

## 4. Talk about work experience

### Present Perfect

*Structure:*

Pronoun + have/has + verb in past participle + complement

Luisa Maria has **been** my friend for three years

Present perfect: irregular verbs			
Base form	Past participle	Base form	Past participle
be	been	make	made
become	become	meet	met
buy	bought	pay	paid
catch	caught	put	put
come	came	read	read
cost	cost	ride	ridden
cry	cried	run	run
cut	cut	say	said
do	done	see	seen
drink	drunk	sell	sold
drive	driven	send	sent
eat	eaten	sit	sat
feel	felt	sleep	slept
find	found	speak	spoken
fly	flown	spend	spent
forget	forgotten	stand	stood
get	gotten	steal	stolen
give	given	swim	swum
go	gone	take	taken
have	had	teach	taught
hear	heard	think	thought
hit	hit	try	tried
hold	held	wake	woken
hurt	hurt	wear	worn
know	known	win	won
leave	left	write	written
lose	lost		

Become (present), became (past), become (past participle)

Drink (present), drank (past), drunk (past participle)

Zenith  
Seen it

### Present perfect: Questions with ever and never

	Subject	ever	Verb	
Has	he she	ever	worked	at night?
Have	you we they			

Affirmative			Negative		
Yes,	he she	has.	No,	he she	hasn't. has never worked at night.
	I you they	have.		I you they	haven't. have never worked at night.

**Carlos:** Have you, Oscar, ever visited a foreign country?

**Oscar:** No, I haven't

No, I have never visited a foreign country

#### Grammar Watch

- Use the present perfect with **ever** to ask about any time before now.
- Use the simple past to talk about a specific time in the past.

**Exercise:** Use the present perfect or the simple past of the verbs in parentheses

1. A: Have you ever had your own business?  
(have)  
B: Yes, I                     . My husband and I                      a small grocery store in  
(own)  
Guatemala ten years ago.
2. A:                      you ever                      at a bank?  
(work)  
B: No, I                     , but my wife                      a bank teller from 1990 to 2005.  
(be)
3. A:                      you ever                      phones for an office?  
(answer)  
B: No, I                     . But I                      documents and                       
(scan) (make)  
copies in an office last year.

1. B: Yes, I **have**. My husband and I **owned** a small grocery store in Guatemala ten years ago.
2. A: Have you ever **worked** at a bank?, B: No, I haven't, but my wife **was** a bank teller from 1990 to 2005.
3. A: Have you ever answered phones for an office? B: No, I haven't. But I **scanned** documents and **made** copies in an office last year.

**Present perfect: Statements with for and since**

Subject		Verb		for/since	
He	has	been	a chef	for	four years.
We	have	lived	here	since	January.

Questions					
How long	have	you	worked	at that restaurant?	
	has	he			

“For” is duration

“Since” is a beginning point in time

### Contrast

We have lived here since January

We have lived here for a month

16022023

#### Grammar Watch

- Use the present perfect with *for* or *since* to describe an activity that began in the past and continues into the present.
- Use *for* to talk about a length of time.
- Use *since* to talk about a specific point in time.

Complete the sentences with *for* or *since*

1. Mark has worked at H&B Electronics for six months.
2. I haven't heard from them \_\_\_\_\_ May.
3. We've been out of town \_\_\_\_\_ three weeks.
4. Soo Jin has been a sales manager \_\_\_\_\_ many years.
5. They have helped us \_\_\_\_\_ the beginning of the year.
6. We haven't taken a vacation \_\_\_\_\_ 2016.

1. for
2. since
3. for
4. for
5. since
6. since

Gemstone, sapphire, emerald, ruby and diamond

sin

sins  
sinner  
sinful  
since

I haven't had sins since this morning

### Legal and Illegal Interview Questions

The interview is an important part of a job search. Most employers conduct an interview before they offer someone a job. During an interview, employers can ask many questions. But they are not allowed to ask certain kinds of questions.

**Legal Questions**

What questions can interviewers ask? They can ask questions about an applicant's qualifications. This means they can ask about his or her skills and work experience. Different jobs need different kinds of employees. For example, nursing assistants need to be patient and kind. They also need to be strong. The interviewer needs to know if an applicant can do the job well. He or she is allowed to ask questions to figure that out.

**Illegal Questions**

What kinds of questions are not allowed? Interviewers may not discriminate against applicants. They can't treat them unfairly. Some kinds of questions might do this, so these questions are illegal. For example, in the U.S., some people have certain ideas about old people. They think that old people aren't good workers. They don't have much energy. They can't

Interview Questions	Legal	Illegal
What job skills do you have?	✓	
What work experience do you have?	✓	
How old are you?		✓
Do you have children?		✓
Where were you born?		✓
Are you a patient person?	✓	
What is your religion?		✓

learn new things. Some employers don't want to hire them. However, many older people *are* good workers. That is why interviewers may not ask about an applicant's age.

Some employers don't want to hire people with young children. They think these workers will call in sick or come in late too much. Some employers may also not want to hire people of certain races or religions. This is unfair to these people. That's why questions about an applicant's family, race, and religion are all illegal.

Remember, in an interview, legal questions ask for information about your qualifications. Illegal questions could help employers discriminate against you.

employer = person who hires  
employee = person who has been hired  
employment = occupation through which you exchange a service for a payment

**IDENTIFY.** What is the main idea of the article?

- a. Most employers conduct an interview before they offer someone a job.
- b. Interviewers can ask questions about an applicant's skills and experience.
- c. Some interview questions are legal, but other questions are illegal.

**Answer:** c

20022023

**CITE EVIDENCE.** Complete the sentences. Where is the information?

1. Job applicants \_\_\_\_\_ answer illegal interview questions.  
a. have to      b. don't have to
2. An interviewer \_\_\_\_\_ ask, "Do you know how to use a computer?"  
a. can      b. can't
3. Interviewers are \_\_\_\_\_ to ask, "How old are you?"  
a. allowed      b. not allowed
4. It is often \_\_\_\_\_ for an older worker to find a job.  
a. easy      b. hard
5. The question "Are you married?" is \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. legal      b. illegal

1. b
2. a
3. b
4. b
5. b

## The past with *used to*

Subject	<i>used to</i>	Verb	
I	used to	work	at a restaurant.
She		play	soccer.
They		drive	to work.

Subject	<i>used to</i>	Verb	
I	used to	work,	but now I stay home with my children.
She		play,	but she doesn't anymore.
They		drive,	but now they take the bus.

"used to" makes reference to something that you practiced in the past and you no longer do it.

"Bus boy"



## Structure

- Subject pronoun + used to + base form of the verb + complement (version 1)
- Subject pronoun + used to + base form of the verb + current situation in simple present (version 1)

**Exercise:** Listen to the conversation. Identify “used to” and the verb that follows

**A:** Hi, I’m Myra.

**B:** Nice to meet you. I’m Aziz.

**A:** Today is your first day, right?

**B:** Yes, it is. How about you? Have you worked here long?

**A:** No, I just started last week. I used to work in a doctor’s office, but the hours weren’t very flexible. It was hard to get my kids to school and be on time for work.

**B:** That’s funny. I used to work at a doctor’s office, too. Where did you work?

**A:** I used to be a receptionist at the Children’s Allergy Clinic.

**B:** Wow! I used to live across the street from there!

**A:** What a small world!

**Match:** What did each person do in the past? What does each person do now? Connect the sentence parts. Write new sentences

Justin used to live in Seattle,

Nadia used to work for an electronics company,

Ben used to take the bus to work,

Teresa used to go shopping at the mall,

Fatima used to be very organized,

but now he drives his own car.

but now he lives in Boston.

but now her desk is a mess.

but now she buys everything online.

but now she owns her own company.

1. Justin used to live in Seattle, but now he lives in Boston
2. Nadia used to work for an electronics company, but now she owns her own company
3. Ben used to take the bus to work, but now he drives his own car
4. Teresa used to go shopping at the mall, but now she buys everything online
5. Fatima used to be organized, but now her desk is a mess

21022023

#### Grammar Watch

- Talk about past habits with *used to*.
- Use *used to* to contrast past habits with present situations. Use a comma to separate the two ideas.
- *Used to* is usually pronounced “useta.”