

PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE AND PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

A) Present Perfect Simple

Form:

Positive, negative:

subj. + have/has + (not) + verb-ed ...

*I **have** (not) **lived** in Brno for 20 years.*

Question:

***Have you** lived in Brno for 20 years?*

Yes, I have. /No, I haven't.

Use:

1 For actions/states that began in the past, still continue are likely to continue in the future. These actions/states have “permanent” character and are often expressed by stative verbs.

*I **have lived** in Brno since 1983.*

*She **has known** him for all her life.*

Typical time expressions:

since 1970/the end of the lesson/August/Christmas...

for ten years/ages...

2 For recent actions and events which have present results (=st. that happened not long ago and is linked to the present).

*I **have cut** my finger. (I cut it a minute ago and it's still bleeding.)*

*I've **lost** my wallet. (I don't have it now and I can't pay the bill).*

*Peter **has shaved** his beard off! (He looks different now.)*

3 For an experience that happened at some time of one's life. There is NO EXACT TIME REFERENCE.

*I **have been to** Paris twice. (I still remember.)(BUT “I **was** in Paris **last year**.”)*

***Have you ever** been to Morocco? (In your life?)*

*I've **never** tried bungee jumping.*

NOTE:

We often use **JUST/ALREADY/YET** with Present Perfect:

*I've **just** met Peter. He looked really smart!*

(?)In questions: *Has she seen Mr. Jakes **yet**?*

(+)In the affirmative: *She has **already** seen him today.*

(-)In the negative: *She **hasn't** seen him **yet**.*

PRACTICE

1 Put the verbs in brackets into the Present Perfect Simple.

1 Someone _____ (eat) all the cakes. I'll have to buy some more.

2 What _____ (you buy) your sister for her birthday?

3 How many people _____ (she invite) to the party?

4 I _____ (do) everything you asked. What should I do now?

5 Margaret _____ (not visit) her aunt yet.

Past Simple or Present Perfect Simple???

2 Complete the dialogues with the Past Simple or Present Perfect.

- 1) **A** How long _____ at university? (you/be)
B I _____ two years ago. I'm in my third year now. (start)
- A** Do you live with your parents?
B I _____ with them for the first two years but then I _____ into a student hostel last September and I _____ there since then. (live, move, live)
- 2) **A** _____ a job yet? (your brother/find)
B Yes, he _____ work in a hotel. (just/start)
- 3) **A** _____ to *Marseille* – that new French restaurant? (you/ever/be)
B Yes, we _____ there for my birthday. (go)
A What was it like?
B The food _____ fantastic but it _____ a fortune! (be, cost)
- 4) **A** Look! Somebody _____ (spill) coffee on the carpet.
B Well, it _____ (not/me). I _____ (not do/it).
- 5) **A** Ben _____ (break) his leg.
B Really? How _____ (that/happen)?
A He _____ (fall) off the ladder.

3 Complete the sentences with *for*, *since*, *in*, or *ago*.

- A I was born _____ 1961.
 B I went to university _____ three years.
 C I passed my driving test 15 years _____ .
 D I've had a car _____ 1983.
 E I met my husband _____ 1997.
 F We've been married _____ 9 years.
 G We have lived in the same house _____ 1990.

B) Present Perfect Continuous

Form:

Positive, negative:

subj. + have/has + (not) + verb-ing ...

*I **have** (not) **been** reading this book for a week.*

Question:

Have you been reading this book for a week?

Yes, I have. /No, I haven't.

Use:

1 For recent unfinished temporary actions or repeated actions over a period of time (typically answering: "How long").

I've **been looking** for my cell phone for an hour and I still cannot find it.

He's **been working** here since May.

They've **been going** out together for three years.

I've **been learning** English for 10 years.

How long **have you been playing** the violin?

2 For recent actions and events which have present results.

She looks very tired. She **has been working** very hard.

You are out of breath. **Have you been jogging?**

The ground is wet. It **has been raining**.

CONTRAST THE SENTENCES BELOW:

I **have been living** in Barcelona since March, but I'm going to move to Madrid soon.

I **have lived** in Oslo my whole life.

PRACTICE

1 Complete the sentences with either Present Perfect Simple or Continuous.

1 You're covered in paint! What _____ you _____ ? (do)

2 I sent her an email last week, but she _____. (reply, yet)

3 He _____ well recently. (not feel)

4 I can't believe you _____ the whole book so quickly. (read)

5 I _____ this report for ages and it seems to be endless. (read)

2 Read this conversation between two people in a sports club. Underline the most suitable form of the verbs.

Anna: Excuse me. We've waited/We've been waiting (1) to play tennis since 10.30. It must be our turn now. How long have you *played/been playing* (2)?

Tim: Since about 9.30. *We've played /We've been playing* (3) two matches so far this morning and *we haven't finished/we haven't been finishing* (4) the third yet. You'll have to wait or do something else. *Have you tried/Have you been trying* (5) the swimming pool?

Anna: We don't want to swim, we want to play tennis. *You've played/You've been playing* for more than two hours and it's our turn. We're tired of waiting and we haven't got anything to do. *We've read/We've been reading* (7) the magazines we brought with us.

Tim: I said you'll have to wait. I always play on a Saturday morning. Anyway, *we've already started/we've been already starting* (8) the third match.

Anna: Oh, well, it looks like we have no choice, but we *have booked/we've been booking* (9) the court for next Saturday so you'll be unlucky then.