

GRAMMAR

Present perfect and past simple

LEVEL

Elementary (A2)

NUMBER

EN_A2_2073G

LANGUAGE

English



Learning outcomes

- I can determine when to use the present perfect and when to use the past simple.
- I can form the past participle and the past simple of some irregular verbs.





**Which city have
you always
wanted to visit?**

**Share your answer in breakout
rooms or together as a class!**



The past simple and the present perfect

- The **past simple** is used to talk about events that started and ended in the past.
- The **present perfect** is used to talk about events that started in the past and continue until today. It is formed with the verb **to have** and the **past participle** of the verb.

past simple

I **lived**

He **taught**

We **were**

She **saw**

present perfect

I **have lived**

He **has taught**

We **have been**

She **has seen**

The past simple and the present perfect

- With regular verbs, the past simple form and the past participle are usually the same and end in **-d**, **-ed**, or **-ied**.
- With irregular verbs, the past simple form and the past participle are usually different.

present	past simple	present perfect
I walk	I walked	I have walked
She plans	She planned	She has planned
We eat	We ate	We have eaten
He writes	He wrote	He has written



Past participles

What is the past participle of each verb below?

think

want

live

hear

be

run

teach

go

see



Fill in the gaps

1. **Fill in the gaps** with the correct form of one of the verbs in the pink box.
2. Then, **answer** the questions.

1 Have you ever _____ a film more than three times?

2 Have you ever _____ to Asia?

3 Have you ever _____ something and never used it?

4 Have you ever _____ someone famous?

5 Have you ever _____ a mountain?

be

climb

see

meet

buy

Adverbs with the present perfect

- Adverbs like **never**, **always**, or **already** usually come between the form of **to have** and the **past participle**.
- Use the word **yet** when you have not done something before. It usually goes after the whole verb.

I have

never

eaten meat.

She has

always

wanted to be a doctor.

We have

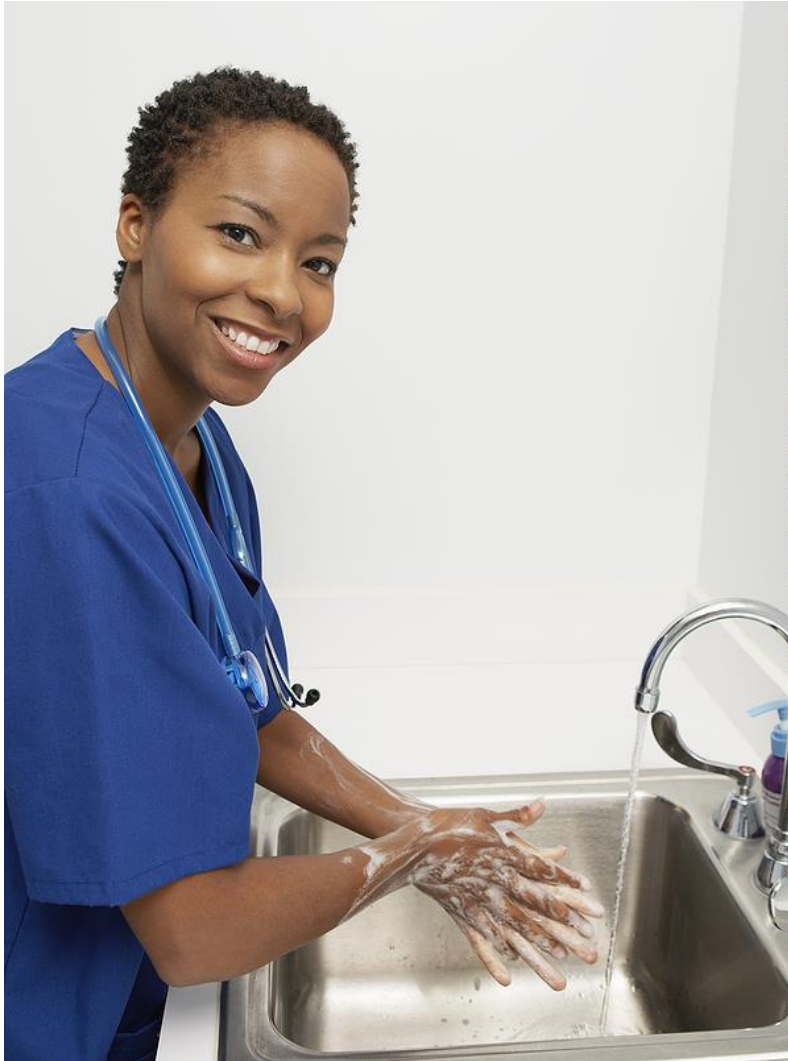
already

been to Spain.

They have not

seen that movie

yet.



I've **never ever** missed
a day of work!

Never ever is used to add extra emphasis
to **never**.

Adverbs with the present perfect

- To make a statement negative, use **have not** or **haven't** before the adverb.
- Again, **yet** can come at the end of a sentence or between **to have** and the **past participle**.

I haven't

You have not

They haven't

always

yet

been to the doctor

been good in school.

completed the homework.

yet.

Using *for* and *since* with the present perfect

- **For** is used for periods of time.
 - *For example:* ten days, one year, six weeks, three hours.
- **Since** is used to refer to a specific point in the past that has already ended and means that the action continues until today.
 - *For example:* yesterday, 1950, last week, last summer

I have lived in Vietnam

for

10 years.

I have lived in Vietnam

since

2020.

I have studied English

for

a long time.

I have studied English

since

I was a child



For or since?

Decide if you use ***for*** or ***since*** with the phrases below.

last April

two weeks

2018

three years

last March

I was a child

the beginning
of time

my whole life

I travelled to
Spain



Transform the sentences

Transform the sentences into the **present perfect tense**.

1 She wants to study art.



She has wanted to study art.

2 He thinks about getting a tutor.



3 He lives in America.



4 It rains here a lot.



5 I always listen to music.



6 I want to learn English.





What do you have in common?

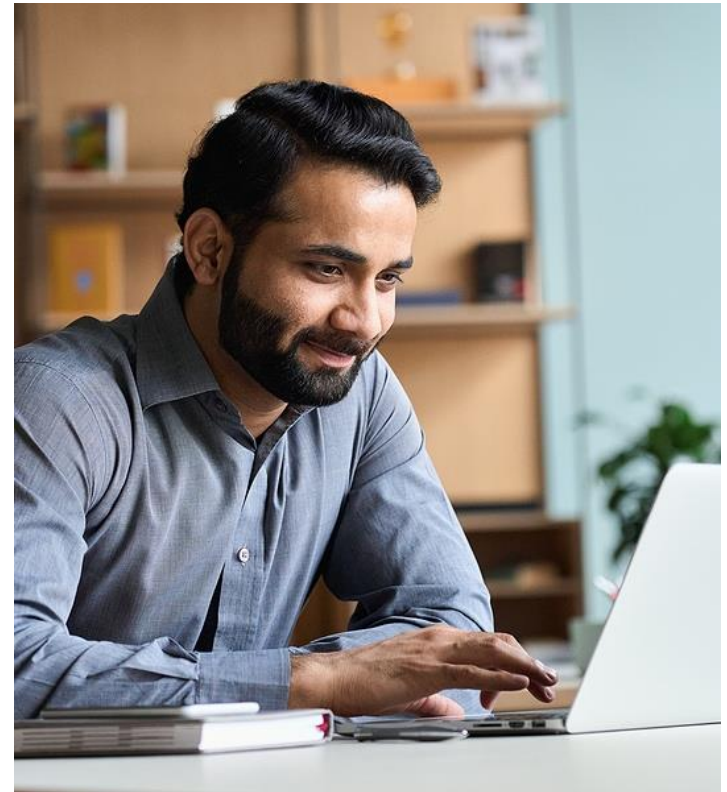
Try to find something you have in common with your classmates.

1. **Make questions** either in the present perfect or the past simple using the prompts below.
2. **Ask** some follow-up questions, too.
3. **Keep going** until you find three things you have in common.

1 you/travel/abroad/first time?

2 you/go/to/the United States?

3 you/eat/something weird?





End of the lesson

Idiom

can't make head nor tail of something

Meaning: unable to understand something

Example: I can't make head nor tail of these instructions!



Additional practice



The past simple and the present perfect

1. **Read** the text.
2. Then **answer** the question below.

I have lived in London my whole life. I love my city, but I wanted to travel more.

I have always been interested in India. A few years ago, I travelled there and met a new friend. Now, we have been friends for a long time.

Ahmed studied for a degree for three years, and recently he found a new job in England.



Can you find at least three examples of the past simple and the present perfect?



Discuss

Complete the prompt below.

**Using the text on
the previous page
as an example...**

**...tell your classmates a little
about yourself and one of your
friends.**



Unscramble the sentences



we

always

good

friends

have

been



I

her

a long time

known

have

for



Two truths and a lie

1. **Come up with** three statements using the phrases below.
2. **Two** of them should be true, and **one** false.
3. Your classmates will have to **guess** which is the false statement.

I have never...

I have always...

I have often...

I have rarely...





Answer key

P.6: thought, wanted, lived, heard, been, run, taught, gone, seen

P.7: 1.) seen 2.) been 3.) bought 4.) met 5.) climbed

P. 12:

Since: last April, 2018, last March, I was a child, the beginning of time, I travelled to Spain

For: two weeks, three years

P.13: 2.) He has thought about getting a tutor.

3.) He has lived in America.

4.) It has rained here a lot.

5.) I have always listened to music.

6.) I have wanted to learn English.

P.18: *Present perfect examples:* I have lived in London.; I have always been interested...; We have been friends for a long time.

Past simple examples: I wanted to travel more; I travelled there and met a new friend; Ahmed studied...; he found a new job.

P.20: We have always been good friends; I have known her for a long time



Summary

Past simple vs present perfect

- The **past simple** is used to talk about events that started and ended in the past, e.g. *I lived*
- The **present perfect** is used to talk about events that started in the past and continue until today. It is formed with the verb **to have** and the **past participle** of the verb, e.g. *I have lived*

Past forms

- With regular verbs, the past simple form and the past participle are usually the same and end in **-d, -ed, or -ied**, e.g. *I walked – I have walked*
- With irregular verbs, the past simple form and the past participle are usually different, e.g. *I ate – I have eaten*

Adverbs with the present perfect

- Adverbs like **never, always, or already** usually come between the form of **to have** and the **past participle**, e.g. *I have never been to Greece.*
- Use the word **yet** when you have not done something before. It usually goes after the whole verb or at the end of a sentence, e.g. *They haven't seen that film yet.*

Reviewing *for* and *since*

- **For** is used for periods of time, e.g. *I have been here **for** ten days / one year / six weeks / three hours.*
- **Since** is used to refer to a specific point in the past that has already ended and means that the action continues until today, e.g. *I have been here **since** yesterday / last week / last summer / 2020.*



Vocabulary

taught

seen

written

to climb

to complete

