

## Grammar Revision

### Present Perfect Simple

#### Form

Have/has + past participle (regular past participle end –ed, like simple past, with irregular verbs, past participle is often different!!)

#### Positive

I/we/they/you	<b>have</b> (= I've etc.)	<b>worked</b> <b>lived</b> <b>done</b>
He/she/it	<b>has</b> (= he's etc.)	<b>been</b> <b>arrived</b> <b>made</b>

#### Negative

I/we/they/you **have not** (haven't) **worked/lived/done**  
He/she/it **has not** (hasn't) **been/arrived/made**

#### Question

Have you/we/they worked .....?  
Has he/she made ...?

#### Use

1. We think about the past and the present together – we use the present perfect for **actions that began in the past, still continue and are likely to continue in future.**

*We have worked for the company for 4 years.*

*Have they worked for the company since 2006?*

2. We often use the present perfect to tell people about **new things that have happened, for recent actions and events which have present results** (sth. that happened not long ago and is linked to present).

*England footballers have arrived back in Britain after their match in Italy.*

*I have (I've) made a cake. Would you like some?*

*He hasn't broken his leg.*

*Who has eaten my dinner?*

3. We use the present perfect for **an experience that happened at some time of one's life.**

*Have you been to Norway? No, but I have been to Finland several times.*

*I have never watched tennis on TV.*

*I've just met Helen. She looked really smart!*

*Have you seen Mr. Burns today yet?*

*She has already seen Mr. Burns today. X She hasn't seen Mr. Burns yet.*

### Present Perfect Continuous (Progressive)

#### Form

#### Positive

I/we/they/you	<b>have</b> (= I've etc.)	<b>been working/living</b>
He/she/it	<b>has</b> (= he's etc.)	<b>been doing</b>

#### Negative

I/we/they/you	<b>have not</b> (haven't)	<b>been working</b>
He/she/it	<b>has not</b> (hasn't)	<b>been doing</b>

#### Questions

**Have I/we/they/you been living .... ?**

**Has he/she/ been doing ... ?**

### Use

1. We use the present perfect continuous to say **how long things have been continuing** up to now, an action is not completed, or has recently stopped.

*We have been travelling for six hours.*

*How long have you been learning English?*

*Mary has been painting her house for two days.*

2. We use the present perfect continuous for **an activity that has recently stopped or just stopped**. There is a connection with **now**.

*You look tired. Yes, I have been working in the garden.*

*My hair is wet, it has been raining outside.*

**!!** We don't use the progressive with **be, have** (meaning 'possess'), **know** and other non-progressive verbs (**like, love, mean, need, prefer, seem, understand, want**)

### Practice

#### **1 Make present perfect simple affirmative, negative sentences and questions.**

1 John/learn/not/anything

2 Where/you/put the keys?

3 The rain/stop/just

4 Bill/phone/already?

5 I/break/a red cup

6 Where/you/put the keys?

7 The postman/not/come/yet

#### **2 Make present perfect continuous affirmative, negative sentences and questions**

1 We/wait/the bus/since 8.30

2 How long/your brother/play/the piano?

3 They/drive/not/for about six hours

4 I/learn/English/for four years

5 Jane/talk/on the phone

6 I/live/her/since I was born

7 How long/your brother/work/in Glasgow?

#### **3 Underline the correct form**

1 How long have you *learnt/been learning* the piano?

2 Look! I have *bought/been buying* a coat.

3 It has *rained/been raining* since Tuesday.

4 John has *broken/been breaking* his leg.

5 He hasn't *told/been telling* me his address.

6 How long have we *driven/been driving* now?

7 Have you ever *read/been reading* this book?

9 How long have you *played/been playing* tennis?

10 How many games have you *played/been playing*?

## Summary of three tenses

### simple past and present perfect: summary

#### SIMPLE PAST: *I worked/wrote/drove etc*

##### finished actions

- **finished actions, no connection with present**  
*My grandfather **worked** for a newspaper. I **drove** back from York last night.*
- **with words for a finished time, like yesterday, in 1990, ago, then, when**  
*I **saw** Ann yesterday. (NOT ~~I have seen Ann yesterday.~~) Bill **phoned** three days ago. When **did** you **stop** smoking? (NOT ~~When have you stopped smoking?~~)*
- **stories**  
*A man **walked** into a café and **sat** down at a table. The waiter **asked** ...*
- **details (time, place etc) of news**  
*The cat has eaten your supper. She **took** it off the table.  
Bill has had an accident. He **fell** off his bicycle when he was going to work.*

#### (SIMPLE) PRESENT PERFECT: *I have worked/written/driven etc*

##### A finished actions

- **thinking about past and present together**  
*I've **written** to John, so he knows what's happening now. Jane **has found** my glasses, so I can see again.*
- **news**  
*A plane **has crashed** at Heathrow airport. The Prime Minister **has left** for Paris.*
- **up to now: how much/many; how often**  
*I've **drunk** six cups of coffee today. My father **has often tried** to stop smoking.*
- **up to now: things that haven't happened; questions; ever and never**  
*John **hasn't phoned**. **Has** Peter **said** anything to you? **Have** you ever **seen** a ghost? I've never **seen** one.*
- **already, yet and just**  
*'Where's Peter?' 'He's **already gone** home.' **Has** the postman **come** yet? 'Coffee?' 'I've just **had** some.'*
- **NOT with words for a finished time**  
*I **saw** Penny yesterday. She's getting married. (NOT ~~I have seen Penny yesterday.~~)*

##### B unfinished actions continuing up to now (only with *be, have, know* and other non-progressive verbs)

- **to say how long (often with *since* and *for*)**  
*How long **have you been** in this country? We've **had** our car for seven years.  
I've **known** Jake since 1996. (NOT ~~I know Jake since 1996.~~)*

#### PRESENT PERFECT PROGRESSIVE: *I have been working/writing/driving etc*

##### unfinished actions continuing up to now (most verbs)

- **to say how long (often with *since* and *for*)**  
***Have you been waiting** long? I've **been learning** English since last summer.  
We've **been driving** for three hours – it's time for a rest.  
DON'T use a present tense to say how long.  
I've **been living** here since January. (NOT ~~I'm living here since January.~~)*
- **to say how we have been filling our time up to now**  
*Sorry I haven't written. I've **been travelling**. 'You look tired.' 'Yes, I've **been working** in the garden.'*
- **NOT USUALLY to talk about long, unchanging situations**  
*The castle **has stood** on this hill for 900 years.*

## Present perfect and past simple: revision exercises

### 1 Put in the past simple, present perfect or present perfect progressive.

1. 'Where's the car?' 'Bill ..... it. He ..... it to go shopping.' (*take; need*)
2. I ..... tickets for the match. Do you want to come with me? (*buy*)
3. My grandfather ..... to school in Ireland. (*go*)
4. How long ..... you ..... there? (*stand*)
5. 'I ..... my job.' 'Why?' 'I ..... the hours.' (*change; not like*)
6. Mike ..... his new watch. (*already lose*)
7. It ..... since Sunday. (*snow*)
8. You can have the newspaper. I ..... it. (*finish*)
9. I ..... mathematics from 1996 to 1998. (*study*)
10. How long ..... you ..... Mary? (*know*)
11. .... you ever ..... a poem? (*write*)
12. We ..... for the electrician all day yesterday. (*wait*)
13. 'Where's Robert?' 'He ..... out.' (*just go*)
14. 'Do you like skiing?' 'I ..... it.' (*not try*)
15. That child ..... - chocolate all day. (*eat*)

### 2 Underline the correct answer (the correct tense).

I **know / have known** Adrian for a very long time – we **are / have been** friends since our first day at school, thirty years **ago / before / since**. He **came / has come** round to see me last night to ask for my advice. His company **did / has been doing** very well for the last few years, and they **opened / have opened** several new offices. They **just asked / have just asked** Adrian to move to Scotland, to run an office there. He **didn't decide / hasn't decided** what to do yet. He doesn't really want to move: he **never lived / has never lived** outside Manchester, and he **bought / has bought** a new house there last year. But the new job would be interesting, and very well paid. We **talked / have talked / have been talking** about it for a long time last night, but of course I couldn't tell him what to do.

### 3 Underline the correct answer (in italics)

- 1 *We know/We've known/We've been knowing* John and Andy *for/since* years.
- 2 *I work/I'm working/I've been working* here since last summer.
- 3 'Good news! John *passed/has passed* his exam.' 'Has he got/Did he get good marks?'
- 4 'Mary *went/has gone* to London.' 'When *did she leave/?has she left?*'
- 5 This house has *stood/been standing* here for 500 years.

Taken and adapted from:

Swan, Michael. Walter, Catherine. The Good Grammar Book with answers. Oxford:OUP, 2004. ISBN 0-19-431519-3