: Regular and Irregular Verbs

1. We form the present perfect with *have/has* and the past participle of the verb.
2. We form the past participle of regular verbs by adding *-ed* to the verb. This is the same form as the simple past tense: *play, played finish, finished*
3. Irregular verbs have irregular past participles: *know, known write, written*

Regular Verbs	Simple Past	Past Participle
work	worked	worked
live	lived	lived
own	owned	owned
study	studied	studied

Irregular Verbs	Simple Past	Past Participle
be	was/were	been
have	had	had
know	knew	known
go	went	gone
see	saw	seen

### Affirmative Statements

Subject	Have/Has	Past Participle		For/Since
I	have	had	a grammar	for six months.
You				
He/She/It	has	owned	book	since June.
We	have	studied		
They				

#### Exercise: 1 Complete the following sentences with the present perfect of the verb in parentheses.

Belton is a small town. Brad Peltry (live) has lived in Belton all his life. Brad is 58 years old. Brad is married. He (be) \_\_\_\_\_ married to Dora for 25 years. They (know) \_\_\_\_\_ each other since high school. Brad and Dora have a son. He is a student at a university in Atlanta. He (study) \_\_\_\_\_ medicine for three years now.

Brad owns the grocery store in town. He (own) \_\_\_\_\_ the store for 22 years. He (work) \_\_\_\_\_ in the store for 22 years. Something strange has happened this week. Nobody (see) \_\_\_\_\_ Brad for four days. His truck (disappear) \_\_\_\_\_. Dora doesn't know where he is. Dora (be) \_\_\_\_\_ worried. Brad(have) \_\_\_\_\_ money problems lately.

#### Exercise: 2 Write complete sentences.

Use the verbs from the list and the present perfect tense.

be- was/were – been	make – made – made	speak-spoke-spoken
have-had-had	see-saw-seen	visit-visited-visited
live-lived-lived	send-sent-sent	write-wrote-written

1. Bob/live/on the farm all his life

Bob has lived on the farm all his life.

2. Bob and Brenda/ be married/for 55 years

\_\_\_\_\_.

3. Bob and Brenda/be / happy

\_\_\_\_\_.

4. Bob/have/a good life

\_\_\_\_\_.

5. Jim/have/an interesting life.

\_\_\_\_\_.

6. Jim's family life/ be / unhappy

\_\_\_\_\_.

7. Jim/visit/ many countries

\_\_\_\_\_.

8. Jim/make/a lot of money

\_\_\_\_\_.

9. Jim/live/alone for ten years

\_\_\_\_\_.

10. Bob/write to / Jim every Christmas

\_\_\_\_\_.

11. Bob/ send/ pictures of his family to Jim

\_\_\_\_\_.

12. Bob/ not see/ Jim for a long time

\_\_\_\_\_.

### **The Present perfect Tense: Negative Statement and Questions**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Have/Has not</b>	<b>Past Participle</b>		<b>For/Since</b>
I You We They	have not haven't	lived been	here	for a long time.
He She It	has not hasn't			

Yes/No Questions				Short answers	
Have/Has	Subject	Past Participle		Affirmative	Negative
Have	I you we they	been lived	here for long?	Yes, you have. I/we have. you have they have.	No, you haven't. I/we haven't. you haven't. they haven't.
Has	he she it			he has. she has. it has.	he hasn't. she hasn't. it hasn't.

**Exercise 3: Complete the sentences using the present perfect tense of the verbs in parentheses.**

Alex: How long (be) have you been in this class?

Peter: Since February.

Alex: (make) \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ any friends?

Peter: Yes, I (make) \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of friends in this class, but my English (not, improve) \_\_\_\_\_.

John: How long (have) \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ your driver's license?

Bob: For two years.

John: (have) \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ any accidents?

Bob: No, I \_\_\_\_\_.

Leyla: How long (study) \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ English?

Yumi: For six years, but I (not, speak) \_\_\_\_\_ English with American people in a long time.

Leyla: Me neither. I (not, speak) \_\_\_\_\_ English with English or American people, but I (watch) \_\_\_\_\_ American movies for many years.

Sue: How long (work) \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ here?

Don: Since May. But I (be) \_\_\_\_\_ a computer programmer for four years.

Sue: (work) \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ for other companies?

Don: Yes, I \_\_\_\_\_. I (work) \_\_\_\_\_ for three companies since the year 2000.

Sue: (live) \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ in Boston since 2000?

Don: Yes, I \_\_\_\_\_. I like Boston. How long (live) \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ in Boston?

Sue: For three months now, and the weather (not, be) \_\_\_\_\_ good for the last three months. It (be) \_\_\_\_\_ so cold.

Lillian: How long (be) \_\_\_\_\_ John \_\_\_\_\_ married?

Andrea: He (be) \_\_\_\_\_ married for six months, but he (know) \_\_\_\_\_ his wife for ten years.

## Since and For

We use *for* and *since* with the present perfect to talk about how long the action or situation existed from the past to the present. We use *for* to talk about a length of time; we use *since* to talk about when a period of time began.

For		Since	
for	four years	since	1990
	six months		last year
	five weeks		(last) June
	four days		(last) Friday
	three hours		yesterday
	twenty minutes		this morning
	a minute		nine o'clock this morning
	a long time		I moved to Tokyo

### Exercise: 4 Complete the sentences with *for* or *since*.

1. Mark and Yolanda have been married for 22 years.
2. They have been at the same address \_\_\_\_\_ 1992.
3. Yolanda has been a teacher \_\_\_\_\_ 1990.

4. Mark has been a salesman \_\_\_\_\_ 25 years.
5. He has been with the same company \_\_\_\_\_ 1995.
6. Now Mark is in Texas on a business trip. He has been there \_\_\_\_\_ last Monday.
7. Mark has been on four business trips \_\_\_\_\_ last June.
8. It's Saturday. Yolanda is at the shopping center. She has been there \_\_\_\_\_ 10:00 this morning. She wants to get a birthday present for her son, Clark. He is 16 today.
9. Yolanda has been busy \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday. She wants to prepare for Clark's birthday.
10. Right now Clark is at the school gym. He has been there \_\_\_\_\_ 9.00 this morning.
11. Clark has been at the gym \_\_\_\_\_ three hours now.
12. He has been on the school basketball team \_\_\_\_\_ a years.
13. Clark has also been the top student in his class \_\_\_\_\_ three years.
14. Nick has been Clark's best friend \_\_\_\_\_ 1996.
15. Nick and Clark have been in the same class \_\_\_\_\_ many years.
16. Nick is always with Clark. Nick has been with Clark \_\_\_\_\_ this morning.

### **Present Perfect and Past simple: time expressions**

We use the present perfect with: **ever, never** (any time/not any time)

Have you *ever* seen a lion? I've *never* seen a lion.

**just** (a short time ago)

Is Peter here? No, he's *just* gone out. There he is!

**yet** (not finished – with negatives and questions)

I haven't finished *yet*.

Have you finished your homework *yet*? No, I'm still doing it.

**already** ( finished )

Have a sandwich?

No thanks, I've **already** eaten. I had lunch at 12.00.

**Exercise 5: Complete these sentences with just, yet, already.**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Would you like something to eat?     | No, thanks. I've <u>just had</u> lunch (just/have) |
| 2. Do you know where Julia is?          | Yes, I _____ her. (just/see)                       |
| 3. What time is David leaving?          | He _____ (already/leave)                           |
| 4. What's in the newspaper today?       | I don't know. I _____ (not/read/yet)               |
| 5. Is Ann coming to the cinema with us? | No, she _____ the film. (already/see)              |
| 6. Are your friends here yet?           | Yes, they _____ (just/arrive)                      |
| 7. What does Tim think about your plan? | I _____ (not/tell/yet)                             |

**Exercise: 6 Underline the correct word in each sentence.**

- Have you ever/yet visited Slovenia?
- Tim has for/just come back from the USA.
- I'm not hungry. I've already/since eaten.
- Jane lived in Greece since/for fifteen years.
- I can't come out. I haven't done my homework already/yet.
- Mark has worked in Turkey ago/since 1998.

**Exercise: 7 Complete each sentence with a time word from the box.**

already      ever      just      never      since      yet

- Sue has been on the beach for an hour, but she hasn't had a swim yet.
- I don't want to see this film. I've \_\_\_\_\_ seen it.
- Have you \_\_\_\_\_ been to the Greek island?
- Ouch! An insect has \_\_\_\_\_ bitten me!
- George has \_\_\_\_\_ eaten Chinese food, so this the first time for him!
- Rick has lived in Japan \_\_\_\_\_ 1998.

**Past Simple or Present Perfect**

Sorry, he isn't here. He's **left**.

Sorry, he isn't here. He **left** at 8.00.

Renaldo **has scored** a goal!

We are interested that he has scored! We are not interested in when he did this.



Renaldo **scored** a goal in the second minute of the match.

We are interested in the time when he scored.

I **ve broken** my pen. Now I can't write my essay!

This explains why we can't do something now

I **broke** my pen at school in the maths test.

This explains what happened, where it happened and when it happened.

**Have you been** to China? Yes, I **have been** there many times.

When **did** you go to China? I **went** there in 1998.

**Exercise: 8 Underline the correct word in each sentence.**

1. Can I have another book? I've read/read this one.
2. I'm not ready. I didn't finish/haven't finished my homework.
3. I can't find my wallet. I think I've lost/lost it.
4. Did you eat /Have you eaten spaghetti last night?
5. Harry left/has left at 10.30.
6. Hurry up, Jim! You didn't start/haven't started!
7. Did you see/Have you seen this film last year?

**Exercise: 9 Change the verbs in brackets into the past simple or present perfect.**

1. Where (you go) did you go for your holidays last year?
2. I can't play any more. I (just hurt) \_\_\_\_\_ my foot.
3. Jane is a famous writer, and (write) \_\_\_\_\_ over fifty books.
4. Sorry, I (not finish) \_\_\_\_\_ my letters yet.
5. 'We had a great party last week.' 'Who (you, invite) \_\_\_\_\_?'
6. Where (you, meet) \_\_\_\_\_ Sam? Was it at the sports center?
7. Peter (not play) \_\_\_\_\_ basketball for a month.

**Exercise: 10 Change the verbs in brackets into the past simple or the present perfect simple.**

1. Tina isn't here. She (just go) has just gone to school.
2. What time (you get up) \_\_\_\_\_ this morning?
3. Paul (have) \_\_\_\_\_ a bad car accident three years ago.
4. I (live) \_\_\_\_\_ in the same house since 1995.
5. What (you do) \_\_\_\_\_ last night?
6. Brian (not finish) \_\_\_\_\_ his work yet.
7. Tina (arrive) \_\_\_\_\_ here in 2001.
8. (you, see) \_\_\_\_\_ 'Men in Black?' It's a great film.

**Exercise: 11 Choose the best answer, A,B,C or D, to complete the sentence.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ to Europe?
 

a. Have you ever been	b. Ever been you
c. Been ever	d. Were you ever
2. Danny's not here. He \_\_\_\_\_ to the office an hour ago.
 

a. went	b. was going	c. has gone	d. has went
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3. We \_\_\_\_\_ to India.
 

a. never have been	b. been never have
c. have never been	d. have been never
4. We \_\_\_\_\_ grammar since early this morning.
 

a. studied	b. have to study
c. have study	d. have studied
5. A: Have you ever had a dog?  
B: Yes, I \_\_\_\_\_.
 

a. have had	b. have	c. had	d. do
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6. Nick \_\_\_\_\_ since yesterday.
 

a. have not called	b. hasn't call
c. did not go	d. hasn't gone
7. We \_\_\_\_\_ to a movie for a long time.
 

a. have not gone	b. hasn't go
c. did not call	d. hasn't called
8. When \_\_\_\_\_?
 

a. the movie starts	b. has the movie start
c. did the movie start	d. the movie has started

9. I \_\_\_\_\_ my mother yesterday?  
 a. have called            b. was calling            c. called            d. have call
10. How long \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
 a. have been married John            b. married John  
 c. has john been married            d. did marry John

**Exercise: 12 Find the underlined word or phrase, A,B,C or D, that is incorrect.**

1. Humans lived on Earth for millions of years.  
 a            b            c            d
2. The weather has change in the last ten years.  
 a            b            c            d
3. There were many earthquakes in California since 1914.  
 a            b            c            d
4. The president is not been in the country since last Wednesday.  
 a            b            c            d
5. Students had problems with English spelling for a long time.  
 a            b            c            d
6. This was the hottest summer since 1964.  
 a            b            c            d
7. People have played soccer since four hundred years.  
 a            b            c            d
8. Mozart has written 600 pieces of music before he died in 1891.  
 a            b            c            d
9. Did you gone to Singapore when you lived in Asia?  
 a            b            c            d
10. Since 1990, scientists found many new drugs to help us fight diseases.  
 a            b            c            d