

Present Perfect + Yet / Already / Just

The words already, yet, recently, lately, and just all refer to **a recent and non-specific time**. (A specific time would be "yesterday" or "three hours ago" or last Friday," and in these cases we would use the simple past).

Already and yet

Already can be used in positive statements and questions.

- "I've **already** read today's newspaper."
- "Have you **already** paid the electric bill?"
- "She's finished the test **already**."

Note: *Already* can go in between "have/has" and the past participle (as in the first two examples) or at the end of the sentence.

Yet can be used in negative statements and questions.

- "We haven't cleaned the house **yet**."
- "Has he told you the good news **yet**?"
- "Have they booked their tickets **yet**?"

Note: *Yet* usually goes at the end of the sentence or phrase.

Recently, lately, and just

Recently and lately can be used in positive statements, negative statements, or questions:

Recently

- "He's **recently** lost some weight."
- "I haven't seen her **recently**."
- "Have you spoken to Beth **recently**?"

Lately

- "I've gotten a lot of spam e-mails **lately**."
- "Adam and Jessica haven't been to church **lately**."
- "Have you seen any good movies **lately**?"

Just (usually means *very* recent) is typically only used in positive statements and questions:

- "Don't touch the walls. I've **just** painted them; they're still wet."
- "What book have you **just** finished reading?"

American English

Spoken American English often uses the **simple past** with already, yet, and just:

- "**Did** you **book** the tickets yet?"
(instead of "Have you booked...")
- "I already **replied** to the e-mail."
(instead of "I've already replied...")
- "We just **got** back from the gym."
(instead of "We've just got...")

Quiz: Present Perfect with ever, never, already, recently, lately, and just

Click here to take the quiz!

<http://www.espressoenglish.net/the-complete-guide-to-the-present-perfect-tense/#quizyet>