

# 26 Activities in progress

Use the present perfect continuous to talk about ongoing activities in the past. Use "for" and "since" to talk about the length or starting point of an activity.

- New language** Present perfect continuous
- Aa Vocabulary** Home improvements
- New skill** Talking about activities in the past

## 26.1 KEY LANGUAGE THE PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

The present perfect continuous describes an activity that took place over a period of time in the recent past. The activity might just have stopped or might still be happening.

### PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

**I have been painting** the house all day. I'm exhausted!

The past activity often affects the present moment.



## 26.2 FURTHER EXAMPLES THE PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

"I have" can be shortened to "I've."

**I've been cooking** this evening.  
Now I have to do the dishes.



"He has" can be shortened to "He's."

**He's been waiting** for the bus for an hour.  
He is going to be late for work.



## 26.3 HOW TO FORM THE PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

SUBJECT	"HAS / HAVE"	"BEEN"	VERB + "-ING"	OBJECT
I	have	been	painting	the house.

Use "have" or "has," depending on the subject.

"Been" stays the same for all subjects.

Add "-ing" to the main verb.



## 26.4 FILL IN THE GAPS BY PUTTING THE VERBS IN THE PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

I have been cooking (cook) dinner all afternoon. I'm having a dinner party tonight.

- 1 They \_\_\_\_\_ (play) tennis this morning. Now they're very tired.
- 2 Tom \_\_\_\_\_ (fish) today. He's caught lots of fish.
- 3 We \_\_\_\_\_ (watch) TV all evening. Now it's time to go to bed.
- 4 Irina \_\_\_\_\_ (read) a book in the park. She says it's really good.
- 5 You \_\_\_\_\_ (clean) the apartment all day. It's time for a break.
- 6 I \_\_\_\_\_ (listen) to music on the way to work. It helps me relax.



Aa

## 26.5 READ THE ARTICLE AND MATCH THE PICTURES TO THE PHRASES

D.I.Y TODAY

### Creating a Home

George Howells and his family are almost ready to move into their new home. George tells DIY Today what everyone has been doing.

For the last week we have been **tiling the kitchen** and **putting up shelves**. My dad has also been **fixing the bathtub** and our eldest daughter has been **painting the bedroom**. In the living room our son has been **fitting a carpet** and my brother has been **making curtains**.

Everyone has been helping us so much that on Saturday we can move into the house a week early.



putting up shelves



fixing the bathtub



painting the bedroom



tiling the kitchen



fitting a carpet



making curtains



## 26.6 KEY LANGUAGE "FOR" AND "SINCE"

English uses "for" with the present perfect continuous to show the length of time that an action has taken. "Since" is used to show the starting point of the action.

"FOR" + QUANTITY OF TIME

**I have been painting the house for three hours.**

This means the speaker started painting three hours ago.

"SINCE" + TIME OR DATE

**I have been painting the house since 3 o'clock.**

This means the speaker started painting at 3pm.



## 26.7 FURTHER EXAMPLES "FOR" AND "SINCE"

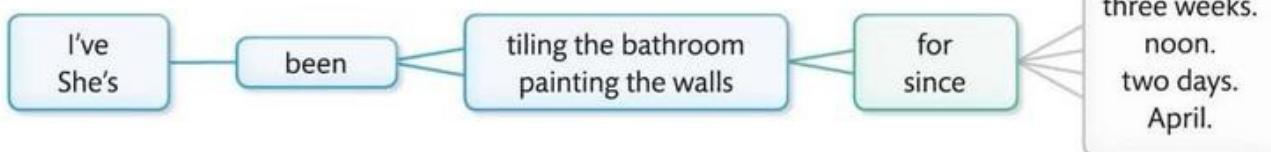
**He's been tiling the kitchen for a week.**

**He's been tiling the kitchen since last Wednesday.**



## 26.8 USE THE CHART TO CREATE 16 CORRECT SENTENCES AND SAY THEM OUT LOUD

*I've been tiling the bathroom for three weeks.*







## 26.9 FILL IN THE GAPS WITH "FOR" OR "SINCE"



He's been cleaning for five hours. His parents are visiting the apartment tonight.

1



It's been raining \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday morning. I hope the weather gets better soon!

2



You've been gardening \_\_\_\_\_ 9 o'clock. You should take a break.

3



I've been swimming \_\_\_\_\_ 20 minutes. I'm quite tired, but I'll keep going.

4



She's been baking \_\_\_\_\_ 11 o'clock this morning. We'll have lots of cookies to eat later.

5



He's been tiling the wall \_\_\_\_\_ three hours. I think it will be finished today.



## 26.10 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO AND WRITE HOW LONG THE ACTIVITY IN EACH PICTURE HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR



for three weeks

1



2



3



4



5

## 26 CHECKLIST



Present perfect continuous ☐



Home improvements ☐



Talking about activities in the past ☐