

PRESENT PERFECT |

PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE

HAS/HAVE + 3rd verb form (worked, studied, been, lost, etc)

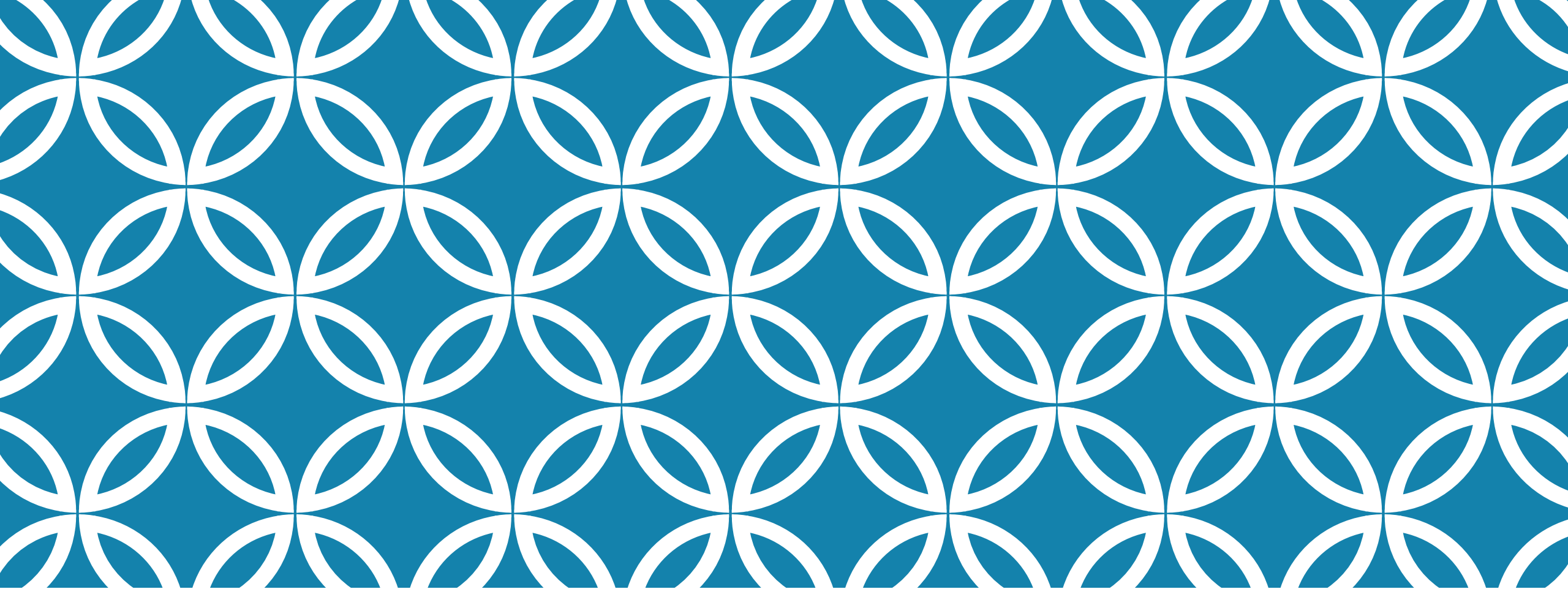
Used when :

- Giving new information (the time in the past is not specific)
 - I've read a wonderful book!
- Linking the past to the present
 - I've lived here since 2008. / I can't write. I've cut my finger.
- With words like : ALREADY, YET, JUST, NEVER, EVER
 - He's just failed an exam. Have you finished yet? I've already finished. He hasn't finished yet. She's never done a blood smear in her life. Have you ever run a spectrophotometry test?

PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE

We use PPS when we talk about a period of time that continues from the past until now

- Our life experience. Also with expression 'for the first time'
 - I've been to lots of places.
 - It's the first time I've driven a car.
- With expressions like: recently, so far, since, for (a long time), this morning
 - I haven't seen her recently. We haven't had any problems so far. They haven't written for a long time.
 - I haven't spoken to Jim today/this morning.



PRESENT PERFECT
CONTINUOUS |

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

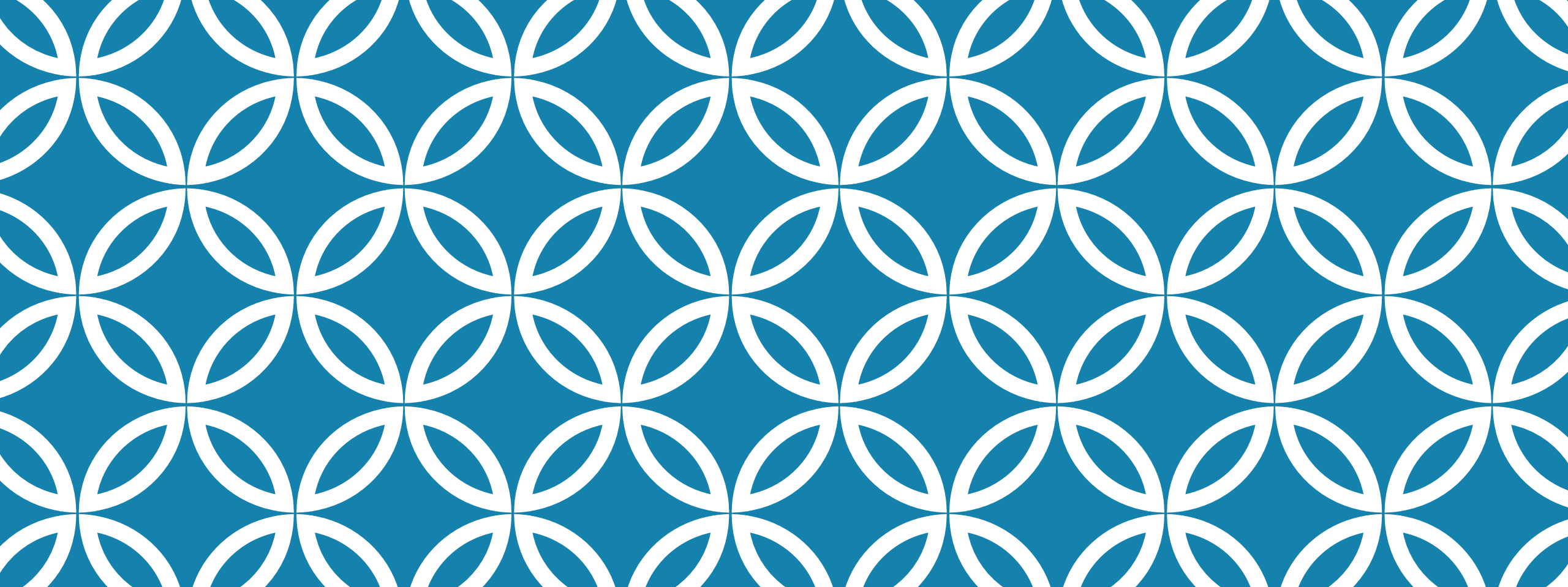
HAS/HAVE BEEN + ING verb form

Used for an activity which started in the past and is still in progress now:

- I've been watching TV all day.
- She hasn't been feeling well recently.

Used for an activity that has recently stopped, or just stopped. The emphasis is on the consequence the activity has on the present situation:

- You're out of breath. Have you been running?
- He's tired. He's been working very hard.



CONTRAST |

PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE/CONTINUOUS



There is paint on Kate's clothes.
She **has been painting** her bedroom.

Has been painting is the *present perfect continuous*.

We are thinking of the activity. It does not matter whether it has been finished or not. In this example, the activity (painting the bedroom) has not been finished.



Her bedroom was green. Now it is yellow.
She **has painted** her bedroom.

Has painted is the *present perfect simple*.

Here, the important thing is that something has been finished. **Has painted** is a completed action. We are interested in the result of the activity (the painted bedroom), not the activity itself.

SOME OTHER EXAMPLES

- My hands are very dirty. I've **been repairing** my bike.
- Joe **has been eating** too much recently. He should eat less.
- It's nice to see you again. What **have you been doing** since we last met?
- Where have you been? **Have you been playing** tennis?

- My bike is OK again now. I've **repaired** it.
- Somebody **has eaten** all the chocolates. The box is empty.
- Where's the book I gave you? What **have you done** with it?
- Have you ever played** tennis?

HOW LONG VS HOW MANY TIMES

We use the continuous to say *how long* (for something that is still happening):

- How long **have you been reading** that book?
- Lisa is writing emails. She's **been writing** emails all morning.
- They've **been playing** tennis since 2 o'clock.
- I'm learning Arabic, but I **haven't been learning** it very long.

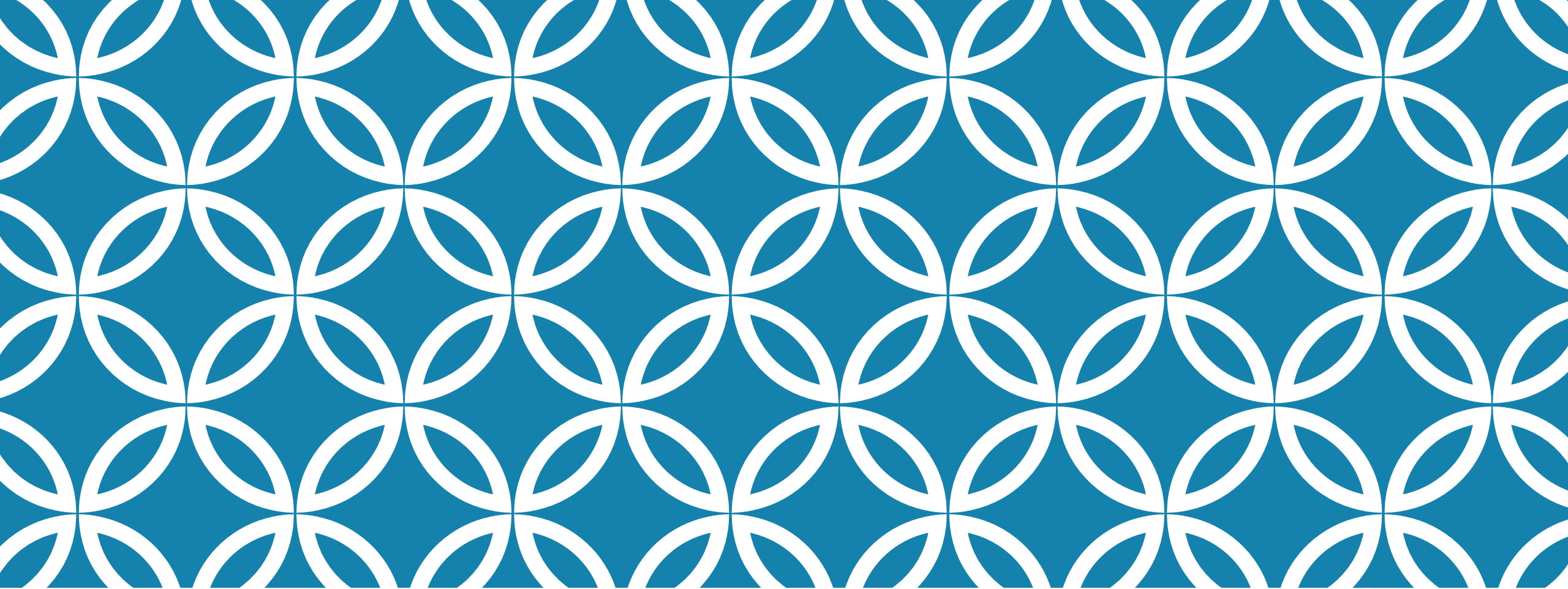
We use the simple to say *how much, how many* or *how many times*:

- How much of that book **have you read**?
- Lisa is writing emails. She's **sent** lots of emails this morning.
- They've **played** tennis three times this week.
- I'm learning Arabic, but I **haven't learnt** very much yet.

STATE VERBS

Verbs like BELIEVE, KNOW, UNDERSTAND, HAVE, WANT, LIKE, HATE, NEED, PREFER never use present perfect progressive:

- I've known him for ages.
- She hasn't had lunch yet.
- They've never wanted to help us.
- You've hated them from the very beginning.
- I've always preferred music to painting.



PRACTICE |

Put the verb into the more suitable form, present perfect simple (**I have done**) or continuous (**I have been doing**).

- 1 Where have you been? Have you been playing (you / play) tennis?
- 2 Look! (somebody / break) that window.
- 3 You look tired. (you / work) hard?
- 4 '..... (you / ever / work) in a factory?' 'No, never.'
- 5 'Liz is away on holiday.' 'Is she? Where (she / go)?'
- 6 My brother is an actor. (he / appear) in several films.
- 7 'Sorry I'm late.' 'That's all right. (I / not / wait) long.'
- 8 'Is it still raining?' 'No, (it / stop).'
- 9 (I / lose) my phone. (you / see) it anywhere?
- 10 (I / read) the book you lent me, but (I / not / finish) it yet. It's very interesting.
- 11 (I / read) the book you lent me, so you can have it back now.
- 12 This is a very old book. (I / have) it since I was a child.