

Unit 7

Present perfect 1 (I have done)

A

Study this example situation:



Tom is looking for his key. He can't find it.

He **has lost** his key.

He **has lost** his key = He lost it recently, and he still doesn't have it.

Have/has lost is the *present perfect simple*:

I/we/they/you	have (= I've etc.)	finished lost done been etc.
he/she/it	has (= he's etc.)	

The present perfect simple is **have/has + past participle**. The past participle often ends in **-ed** (finished/decided etc.), but many important verbs are *irregular* (lost/done/written etc.).

For a list of irregular verbs, see Appendix 1.

B

When we say that 'something **has happened**', this is usually new information:

- ☐ Ow! I've **cut** my finger.
- ☐ The road is closed. There's **been** (there **has been**) an accident.
- ☐ (from the news) Police **have arrested** two men in connection with the robbery.

When we use the present perfect, there is a connection with *now*. The action in the past has a result *now*:

- ☐ 'Where's your key?' 'I don't know. I've **lost** it.' (= I don't have it *now*)
- ☐ He told me his name, but I've **forgotten** it. (= I can't remember it *now*)
- ☐ 'Is Sally here?' 'No, she's **gone** out.' (= she is out *now*)
- ☐ I can't find my bag. **Have you seen** it? (= Do you know where it is *now*?)

C

You can use the present perfect with **just**, **already** and **yet**.

Just = a short time ago:

- ☐ 'Are you hungry?' 'No, I've **just had** lunch.'
- ☐ Hello. **Have you just arrived**?

We use **already** to say that something happened sooner than expected:

- ☐ 'Don't forget to send the letter.' 'I've **already sent** it.'
- ☐ 'What time is Mark leaving?' 'He's **already gone**.'

Yet = until now. **Yet** shows that the speaker is expecting something to happen. Use **yet** only in questions and negative sentences:

- ☐ **Has it stopped** raining **yet**?
- ☐ I've written the letter, but I **haven't sent** it **yet**.

D

Note the difference between **gone (to)** and **been (to)**:

- ☐ Jim is on holiday. He **has gone to** Italy. (= he is there now or on his way there)
- ☐ Jane is back home now. She **has been to** Italy. (= she has now come back)

Exercises

Unit 7

7.1 Read the situations and write sentences. Use the following verbs:

arrive break fall go up grow improve ~~lose~~

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1 Tom is looking for his key. He can't find it. | He has lost his key. |
| 2 Margaret can't walk and her leg is in plaster. | She |
| 3 Last week the bus fare was 80 pence. Now it is 90. | The bus fare |
| 4 Maria's English wasn't very good. Now it is better. | Her English |
| 5 Dan didn't have a beard before. Now he has a beard. | He |
| 6 This morning I was expecting a letter. Now I have it. | The letter |
| 7 The temperature was 20 degrees. Now it is only 12. | The |

7.2 Complete B's sentences. Use the verb in brackets + just/already/yet.

<p>A</p> <p>1 Would you like something to eat?</p> <p>2 Do you know where Julia is?</p> <p>3 What time is David leaving?</p> <p>4 What's in the newspaper today?</p> <p>5 Is Sue coming to the cinema with us?</p> <p>6 Are your friends here yet?</p> <p>7 What does Tim think about your plan?</p>	<p>B</p> <p>No, thanks. I've just had lunch. (I / just / have / lunch)</p> <p>Yes, (I / just / see / her)</p> <p>..... (he / already / leave)</p> <p>I don't know. (I / not / read / it yet)</p> <p>No, (she / already / see / the film)</p> <p>Yes, (they / just / arrive)</p> <p>..... (we / not / tell / him yet)</p>
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7.3 Read the situations and write sentences with just, already or yet.

- After lunch you go to see a friend at her house. She says, 'Would you like something to eat?'
You say: No thank you. I've just had lunch. (have lunch)
- Joe goes out. Five minutes later, the phone rings and the caller says, 'Can I speak to Joe?'
You say: I'm afraid (go out)
- You are eating in a restaurant. The waiter thinks you have finished and starts to take your plate away. You say: Wait a minute! (not / finish)
- You are going to a restaurant tonight. You phone to reserve a table. Later your friend says, 'Shall I phone to reserve a table.' You say: No, (do it)
- You know that a friend of yours is looking for a place to live. Perhaps she has been successful. Ask her. You say: ? (find)
- You are still thinking about where to go for your holiday. A friend asks, 'Where are you going for your holiday?' You say: (not / decide)
- Linda went to the bank, but a few minutes ago she returned. Somebody asks, 'Is Linda still at the bank?' You say: No, (come back)

7.4 Put in been or gone.

- Jim is on holiday. He's gone to Italy.
- Hello! I've just to the shops. I've bought lots of things.
- Alice isn't here at the moment. She's to the shop to get a newspaper.
- Tom has out. He'll be back in about an hour.
- 'Are you going to the bank?' 'No, I've already to the bank.'

Unit 9

Present perfect continuous (I have been doing)

A

It has been raining

Study this example situation:



Is it raining?

No, but the ground is wet.

It has been raining.

Have/has been -ing is the *present perfect continuous*:

I/we/they/you	have	(= I've etc.)	been	doing
he/she/it	has	(= he's etc.)		waiting playing etc.

We use the present perfect continuous for an activity that has recently stopped or just stopped.

There is a connection with *now*:

- ☐ You're out of breath. **Have you been running?** (= you're out of breath *now*)
- ☐ Paul is very tired. He's **been working** very hard. (= he's tired *now*)
- ☐ Why are your clothes so dirty? What **have you been doing?**
- ☐ I've **been talking** to Amanda about the problem and she agrees with me.
- ☐ Where have you been? I've **been looking** for you everywhere.

B

It has been raining for two hours.

Study this example situation:



It began raining two hours ago and it is still raining.

How long **has it been raining?**

It **has been raining** for two hours.

We use the present perfect continuous in this way with **how long**, **for ...** and **since ...**. The activity is still happening (as in this example) or has just stopped.

- ☐ How long **have you been learning** English? (= you're still learning English)
- ☐ Tim is still watching television. He's **been watching** television all day.
- ☐ Where have you been? I've **been looking** for you for the last half hour.
- ☐ Chris **hasn't been feeling** well recently.

You can use the present perfect continuous for actions repeated over a period of time:

- ☐ Debbie is a very good tennis player. She's **been playing** since she was eight.
- ☐ Every morning they meet in the same café. They've **been going** there for years.

C

Compare I am doing (see Unit 1) and I have been doing:

I am doing
present continuous

now

- ☐ Don't disturb me now. I'm working.
- ☐ We need an umbrella. It's raining.
- ☐ Hurry up! We're waiting.

I have been doing
present perfect continuous

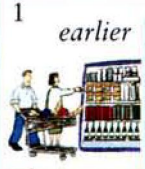

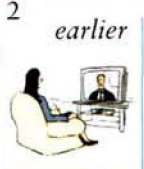



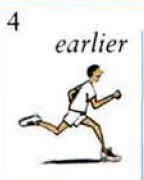

now

- ☐ I've **been working** hard. Now I'm going to have a break.
- ☐ The ground is wet. It's **been raining**.
- ☐ We've **been waiting** for an hour.

Exercises

Unit 9

9.1 What have these people been doing or what has been happening?

<p>1</p> <p>earlier</p>  <p>now</p>  <p>They <u>'ve been shopping.</u></p>	<p>2</p> <p>earlier</p>  <p>now</p>  <p>She</p>
<p>3</p> <p>earlier</p>  <p>now</p>  <p>They</p>	<p>4</p> <p>earlier</p>  <p>now</p>  <p>He</p>

9.2 Write a question for each situation.

- You meet Paul as he is leaving the swimming pool.
You ask: (you / swim?) Have you been swimming?
- You have just arrived to meet a friend who is waiting for you.
You ask: (you / wait / long?)
- You meet a friend in the street. His face and hands are very dirty.
You ask: (what / you / do?)
- A friend of yours is now working in a shop. You want to know how long.
You ask: (how long / you / work / there?)
- A friend tells you about his job – he sells computers. You want to know how long.
You ask: (how long / you / sell / computers?)

9.3 Read the situations and complete the sentences.

- It's raining. The rain started two hours ago.
It 's been raining for two hours.
- We are waiting for the bus. We started waiting 20 minutes ago.
We for 20 minutes.
- I'm learning Spanish. I started classes in December.
I since December.
- Mary is working in London. She started working there on 18 January.
..... since 18 January.
- Our friends always spend their holidays in Italy. They started going there years ago.
..... for years.

9.4 Put the verb into the present continuous (I am -ing) or present perfect continuous (I have been -ing).

- Maria has been learning (Maria / learn) English for two years.
- Hello, Tom. (I / look) for you. Where have you been?
- Why (you / look) at me like that? Stop it!
- Linda is a teacher. (she / teach) for ten years.
- (I / think) about what you said and I've decided to take your advice.
- 'Is Paul on holiday this week?' 'No, (he / work).'
- Sarah is very tired. (she / work) very hard recently.

Unit 10

Present perfect continuous and simple (I have been doing and I have done)

A

Study this example situation:



Kate's clothes are covered in paint. She **has been painting** the ceiling.

Has been painting is the *present perfect continuous*.

We are interested in the activity. It does not matter whether something has been finished or not. In this example, the activity (painting the ceiling) has not been finished.



The ceiling was white. Now it is red. She **has painted** the ceiling.

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 ceiling), not the activity itself.

Compare these examples:

- ☐ My hands are very dirty. I've **been repairing** the car.
- ☐ 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?

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

B

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

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

We use the simple to say *how much*, *how many* or *how many times* (for completed actions):

- ☐ How much of that book **have you read**?
- ☐ Lisa **has written** ten letters today.
- ☐ They've **played** tennis three times this week.
- ☐ I'm learning Spanish, but I **haven't learnt** very much yet.

C

Some verbs (for example, **know/like/believe**) are not normally used in the continuous:

- ☐ I've **known** about it for a long time. (*not* I've been knowing)

For a list of these verbs, see Unit 4A. But note that you *can* use **want** and **mean** in the present perfect continuous:

- ☐ I've **been meaning** to phone Jane, but I keep forgetting.

Present perfect simple → Units 7–8 Present perfect continuous → Unit 9

Present perfect + for/since → Units 11–12

Exercises

Unit 10

10.1 For each situation, write two sentences using the words in brackets.

- 1 Tom started reading a book two hours ago. He is still reading it and now he is on page 53.
(read / for two hours) He has been reading for two hours.
(read / 53 pages so far) He has read 53 pages so far.
- 2 Rachel is from Australia. She is travelling round Europe at the moment. She began her trip three months ago.
(travel / for three months) She
(visit / six countries so far)
- 3 Patrick is a tennis player. He began playing tennis when he was ten years old. This year he is national champion again – for the fourth time.
(win / the national championships / four times)
(play / tennis since he was ten)
- 4 When they left college, Lisa and Sue started making films together. They still make films.
(make / five films since they left college) They
(make / films since they left college)

10.2 For each situation, ask a question using the words in brackets.

- 1 You have a friend who is learning Arabic. You ask:
(how long / learn / Arabic?) How long have you been learning Arabic?
- 2 You have just arrived to meet a friend. She is waiting for you. You ask:
(wait / long?) Have
- 3 You see somebody fishing by the river. You ask:
(catch / any fish?)
- 4 Some friends of yours are having a party next week. You ask:
(how many people / invite?)
- 5 A friend of yours is a teacher. You ask:
(how long / teach?)
- 6 You meet somebody who is a writer. You ask:
(how many books / write?)
(how long / write / books?)
- 7 A friend of yours is saving money to go on holiday. You ask:
(how long / save?)
(how much money / save?)

10.3 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 address book.
(you / see) it?
- 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.