

Present Perfect, Present Perfect Continuous, & Past Simple

Tense:	Present Perfect Simple	Present Perfect Continuous	Past Simple
Form:	Has/have + Past participle	has/have been + Present participle (verb & 'ing')	Past form
Action:	Completed	Started in past and still continuing in the present	Completed
Time:	Not important	Length of time, duration	Specific time in the past
Focus:	The present result	Duration or process (it is ongoing)	Past action or past time

Reading/Listening: **Identify the tense**

- Does it contain has/have?
- Is the past or present participle used?

Writing/Speaking: **Identify the action, time, and focus**

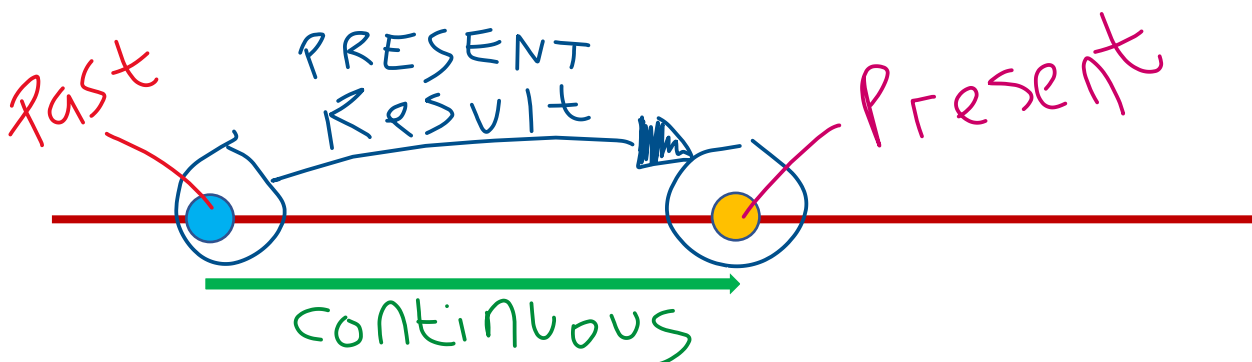
- Is the action/event completed or ongoing?
- Is time important or are you referring to a specific time or a duration of time?
- Is the result of outcome relevant to the present moment?

Reading:

- *I have read that book.*
- *She has been working at the store for 5 hours.*
- *We travelled to London last summer.*

Writing:

- Do you want to read this? I _____ (read) that newspaper already.
- Do you know Tim? Yes, he _____ (work) at the company for five years.
- Did they do anything last week? They _____ (visit) a museum last weekend.



Past Simple:

Kim: "where were you??"

Tom: "I went to the store and bought some apples."

Present Perfect Simple:

Kate: "If you're going to the store, will you buy rice please?"

Sam: "I have just been to the store!"

Present Perfect Continuous:

Mary: "Will you go to the store and buy more bread please?"

Keith: "I have been going to the store every day this week! It's your turn."

Another Example:

Customer: "I have been looking for this item for weeks!"

Shop Assistant: "That's great! We've had it in stock for a few days."

Correct the sentences below:

Look at the next page if you need help.

- I have finished my homework last night.
- They have visited the museum yesterday.
- We have seen that movie two weeks ago.
- I haven't bought the tickets last week.
- He has gone to the park last Saturday.
- She have finished her lunch before the meeting.
- I visited that new restaurant **already**. (before: "Let's go to that new restaurant!")
- She has write a letter to her friend.
- They has eaten dinner yet.
- We haven't spoke to him since the party.
- I have seen him yesterday.
- He has worked here two years ago.
- I am waiting for you for an hour.
- They have been playing soccer when it started raining.
- She have been studying since 9 AM yesterday.
- We have been finished our project for two weeks.
- I have been known him for a long time.
- He has been going to the gym every day last year.

The **Past Simple** is used for actions that were completed at a specific time in the past.

Common Time Expressions:

- Yesterday
- Last (week, year, night, etc.)
- In (2010, January, the 1990s, etc.)
- When
- A few days ago
- Two days ago
- Once
- In the past
- Then

Examples:

- I **visited** my grandmother **yesterday**.
- They **went** to the concert **last night**.
- We **lived** in New York **in 2015**.
- **When** I was a child, I **played** outside every day.
- I **saw** her **two days ago**.
- **Once**, we **travelled** to Paris.

The **Present Perfect Simple** is used to describe past completed actions that happened at an unspecified time in the past with a focus on the present outcome.

Common Time Expressions:

- Ever
- Never
- Just
- Already
- Yet
- Since
- For
- Recently
- Lately

Examples:

- Have you **ever** been to Japan?
- I have **never** seen that movie before.
- She has **just** finished her homework.
- He has **already** left the office.
- I haven't seen her **yet**.
- We have known each other **since** 2005.
- I have worked here **for** five years.
- I've been feeling sick **lately**.

The **Present Perfect Continuous** is used to describe actions that started in the past and are still continuing or have recently stopped, focusing on the **duration** or **continuity** of the action.

Common Time Expressions:

- For
- Since
- All day/week/month/year
- Lately
- Recently
- How long

Examples:

- I have been studying **for** three hours.
- She has been working at the company **since** 2010.
- They have been waiting **for** the bus **all day**.
- I have been feeling better **lately**.
- We have been playing football **recently**.
- **How long** have you been living here?

Exercise: Write a Diary Entry

Asking about the past because you have a present concern.

Hi Sarah. Have you seen Paul? He left his coat in my car this morning and I wish to return it.

I haven't talked to you since November. How have you been? Let's catch up.

I can take you to the cinema **or** the restaurant tonight. Have you eaten yet?

Asking about the past	(Unspoken) Present concern
Have you seen Paul?	I need to talk with him
How have you been?	I'm curious about your wellbeing lately
Have you eaten yet?	I am deciding if we should go to a restaurant

Asking about the past because you have a past concern.

Did you see Paul this morning? He looked very tired.

How were you yesterday? I know that you were sick the day before yesterday.

Tom: "Hi Mary. I woke up late this morning. I'm lucky that I wasn't late for work." **Mary:** "Oh, did you have time for breakfast?"

Asking about the past	(Unspoken) Past concern
Did you see Paul this morning ?	He looked very tired.
How were you yesterday ?	I know you were sick the day before yesterday
Did you have time for breakfast ?	I know you woke up late this morning.

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Talking about the past because you are having a present thought/feeling.

Speaking about the past	(Unspoken) Present thought/feeling
I have just finished my book	It's a personal accomplishment
I have driven you to work every day this week.	I'm angry because you won't drive me to work
She has called me 5 times today	I don't know why she called so many times
Kate has asked me that question too.	I understand your feelings on the matter.

Making a decision in the present.

Our neighbour has two children. One child is 5yo and the other child is 12yo. Today, the younger boy, Christopher, came to visit. We were eating sweets when he arrived. He asked if he could have a sweet also. I was not sure if he ate his dinner yet. I thought to myself "If he goes home with a belly full of sweets, his mother might be mad because he might not eat his dinner." So, I asked "Have you eaten your dinner yet?" . He said "Yes, I have eaten my dinner so I am allowed to eat sweets now."

- "Have you **eaten** your dinner yet?"

We ask about the past **because** the past event has consequences **for the present.**

1. If he didn't eat his dinner, then no sweets.
2. If he ate his dinner, then he can have sweets.

Past Action:

- He ate his dinner.

Present Consequence:

- He can have sweets.

Deciding if Lisa is available... [to do something].

Lisa and her mother, Tara, are at home. Tara is cooking dinner but she needs help setting the table. Lisa's father will be arriving home soon and Tara wants to have his dinner prepared. Tara is feeling a little stressed. She wants to ask Lisa for help setting the table but she does not want to interrupt her homework. She walks to the stairs and shouts up to Lisa "Have you finished your homework yet?". Lisa replies "Yes, I am finished now". Tara continues "Can you help me set the table for dinner? Your father will be home soon".

Have you **finished** your homework **yet?** (yet: expecting that it *has finished or will be finished soon*)

Yes, I am **finished** now.

What do I know about the **present** moment? Lisa is presently available.

Past Action:

- She finished her homework

Present Consequence:

- She is available to help her mother