

GRAMMAR

# The present perfect

**LEVEL**

Elementary (A2)

**NUMBER**

EN\_A2\_2033G

**LANGUAGE**

English



## Learning outcomes

- I can form the present perfect correctly and use it in a sentence.
- I can give some common irregular past participles.



# Present perfect

- We use the **present perfect** for **events in the past** that connect to the **present**.



**I've lost my keys!**  
(= I can't find them *now*)

**She's broken her arm!**  
(= Her arm is broken *now*)





# Forming the present perfect

- We form the present perfect with **have** + past participle.

Subject	<i>have or has</i>	<i>not</i>	Past participle
I	have	not	played
You	have		cleaned
He, she, it	has		finished
We	have		started
They	have		returned



# Past participle

- For regular verbs, the **past participle** is the same as the past simple form (**-ed**).

Verb	Past participle
clean	<b>cleaned</b>
visit	<b>visited</b>
finish	<b>finished</b>
start	<b>started</b>



# Irregular past participles

- For some irregular verbs, the **past participle** is the same as the **past simple** form.
- Remember these forms do **not** end in -ed.

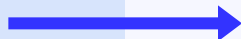
Verb	Past participle
have	had
buy	bought
meet	met
find	found
think	thought
lose	lost



# Question form

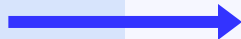
- We form questions by swapping **have** and the **subject**:

I have played



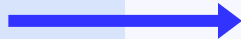
Have I played?

You have cleaned



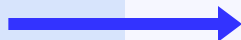
Have you cleaned?

He / she / it has finished



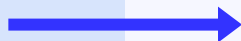
Has he / she / it finished?

We have started



Have we started?

They have returned



Have they returned?



We answer with short answers:  
e.g. **Yes, I have** or **No, I haven't**



# Write the past participles

watch

play

listen

study

learn

visit

think

meet

travel





# Fill in the gaps

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ (*visit*) London.
2. You \_\_\_\_\_ (*close*) the door.
3. He \_\_\_\_\_ (*cook*) dinner for us.
4. She \_\_\_\_\_ (*print*) her homework.
5. They \_\_\_\_\_ (*prepare*) a presentation.
6. It \_\_\_\_\_ (*stop*) raining!
7. \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (*finish*) talking?
8. We \_\_\_\_\_ (*return*) from our trip.



# Make the sentences negative

1 I have visited London.



I **haven't** visited London.

2 You have closed the door.



3 He has cooked dinner for us.



4 We have returned from our trip.



5 They have prepared a presentation.



6 It has stopped raining!





## About you

**What are three things you have done today?**

**Write your answers using the present perfect.**





# Irregular past participles

- For some irregular verbs, the **past participle** is different from the past simple form.

Verb	Past participle
be	been
do	done
go	gone
eat	eaten
write	written
see	seen



# Categorise

Regular  
past participle

Irregular  
past participle

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watch

win

do

find

go

close

lose

see

be

open



# Choose one verb from each row

**Write** a sentence with each using the present perfect.



be

go

do

eat

write

see

watch

play

open

# ” Talking about experiences

- We often use the **present perfect** to talk about **experiences**.
- For experiences, we often use words like **ever**, **before** and **never**.

## Question

## Answer

Have you **ever** read Pride and Prejudice?

Yes! I've read it twice.

Have you **ever** been to France?

No, I've **never** been there **before**.



Experiences are things **we've done** in our lifetime (up to now)



# I've been vs I've gone

- Be careful! **I've been** means *I went and I've come back*.
- **I've gone** means *I have left and I am there now*.



I've **gone** to the supermarket for some milk.

I've **been** to the supermarket. So, we've got milk now.







# Fill in the gaps



Tom

\_\_\_\_\_ (you / ever / see) *Avatar*?

Yes, \_\_\_\_\_ (I / see) it many times. I love that film!



Justin



Tom

Oh, really? \_\_\_\_\_ (I / never / see) it.

We should watch it together!



Justin



# Fill in the gaps



Susie

\_\_\_\_\_ (you / ever / make) your own bread before?

\_\_\_\_\_ (I / try), but \_\_\_\_\_ (I / never / have) much  
luck with it!



Susie

\_\_\_\_\_ (you / think) of buying one of those special  
machines?

\_\_\_\_\_ (I / look) for one online, but they're so expensive!



Fiona



Fiona

# Choose two experiences

Write a sentence about them using the present perfect.



go abroad



read a 'classic'



eat Thai food



go to a concert



work for charity

*I've been to a concert, but I've never eaten Thai food.*

*I've been abroad before but I've never read a classic novel.*



A 'classic' is an important piece of literature  
e.g. *Jane Eyre*!



# Have you ever...?

1. **Form** questions using the present perfect.
2. Take turns **asking** a classmate **in breakout rooms**.
3. **Share** one fun fact about your partner afterwards

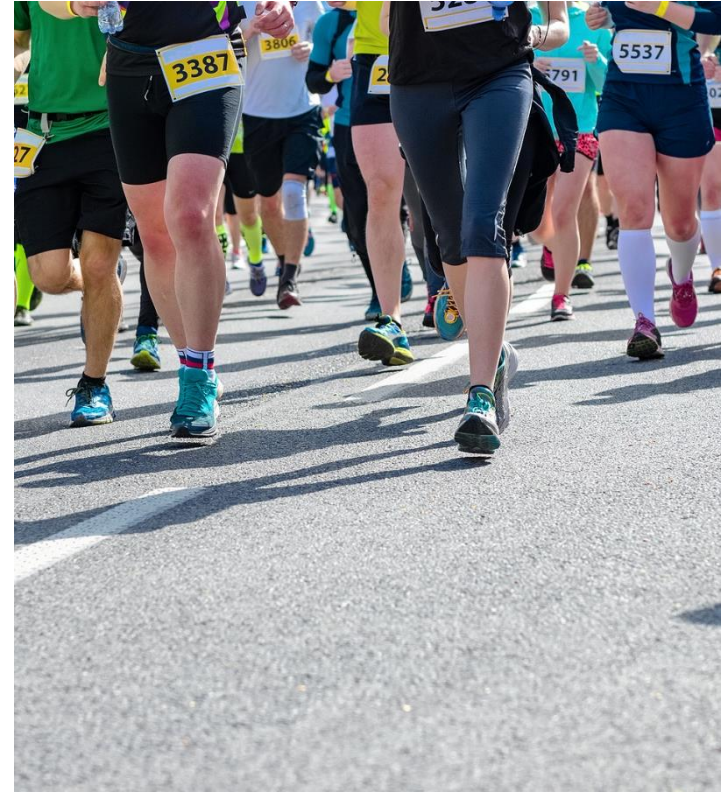
1 go / to Asia

2 eat / really spicy food

3 read / a book in a foreign language

4 run / a marathon

5 meet / a famous person





# End of the lesson

Idiom

***be dead and gone***

**Meaning:** to be dead (informal)

**Example:** You'll miss me when **I'm dead and gone!**



# Additional practice



# Match the sentences



**1** I have seen...

**2** You haven't met...

**3** He...

**4** They haven't...

**5** We have had...

**a** has come to every class.

**b** begun the journey yet.

**c** all of the James Bond movies.

**d** a great time!

**e** each other before.





# Form sentences with the present perfect

Use the verb in parentheses.

- 1 I \_\_\_\_\_ (*have*) a really stressful day at work today. I just want to relax!
- 2 He \_\_\_\_\_ (*text, not*) me all day. What is he doing?
- 3 We \_\_\_\_\_ (*lose*) our car keys. What a nightmare!
- 4 She \_\_\_\_\_ (*work*) for a lot of different companies.
- 5 My parents \_\_\_\_\_ (*meet, not*) my current partner.





**This month, I have...**



**Think about this month!**

**Write down five things you have done so far this month.**





# Answer key

- P. 8:** watched, played, listened, studied, learned (*or* learnt), visited, thought, met, travelled
- P. 9:**
1. have visited
  2. have closed
  3. has cooked
  4. has printed
  5. have prepared
  6. has stopped
  7. Have you finished
  8. have returned
- P. 10:**
2. You haven't closed...
  3. He hasn't cooked...
  4. We haven't returned...
  5. They haven't prepared...
  6. It hasn't stopped...



# Answer key

- P. 13:**      **Regular past participle:** watch - watched, close - closed, open - opened  
                 **Irregular past participle:** win - won, do - done, find - found, go - gone,  
                 lose - lost, see - seen, be - been
- P. 17:**      1. Have you ever seen?  
                 2. I've seen  
                 3. I've never seen.
- P. 18:**      1. Have you ever made  
                 2. I've tried, I've never had  
                 3. Have you ever thought  
                 4. I've looked
- P. 24:**      1. c, 2. e, 3. a, 4. b, 5. d
- P. 25:**      1. have had, 2. hasn't texted, 3. have lost, 4. has worked, 5. haven't met



# Summary

## Forming the present perfect

- We form the present perfect with **have/has** + **past participle** → *I have wanted*
- For regular verbs, the **past participle** is the same as the past simple form (**-ed**) → *clean - cleaned*
- We form questions by swapping **have** and the **subject**, → *Have you finished?*

## Irregular past participles

- For some irregular verbs, the **past participle** is the same as the **past simple** form.
- Remember these forms do **not** end in -ed: → *buy - bought - bought*
- For other irregular verbs, the **past participle** is different. → *do, did, done*

## Using the present perfect

- The **present perfect** connects an **event in the past** to the **present**
- The meaning is present → *I've lost my keys* = *I do not have my keys now.*

## Present perfect for experiences

- We often use the **present perfect** to talk about **experiences**.
- We often use words like **ever**, **before** and **never** → *I have never seen that film.*



# Vocabulary

been

done

gone

eaten

written

seen

