



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 and 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.