

Unit 3: How Long Have You Been?

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Present Perfect Continuous

Affirmative Subject + have/has + been + verb^{ing} + Comp.

Negative Subject + have/has + not + been + verb^{ing} + Comp.

Interrogative Have/has + sub + been + verb^{ing} + Comp?

* Use: It is used to describe an action that started in the past and it is still continuing to the present.

Example: John has been learning Italian for 3 months.

Affirmative:

Sofia has been drinking all the juice.

My team have been playing volleyball since 3:00 p.m.

Cristian has been studying chemistry by 3 hours.

Negative:

Sofia hasn't been drinking all the juice.

My team haven't been playing volleyball since 3:00 p.m.

Cristian hasn't been studying chemistry by 3 hours.

Interrogative:

Has Sofia been drinking all the juice?

Have my team been playing volleyball since 3:00 p.m.?

Has Cristian been studying chemistry by 3 hours?

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For vs Since

"For" is used when we want to say the amount of time for an action.

"Since" is used when we want to say the starting point of an action.

For

Annie has been reading a book for 3 weeks

Ted has not been paying attention for this whole semester

Trevor has been drinking alcohol for 10 years now.

Since

The parents have been teaching their kids since March.

Tom and I have not been writing secret messages since last summer.

The students have been thinking notes since:

- the first class
- 8 pm
- the class started
- 2 hours ago ×

Activity. Ask 10 classmates "What have you been doing recently?" and write their answers

1. Brandon has been working with his friend for 3 months.
2. Miguel has been listening to rap songs since he was a kid.
3. Ray has been going to the gym every morning for a month.
4. Gustavo has been going to school since 2011.
5. Gerardo has been walking to his house for 1 hour.
6. Omar has been practicing sports for 10 years.
7. Karen has been learning to cook for 3 months.
8. Jen has been doing her homework for 20 minutes.
9. Paola has been building a table for 5 days.
10. Noé has been doing a game since 2024.

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Activity. You're going to make 10 sentences using Present Perfect Continuous where you describe what you have been doing recently.

- 1.- I have been listening to the same album for 2 months
- 2.- I have been playing volleyball for the last 6 months
- 3.- I have been writing on a notebook special events for almost 4 years.
- 4.- I have been walking a kilometer every day for the last year.
- 5.- I have been drawing a lot for 3 days.
- 6.- I have been learning Italian the last year.
- 7.- I have been living in a new house by 2 months
- 8.- I have been saving money since I was a kid.
- 9.- I have been searching for my keys like a month
- 10.- I have been developing a project the last 3 months.