



Present Perfect Simple Tense

Grammar > Intermediate 6



Exercise 1 – Learning

In grammar, the word '**perfect**' means '**completed**'.

This tense is called **present perfect**, because it is made of:

1. the present tense of the helping verb '**have**'.
2. the perfect (completed) form of the main verb.

How to Form the Present Perfect Simple Tense

Positive form: **have/has + main verb (past participle)**

- I **have seen** this movie before. (I've **seen** this movie before.)
- You **have seen** this movie before. (You've **seen** this movie before.)
- He/She/It **has seen** this movie before. (He/She/It's **seen** this movie before.)
- We **have seen** this movie before. (We've **seen** this movie before.)
- They **have seen** this movie before. (They've **seen** this movie before.)



Tip: There is often an adverb between '**have/has**' and '**the main verb**'. For example: John **has** already **flown** on an airplane.

The verb '**be**' becomes '**have/has been**'.

- I **have been** there before.
- She **has been** there before.

Negative form: **have/has + not + main verb (past participle)**

- I **have not played** soccer before. (I **haven't played** soccer before.)
- She **has not played** soccer before. (She **hasn't played** soccer before.)

Interrogative form: '**the subject**' and '**have/has**' switch places

- **Have** I **missed** the bus?
- **Have** you **visited** London?
- **Has** it **been** cold this week?



Present Perfect Simple Tense Usage

In practice, the present perfect tense functions as a past tense, with the following differences:

1. Present Perfect Simple can be used for things that we still do and situations that still exist.

- We **lived** in France for 10 years. (*Past Simple - We don't live there anymore.*)
- We **have lived** in France for 10 years. (*Present Perfect Simple - We still live there.*)
- He **competed** in the Olympics three times. (*Past Simple - He has retired from the Olympics.*)
- He **has competed** in the Olympics three times. (*Present Perfect Simple - He still competes.*)

2. Present Perfect Simple focuses more on the result than on the action/state itself.

- They **lived** in London before moving to New York. (*Past Simple - Focus is on the state of living in London.*)
- They **have lived** in London before, so they know it well. (*Present Perfect Simple - Focus is on the results of living in London.*)



Since Present Perfect Simple can be used for things we still do and focuses on the result of those things, we **don't** use it for **specific points** in time:

- I **have worked** abroad before. (*Present Perfect Simple - correct*)
- I **worked** abroad last year. (*Past Simple - correct*)
- I **have worked** abroad last year. (*Present Perfect Simple - incorrect*)



Exercise 2 – Multiple Choice

Choose the correct answers to complete the sentences.

1. I _____ to that song 100 times since I bought it.

- a) listened
- b) have listened

2. I _____ to that song 100 times yesterday.

- a) listened
- b) have listened

3. He _____ a robber yesterday at the bank.

- a) saw
- b) has seen

4. He _____ that man before. He robbed their bank.

- a) saw
- b) has seen



5. You _____! Last time I saw you, you were just a baby.

- a) grew up
- b) have grown up

6. John _____ and became a doctor.

- a) grew up
- b) have grown up

7. _____ by plane to get there?

- a) Did he travel
- b) Has he travelled

8. _____ by plane before?

- a) Did he travel
- b) Has he travelled



Exercise 3 – Sentence Construction

Use what you learned in class to create sentences with your tutor.

Example: worry about my work. → I have not worried about my work.

Content:

1. face discrimination at work.
2. think about quitting.
3. work as a waiter.
4. work in this field.
5. rent a car.
6. go on a vacation.