

## Present perfect 1 (I have done)

A Study this example situation:



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

He **has lost** his key.He **has lost** his key = He lost it recently, and he still doesn't have it.**Have/has lost** is the *present perfect simple*:

I/we/they/you <b>have</b> (= I've etc.)	<b>finished</b> <b>lost</b>
he/she/it <b>has</b> (= he's etc.)	<b>done</b> <b>been</b> etc.

The present perfect simple is **have/has** + *past participle*. The past participle often ends in **-ed** (finished/decided etc.), but many important verbs are *irregular* (lost/done/written etc.).

For a list of irregular verbs, see Appendix 1.

B When we say that 'something **has happened**', this is usually new information:

- ☐ Ow! I've **cut** my finger.
- ☐ The road is closed. There's **been** (there **has been**) an accident.
- ☐ (from the news) Police **have arrested** two men in connection with the robbery.

When we use the present perfect, there is 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 don't have 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? (= Do you know where it is *now*?)

C Note the difference between **gone (to)** and **been (to)**:

- ☐ James is on holiday. He **has gone to** Italy. (= he is there now or on his way there)
- ☐ Jane is back home now. She **has been to** Italy. (= she has now come back)

D You can use the present perfect with **just**, **already** and **yet**.**Just** = a short time ago:

- ☐ 'Are you hungry?' 'No, 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 pay your electricity bill.' 'I've **already paid** it.'
- ☐ 'What time is Mark leaving?' 'He's **already left**.'

**Yet** = until now. **Yet** 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 email, but I **haven't sent** it **yet**.

E You can also use the past simple (**did**, **went**, **had** etc.) in the examples on this page. So you can say:

- ☐ 'Is Sally here?' 'No, she **went** out.' or 'No, she's **gone** out.'
- ☐ 'Are you hungry?' 'No, I **just had** lunch.' or 'No, I've **just had** lunch.'



## Exercises

**7.1** Read the situations and write sentences. Use the following verbs in the present perfect:

arrive break fall go up grow improve lose

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1 Tom is looking for his key. He can't find it.         | Tom <u>has lost his key.</u> |
| 2 Lisa can't walk and her leg is in plaster.            | Lisa .....                   |
| 3 Last week the bus fare was £1.80. Now it is £2.       | The bus fare .....           |
| 4 Maria's English wasn't very good. Now it is better.   | Her English .....            |
| 5 Dan didn't have a beard before. Now he has a beard.   | Dan .....                    |
| 6 This morning I was expecting a letter. Now I have it. | The letter .....             |
| 7 The temperature was 20 degrees. Now it is only 12.    | The .....                    |

**7.2** Put in **been** or **gone**.

- James is on holiday. He's gone to Italy.
- Hello! I've just ..... to the shops. I've bought lots of things.
- Alice isn't here at the moment. She's ..... to the shop to get a newspaper.
- Tom has ..... out. He'll be back in about an hour.
- 'Are you going to the bank?' 'No, I've already ..... to the bank.'

**7.3** Complete B's sentences. Make sentences from the words in brackets.

- | A                                      | B  |
|--|--|
| 1 Would you like something to eat?     | No, thanks. <u>I've just had lunch.</u><br>(I / just / have / lunch) |
| 2 Do you know where Julia is?          | Yes, .....<br>(I / just / see / her)                                 |
| 3 What time is David leaving?          | .....<br>(he / already / leave)                                      |
| 4 What's in the newspaper today?       | I don't know. ....<br>(I / not / read / it yet)                      |
| 5 Is Sue coming to the cinema with us? | No, .....<br>(she / already / see / the film)                        |
| 6 Are your friends here yet?           | Yes, .....<br>(they / just / arrive)                                 |
| 7 What does Tim think about your plan? | .....<br>(we / not / tell / him yet)                                 |

**7.4** Read the situations and write sentences with **just**, **already** or **yet**.

- After lunch you go to see a friend at her house. She says, 'Would you like something to eat?'  
You say: No thank you. I've just had lunch. (have lunch)
- Joe goes out. Five minutes later, the phone rings and the caller says, 'Can I speak to Joe?'  
You say: I'm afraid ..... (go out)
- You are eating in a restaurant. The waiter thinks you have finished and starts to take your plate away. You say: Wait a minute! ..... (not / finish)
- You plan to eat at a restaurant tonight. You phoned to reserve a table. Later your friend says, 'Shall I phone to reserve a table?' You say: No, ..... (do it)
- You know that a friend of yours is looking for a place to live. Perhaps she has been successful.  
Ask her. You say: ..... ? (find)
- You are still thinking about where to go for your holiday. A friend asks, 'Where are you going for your holiday?' You say: ..... (not / decide)
- Linda went shopping, but a few minutes ago she returned. Somebody asks, 'Is Linda still out shopping?' You say: No, ..... (come back)