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# 01 - Present continous

B)

I am doing someting = I'm in the middle of doing something; I've started doing it and I haven't finished yet.

Often the action is happening at the time of of speaking.

• Please don't make so much noise. I'm working.

• Let's go out now. It isn't raining any more. (not 'it doesn't rain')

• (at a party) Hello, Jane. Are you enjoying the party? (not 'do you enjoy')

• I'm tired. I'm going to bed now.

But the action is not necessarily happening at the time of speaking. For example:

Tom and Ann are talking in a cafe. Tom says:

• I'm reading an interesting book at the moment. I'll lend it to you when I've finished it.

Tom is not reading the book at the time of speaking. He means that he has started it but not finished yet. He is in the middle of reading it.

Some more examples:

• Catherine wants to work in Italy, so she is learning Italian.

• Some friends of mine are building their own house. They hope it will be finished before next summer.

C)

We use the present continous when we talk about things happening in a period around now (for example, today / this week / this evening etc.):

• You're working hard today. Yes, I have a lot to do. (not 'you work hard toady')

• Is Susan working this week? No, she's on holiday.

We use the present continous when we talk about changes happening around now:

• The population of the world is rising very fast. (not 'rises')

• Is your English getting better? (not 'does your English get better')

$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$

# 02 - Present simple

A)

Alex is a bus driver, but now he is in a bed asleep. So: He is not driving a bus. (He is asleep.) but He drives a bus. (He is a bus driver.)

B)

We use the present simple to talk about things in general. We are not thinking only about now. We use it to say that something happens all the time or repeatedly, or that something is true in general. It is not important whether the action is happening at the time of speaking.

• Nurses look after patients in hospitals.

• I usually go away at weekends.

• The earth goes round the sun.

C)

We use do/does to make questions and negative sentences.

• Where do you come from?

• I don't smoke.

• What does this word mean?

• Rice doesn't grow in cold climate.

In the following examples do is also the main verb:

• What do you do? (What's your job?) I work in a shop.

• He's so lazy. He doesn't do anything to help me.

D)

We use the present simple to say how often we do things:

• I get up at 8 o'clock every morning. (not I'm getting)

• How often do you go to the dentist?

• Ann doesn't drink tea very often.

• In summer John usually plays tennis once or twice a week.

E)

I promise / I apologise

Sometimes we do things by saying something. We use the present simple in sentences like this:

• I promise I won't be late.

What do you suggest I do? I suggest that you call him first.

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# 03 - Present continuous and present simple (1)

A)

\*\*I am doing(now)\*\*

The water is boiling. Can you turn it off.

Listen to those people. What language are they speaking?

Let's go out. It isn't rainning now.

What are you doing?

I'm going to bed now.

Maria is in Britain at the moment. She's learning English.

Use the continous for a temporary situation:

I'm living with some friends until I find a flat.

You're working hard today. Yes, I have a lot to do.

---------------------------

\*\*I do (past, now, future)\*\*

Water boils at 100 degree celsius.

Excuse me, do you speak English?

It dosen't rain very much in summer.

What do you usually do at weekends?

What do you do?

I always go to bed before midnight.

Most people learn to swim when they are children.

Use the simple for a permanent situation:

My parents live in London. They have lived there all their lives.

John isn't lazy. He works very hard most of the time.

B)

I always do something = I do it every time.

• I always go to work by car.

I'm always losing things = I lose things too often, more often than normal.

• You're always watching television.

• He's always complaining, never satisfied.

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# 04 - Present continuous and present simple (2)

A)

We use continous tenses only for actions and happenings (they're eating / it is raining). Some verbs (know, like) are not action verbs.

• I'm hungry. I want something to eat.

• Do you understand what I mean?

• Ann doesn't seem very happy at the moment.

• What do you think (= believe) will happen? (not what are you thinking?) but

• You look serious. What are you thinking about. (What's going on in your mind?)

• I'm thinking (considering) of giving up my job.

• We have (possess) a nice room in the hotel. but

• We're having a great time.

B)

We normally use the present simple with these verbs:

• Do you see that man over there? (not are you seeing)

• This room smells. Let's open a window.

We often use can + see/hear/smell/taste:

• Listen! Can you hear something?

But you can use the continous with see (I'm seeing) when the meaning is having a meeting with:

• I'm seeing the manager tomorrow morning.

C)

He is selfish and He is being selfish

I'm being = I'm behaving / I'm acting.

• I can't understand why he's being so selfish. (behaving selfish at the moment. He isn't usually like that.)

• He is very selfish. (He is selfish generally, not only at the moment.)

D)

look and feel

• You look well today. or You're looking well today.

• How do you feel now? or How are you feeling now? but

• I usually feel tired in the morning. (not I'm usually feeling)

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# 05 - Past simple

A)

Mozart was an Austrian musician and composer. He lived from 1756 to 1791. He started composing at the age of five and wrote more than 600 pieces of music. He was only 35 years old when he died.

C)

• Did you go out last night?

• Yes, I went to the cinema but I didn't enjoy the film much.

• When did Mr. Thomas die? About ten years ago.

• They didn't invite her to the party, so she didn't go.

• Did you have time to write the letter? No, I didn't.

D)

• I was angry because they were late.

• Was the weather good when you were on holiday?

• They weren't able to come because they were so busy.

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# 06 - Past continous

B)

We use the past continous to say that somebody was in the middle of doing someting at a certain time.

• This time last year I was living in Brazil.

• What were you doing at 10 o'clock last night?

• I waved to her but she wasn't looking.

C)

Compare the past continous and past simple:

• I was walking home when I met Dave.

• I walked home after the party last night.

• Ann was watching televsion when the phone rang.

• Ann watched television a lot when she was ill last year.

D)

We often use the past simple and the past continous together to say that something happened in the middle of something else.

• Tom burnt his hand when he was cooking the dinner.

• I saw you in the park yesterday. You were sitting on the grass and reading a book.

• While I was working in the garden, I hurt my back.

But we use the past simple to say that one thing happened after another:

• I was walking along the road when I saw Dave. So I stopped and we had a chat.

Compare:

• When Karen arrived, we were having dinner.

• When Karen arrived, we had dinner.

E)

There are some verbs that are not normally used in the continous:

• We were good friends. We knew each other well.

• I was enjoying the party but Chris wanted to go home.

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# 07 - Present perfect(1)

I have done

A)

• Tom is looking for his key. He can't find it.

• He has lost his key. = He lost it and he still hasn't got it.

B)

When we use the present perfect there is always a connection with now. The action in the past has a result now:

• Where's your key? I don't know. I've lost it. (I haven't got it now.)

• He told me his name but I've forgotten it. (I can't remember it now.)

• Is Sally here? No, she's gone out. (She is out now.)

• I can't find my bag. Have you seen it?

We often use the present perfect to give new information or to announce a recent happening:

• Ow! I've cut my finger.

• The road is closed. There's been (= there has been) an accident.

• (from the news) The police have arrested two men in connection with the robbery.

C)

You can use the present perfect with just, already and yet.

Just = a short time ago

• Would you like something to eat? No, thanks. I've just had lunch.

• Hello. Have you just arrived?

We use already to say that something happened sooner than expected.

• Don't forget to post the letter, will you? I've already posted it.

• What time is Mark leaving? He's already gone.

Yet = 'until now' and shows that the speaker is expecting something to happen. Use yet only in questions and negative sentences.

• Has it stopped raining yet?

• I've written the letter but I haven't posted it yet.

D)

Note the difference between gone (to) and been (to)

• Jim is always on holiday. He has gone to Spain. (= he is there now or on his way there)

• Jane is back home from holiday now. She has been to Italy. (= she has now come back from Italy)

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# 08 - Present perfect(2)

I have done

A)

• Have you travelled a lot, Jane?

• Yes, I've been to lots of places.

• Really? Have you ever been to China?

• Yes, I've been to China twice.

• What about India?

When we talk about a period of time that continues from the past until now, we use the present perfect.

• Have you ever eaten caviar(鱼子酱)? (in your life)

• We've never had a car.

• Have you read Hamlet? No, I haven't read any of Shakespears' plays.

• Susan really loves that film. She's seen it eight times.

• What a boring film! It's the most boring film I've ever seen.

In the following examples too the speakers are talking about a period that continues until now:

• Have you heard from George recently?

• I've met a lot of people in the last few days.

• Everything is going well. We haven't had any problem so far.

• I'm hungry. I haven't eaten anything since breakfast. (from breakfast until now)

• It's nice to see you again. We haven't seen each other for a long time.

B)

We use the present perfect with today / this morning / this evening etc. when these periods are not finished at the time of speaking.

• I've drunk four cups of coffee today. (perhaps I'll drink more before today is finished)

• Have you had a holiday this year (yet)?

• I haven't seen Tom this morning. Have you?

• Ron hasn't worked very hard this term.

C)

Note that we say 'It's the first time something has happened'.

• It's the first time he has driven a car.

• He has never driven a car before.

• Linda has lost her passport again. It's the second time this has happened.

• This is a lovely meal. It's the first good meal I've had for ages.

• Bill is phoning his girlfriend again. That's the third time he's phoned her this evening.

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# 09 - Present perfect continuous

I have been doing

A)

• Is it raining now?

• No, but the ground is wet.

• It has been raining.

We use the present perfect continues for an activity that has recently stopped or just stopped. There is a connection with now.

• You're out of breath. Have you been running?

• Paul is very tired. He's been working very hard.

• Why are your clothes so dirty? What have you been doing?

• I've been talking to Carol about the problem and she thinks that…

B)

It has been raining for two hours. It is raining now. It began raining two hours ago and it is still raining.

• How long has it been raining?

• It has been raining for two hours.

The activity is still happening or has just stopped.

• How long have you been learning English? (You're still learning English.)

• Tim is still watching television. He's been watching television all day.

• Where have you been? I've been looking for you for the last half hour.

• George hasn't been feeling well recently.

You can use the present perfect continuous for action repeated over a period of time:

• Debbie is a very good tennis player. She's been playing since she was eight.

• Every morning they meet in the same café. They've been going there for years.

C)

Compare I am doing and I have been doing:

• Don't disturb me now. I'm working.

• I've been working hard, so now I'm going to have a rest.

• We need an umbrella. It's raining.

• The ground is wet. It's been raining.

• Harry up! We're waiting.

• We've been waiting for an hour.

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# 10 - Present perfect continuous and simple

I have been doing & I have done

A)

Ann's clothes are covered in paint. She has been painting the ceiling.

Has been painting is the present perfect continuous.

We are interested in the activity. It does not matter whether something has been finished or not. In the example, the activity has not been finished.

The ceiling was white. Now it is blue. She has painted the ceiling.

Has painted is the present perfect simple.

Here, the important thing is that something has been finished. 'Has painted' is a completed action. We are interested in the result of the activity (the painted ceiling), not in the activity itself.

Compare these examples:

• My hands are very dirty. I've been repairing the car.

• The car is OK again now. I've repaired it.

• She's been smoking too much recently. She should smoke less.

• Somebody has smoked all my cigarettes. The packet is empty.

• It's nice to see you again. What have you been doing since we last met?

• Where's the book I gave you? What have you done with it?

• Where have you been? Have you been playing tennis?

• Have you ever played tennis?

B)

We use the continuous to ask or say how long (for an activity that is still happening):

• How long have you been reading that book?

• Mary is still writing letters. She's been writing letters all day.

• They've been playing tennis since 2 o'clock.

We use the simple to ask or say how much, how many or how many times (completed actions):

• How many pages of that book have you read?

• Mary has written ten letters today.

• They've played tennis three times this week.

C)

There are some verbs (for example, know / like / believe ) that are normally not used in the continuous:

• I've known about it for a long time. (not I've been knowing)

See Unit 4A.

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# 11 - How long have you (been)…?

A)

Bob and Alice are married. They got married exactly 20 years ago, so today is their 20th wedding anniversary. They have been married for 20 years.

We say:

• They are married. (present)

• How long have they been married? (present perfect)

(not How long are they married?)

• They have been married for 20 years.

(not They are married for 20 years.)

We use present perfect to talk about something that began in the past and still continues now. Compare the present and the present perfect:

• Ann is in hospital.

• She has been in hospital since Monday.

• We know each other very well.

• We have known each other for a long time. (not we know)

• Are you waiting for somebody? How long have you been waiting?

B)

I have been doing something = I started doing something in the past and I am still doing it (or have just stopped).

• I've been learning English for a long time.

• Sorry I'm late. Have you been waiting long?

• It's been raining since I got up this morning.

The action can be a repeated action:

• How long have you been driving? Since I was 17.

C)

I have done (simple) or I have been doing (continuous)

The continuous is more usual with how long, since and for (See also Unit 10B):

• I've been learning English for a long time.

You can normally use either the continuous or simple with live and work:

• John has been living / has lived in London for a long time.

• How long have you been working / have you worked here?

But we use the simple with always:

• John has always lived in London. (not has always been living)

You can use the continuous or the simple for action repeated over a long period:

• I've been collecting / I've collected stamps since I was a child.

Some verbs (for example, know / like / believe) are not normally used in the continuous:

• How long have you known Jane?

• I've had a pain in my stomach since I got up this morning.

See Unit 4A and Unit 17.

D)

We use the present perfect simple in negative sentences like these:

• I haven't seen Tom since Monday. (= Monday was the last time I saw him.)

• Jane hasn't phone me for two weeks. (The last time she phoned me was two weeks ago.)

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# 12 - When…? and How long…?, For and since

A)

Compare When…?(+ past simple) and How long...?(+ present perfect):

A: When did it start raining?

B: It started raining an hour ago / at 1 o'clock.

A: How long has it been raining?

B: It's been raining for an hour / since 1 o'clock.

A: How long have Joe and Carol known each other?

B: They've know each other for a long time / since they were at school.

B)

We use both for and since to say how long something has been happening.

We use for when we say a period of time:

• I've been waiting for two hours.

• Sally's been working here for six months.

• I have't seen Tom for three days.

We use since when we say the start of a period.

• I've been waiting since 8 o'clock.

• Sally's been working here since April.

• I haven't seen Tom since Monday.

It's possible to leave out for (but not usually in negative sentences):

• They've been married (for) ten years.

• They haven't had a holiday for ten years. (you must use for)

We don't use for + all ... (all day / all my life)

• I've lived here all my life. (not for all my life)

C)

We say It's (a long time / two years) since something happened:

• It's two years since I last saw Joe. (= I haven't seen Joe for two years / the last time I saw Joe was two years ago)

• It's ages since we went to the cinema. (We haven't been to the cinema for ages)

The question is How long is it since...?

• How long is it since you last saw Joe? (= When did you last saw Joe?)

• How long is it since Mrs Hill died? (= When did Mrs Hill die?)

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# 13 - Present perfect and past (1)

I have done & I did (1)

A)

Tom is looking for his key. He can't find it.

• He has lost his key. (present perfect)

This means that he hasn't have his key now. But ten minutes later...Now Tom has found his key. He has it now.

• Has he lost his key? (present perfect)

• No, he hasn't. He has found it.

• Did he lose his key? (past simple)

• Yes, he did.

• He lost his key. (past simple)

• But now he has found it. (present perfect)

The present perfect is a perfect tense. It always tells us something about now. Tom has lost his key. = Tom doesn't have his key now.

The past simple tells us only about the past. If somebody says 'Tom lost his key', we don't know whether he has it or not. We only know that he lost it at some time in the past.

Two more examples:

• Jack grew a beard but now he has shaved it off. (So he doesn't have a beard now.)

• They went out after lunch and they've just come back. (So they are back now.)

B)

Do not use the present perfect if there is no connection with the present, for example, things that happened a long time ago.

• The Chinese invented printing. (not 'have invented')

• How many plays did Shakespeare write? (not 'has Shakespeare written')

• Beethoven was a great composer. (not 'has been')

Compare:

• Shakespeare wrote many plays.

• My sister is a writer. She has written many books. (She still writes books.)

C)

We use the present prefect to give new information. (see Unit 7). But if we continue to talk about it, we normally use the past simple:

A: Ow! I've hurt myself.

B: How did you do that. (not 'have you done')

A: I picked up a hot dish. (not 'have picked')

A: Look! Somebody has spilt milk on the carpet.

B: Well, it wasn't me. I didn't do it.

A: I wonder who it was then.

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# 14 - Present perfect and past (2)

I have done & I did (2)

A)

Do not use the present perfect (I have done) when you talk about a finished time (yesterday / ten minutes ago / in 1985 /when I was a child). Use a past tense.

• The weather was nice yesterday. (not has been nice)

• They arrived ten minutes ago. (not have arrived)

• I ate a lot of sweets when I was a child. (not have eaten)

• A: Did you see the news on television last night? (not have you seen)

B: No, I went to bed early. (not have gone)

Use a past tense to ask When..? or What time…?

• When did they arrived? (not have they arrived?)

• What time did you finish work?

Compare:

• Tom has lost his key. He can't get into the house.

Here, we are not thinking of the past action. We are thinking of the present result of the action: Tom doesn't have his key now.

• Tom lost his key yesterday. He couldn't get into the house.

Here, we are thinking of the action in the past. We don't know from this sentence whether Tom has his key now.

B)

Compare present perfect and past:

• I've done a lot of work today.

We use the present perfect for a period of time that continues from the past until now. For example, today, this week, since 1985.

• I did a lot of work yesterday.

We use the past simple for a finished time in the past. For example, yesterday, last week, from 1985 to 1991.

• It hasn't rained this week.

• It didn't rain last week.

• Have you seen Ann this morning? (It is still morning.)

• Did you see Ann this morning? (It is now afternoon or evening.)

• Have you seen Ann recently?

• Did you see Ann on Sunday?

• I don't know where Ann is. I haven't seen her.

• A: Was Ann at the party on Sunday?

• B: I don't think so. I didn't see her.

• We've been waiting for an hour. (We are still waiting now.)

• We waited (or were waiting) for an hour. (We are no longer waiting.)

• Ian lives in London. He has lived there for seven years.

• Ian lived in Scotland for ten years. Now he lives in London.

• I have never played golf. (in my life)

• I didn't play golf when I was on holiday last summer.

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# 15 - Past perfect

A)

Sarah went to a party last week. Paul went to the party too but they didn't see each other. Paul went home at 10.30 and Sarah arrived at 11 o'clock. So:

When Sarah arrived at the party, Paul wasn't there. He had gone home.

The past perfect simple is had + past participle (gone/seen/finished etc.).

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# 16 - Past perfect continuous

I have been doing

Yesterday morning I got up and looked out of the window. The sun was shining but the ground was very wet. It had been raining before.

When the boys came into the house, their clothes were dirty, their hair was untidy and one of them had a black eye. They had been fighting.

I was very tired when I arrived home. I'd been working hard all day.

B)

You can say that something had been happening for a period of time before something else happened:

• Our game of tennis was interrupted. We'd been playing for about half an hour when it started to rain very heavily.

• Ken gave up smoking two years ago. He'd been smoking for 30 years.

C

Had been -ing is the past of have been -ing.

• I hope the bus comes soon. I've been waiting for 20 minutes.

• At last the bus came. I'd been waiting for 20 minutes.

• He's out of breath. He has been running.

• He was out of breath. He had been running.

D)

• Ann was sitting in an armchair watching television. She was tired because she'd been working very hard.

E)

Some verbs are not normally used in the continuous.

• We were good friends. We had known each other for years. (not 'had been knowing')

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# 17 - Have and have got

\*PRESENT\*

Positives have got has got

Negatives haven't got hasn't got

Questions Have/Has … got …?

\*PRESENT\*

Positives have has

Negatives don't have doesn't have

Questions Do/Does … have …?

\*PAST\*

Positives … had …

Negatives … didn't have …

Questions Did … have …?

have got + 物品 => 拥有

have got + 疾病 => 患病

• 一般时中多用 have got

• 过去时中只用 had

• We've got a new car.

• I've got a headache.

• I've got some sandwiches. Would you like one?

• I haven't got any money.

• She hasn't got a car.

• Ann had long hair when she was a child.

• Did they have a car when they were living in London?

• I didn't have a watch, so I didn't know the time.

Have + 动作 / 体验 / 食物

have breakfast / dinner / a cup of tea / a cigarette

have a bath / a shower / a swim / a rest / a party / a holiday / a nice time

have an accident / an experience / a dream

have a look (at something) / a chat (with somebody)

have a baby = give birth to a baby

have difficulty / trouble / fun

• I hope you have a good time.

• Mary had a baby recently.

• I usually have a sandwich for my lunch.

• She says she's having a wonderful time.

• The phone rang while we were having dinner.

• I don't usually have a big breakfast.

• Did you have any difficulty finding somewhere to live?

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