

GRAMMAR

More on the present perfect tense

LEVEL

Elementary (A2)

NUMBER

EN_A2_2043G

LANGUAGE

English



Learning outcomes

- I can explain the uses of the present perfect and apply this to a simple conversation.
- I can form simple sentences using the present perfect with 'for' and 'since'.



Warm-up

**Have you ever
been to an English-
speaking country?**

**Share your answer with the
rest of the class!**



The present perfect

1. **Read** the examples. 2. **Review** the information in the blue box below.

I **have been** to India.

Have you seen that movie?

She **hasn't visited** us recently.

- The **present perfect** is used to indicate **a link** between the **present** and the **past**.
- The time of the action is **before now but not specified**, and we are often more interested in the **result** than in the action itself.





Forming the present perfect

- Use the appropriate form of the auxiliary verb **to have** and the **past participle** of the main verb to form the **present perfect**.

| subject | auxiliary verb | past participle |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| I | have | been |
| you | have | visited |
| he, she, it | has | done |
| we | have | lived |
| you | have | met |
| they | have | seen |



Negatives

- Put **not** after **have** and before the **past participle** to form the **negative** of the present perfect tense.
- Form a contraction by joining the appropriate form of the **auxiliary verb** and **not**: **haven't, hasn't**.

| positive | negative |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| I have been | I have not been |
| He has visited | He has not visited |
| I have done | I haven't done |
| We have lived | We haven't lived |



Questions

- Put the appropriate form of the auxiliary verb **have** at the beginning of a question, followed by the **subject** and **past participle**.

| auxiliary verb | subject | past participle |
|----------------|---------|-----------------|
| Have | you | been...? |
| Has | he | met...? |
| Has | she | studied...? |
| Have | they | lived...? |



Irregular past participles

- Remember that the **past participle** of some verbs is **irregular**.

| infinitive | past participle |
|------------|-----------------|
| be | been |
| have | had |
| know | known |
| eat | eaten |



Create a sentence or a question

Use the words below in a sentence or a question.

been

eaten

known

seen





Find the odd one out

Answer the questions in the yellow box.

**Which sentence below is the odd one out?
Why?**



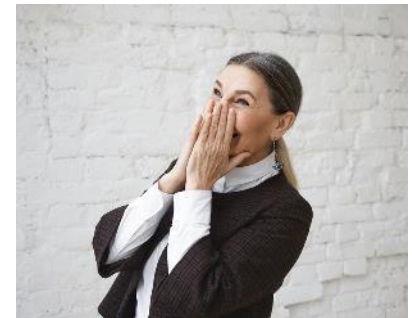
I have been to Argentina.



I have eaten a lot today.



I went to the cinema last night.



I have had a great week!

Fill in the gaps

Complete the questions. Then **answer** them!

1. Have you _____ (be) to the cinema this month?
2. Have you ever _____ (see) a band in concert?
3. How long _____ you _____ (know) your best friend?
4. _____ you ever _____ (lose) something important?
5. _____ you _____ (choose) a vacation spot for next year?
6. _____ you ever _____ (change) your appearance dramatically?
7. _____ you ever _____ (ride) a motorbike?
8. _____ you ever _____ (eat) really spicy food?



When to use the present perfect

1. **Read** the examples.
2. **Review** the information in the blue box below.

She has been to the cinema twice this week (the week is not over).

We have *just* come back from Tokyo.

- There are several uses for the **present perfect tense**.
- We can use it to describe an action performed during a period of time that has **not yet finished**.
- We can also use it to describe actions completed in the **very recent past** (with **just**).
- **Just** comes before the past participle.



Discuss

Answer the question below.

**What is something
that you've just
done?**

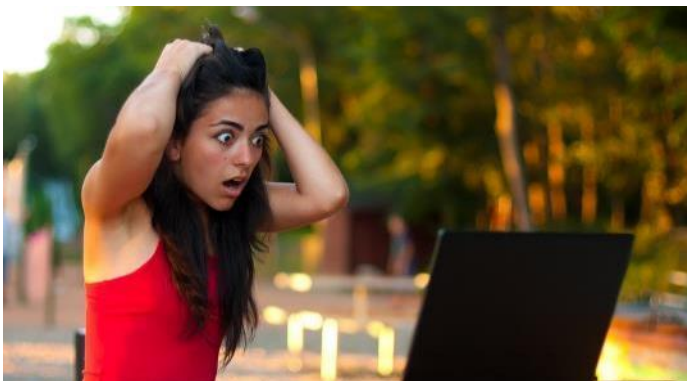
**Share your answer with the
rest of the class!**





What has just happened?

1. **Look** at the pictures. 2. **Talk about** what has just happened in them!





How many times have you...

In breakout rooms or together as a class, **answer** at least **three** of the questions below.

...eaten at a
restaurant this
week?

...been
abroad?

...watched a
movie at the
cinema this
month?

...studied
English this
week?

...been for a
walk in the last
three days?

...had a
meeting at
work this
week?

For and since

- Use **for** and **since** with the **present perfect** to talk about **how long** you have done something
- Use **for** to talk about **a period of time** (one week, six months, five years)
- Use **since** to talk about **a particular time** (2005, last year, last winter)

for

I have studied English **for** three years.

You have been here **for** one month.

She has worked there **for** two years.

We have known each other **for** ten years.

since

I have studied English **since** 2021.

You have been here **since** last month.

She has worked there **since** she was 25.

We have known each other **since** we were teenagers.



Categorise

Categorise the words and phrases into one of the pink boxes below.



1

one week

2

last year

3

2005

4

ten years

5

a long time

6

I was a teenager

7

four months

8

yesterday

9

my birthday

for

since



How long have you...

Ask a classmate at least 3 questions!

...lived in your
current city?

...owned your
mobile
phone?

...known your
neighbours?

...lived in your
apartment or
house?

...been taking
classes at
Lingoda?

...worked at
your current
job?

...had your
favourite item
of clothing?

...studied
English?

...known your
best friend?

...played your
favourite
sport?





End of the lesson

Idiom

have seen better days

Meaning: to be in poor condition

Example: Our old car **has** certainly **seen better days!**



Additional practice



Transform the sentences

Transform the sentences so that they are negative.



1 I have been to Hawaii.



I have not been to Hawaii.

2 I have eaten today.



3 She has driven to work.



4 He has made a reservation at the restaurant.



5 We have planned our next holiday.



6 You have studied for two hours.





Categorise

Categorise the words and phrases below into one of the pink boxes below.



- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 last summer | 2 25 years | 3 3 minutes |
| 4 2021 | 5 April | 6 this morning |
| 7 2 weeks | 8 last night | 9 two summers |

for

since



Complete the sentences

Complete the sentences with your own ideas.



I have just...

I have not yet...

I have taken classes at Lingoda for...

I have lived in _____ since...



Answer key

P.10: *I went to the cinema last night* is the odd one out—it is in the past simple tense, not the present perfect tense.

P.11: 1.) been 2.) seen 3.) have known 4.) have, lost 5.) have, chosen 6.) have, changed 7.) have, ridden 8.) have, eaten

P.17:

For: 1, 4, 5, 7

Since: 2, 3, 6, 8, 9

P.21:

2.) I have not eaten today

3.) She has not driven to work.

4.) He has not made a reservation at the restaurant.

5.) We have not planned our next holiday.

6.) You have not studied for two hours.

P.22:

For: 2, 3, 7, 9

Since: 1, 4, 5, 6, 8



Summary

Reviewing the present perfect

- The **present perfect** is used to indicate **a link** between the **present** and an event in the **past**.
- It happened **before now**, but the time **is not specified**. We are more interested in the **result**.

Reviewing how to form the present perfect

- Use the auxiliary verb **to have** and the **past participle** of the main verb → *I have eaten*
- Put **not** after **have** and before the **past participle** to form the **negative**, → *I have **not** been...*
- Invert **have** and the **subject** to form a question → *Have you heard?*

Uses of the present perfect

- To describe an action performed during an unfinished period of time → *I've seen her twice this week.*
- To describe actions completed in the **very recent past** (with **just**).
- **Just** comes before the past participle → *We have just been to Tokyo.*

For and since

- Use **for** and **since** with the **present perfect** to talk about **how long** you have done something
- Use **for** to talk about **a period of time** → *I've been here **for an hour**.*
- Use **since** to talk about **a particular time** → *I've been here **since 2 o'clock**.*



Vocabulary

been

had

known

eaten

spicy

