

# UNIT 7

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- **Present perfect**
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## Present perfect

The present perfect is a tense that is used to

- Express an action that started in the past and that continues up to the present

She has lived in Oxford for ten years

- Express a past action but with no time reference

I have done it

I have lost my mobile phone

This tense is formed by two verbs: the verb Have/has (present simple) + past participle

**Affirmative:** She **has sent** the email

**Interrogative:** **Have** you **seen** the match?

**Negative:** We **haven't done** it

**Short answers:** Yes, I **have**. / No, I **haven't**

Here are some adverbial phrases used with the present perfect: so far, up to now, until now, ever (in questions), never.

## For/Since

We normally use the present perfect to talk about the duration of an action with **how long** (in questions)

How long **have** you **lived** in Valencia? (¿Cuánto tiempo lleva en Valencia?)

After a sentence in the present perfect, we also use a sentence with **for** or **since**.

*For* is used to express a period of duration of the action:

I have worked here for 2 years (I still work here)

*Since* is used to express the moment when the action started:

I have worked here since 2020

### **Already/ just /yet**

In a sentence with the present perfect we also use some adverbs:

*Already* (=ya in Spanish) in affirmative sentences

I have **already** had dinner

*Just* (=acabo de in Spanish) in affirmative sentences

I have **just** finished my homework

*Yet* (=aún/todavía de in Spanish) in interrogative and negative sentences

Have you finished your report **yet**?

I haven't just finished my report **yet**

### **Ever / never**

Ever is used in questions with the present perfect to talk about an experience up to the present:

*Ever* (=alguna vez en tu vida in Spanish) in questions

Have you **ever** travelled by helicopter?

*Never* (=nunca in Spanish) in affirmative sentences

I have **never** travelled by helicopter

## **Present perfect vs past simple**

The present perfect is used to talk a past action that has a result in the present:

He's broken his leg (= his leg is still broken)

But if we say when the action occurred, we must use the past simple:

He broke his leg 2 years ago (= his leg is no longer broken)