Present Perfect

Present Perfect - Introduction

Present perfect is used to link the present to the past.

The action was performed in the past.

The exact time is not important and is not specified.

The action is not as important as the results of the action.

Present Perfect - Usage

Present perfect is used for

- in the present
- > finished actions during a person's lifetime
- inished actions in a continuing period of time
- inished actions that happened recently
- unfinished actions that continue into the present
- past actions that occurred multiple times

Present Perfect - Formation

Positive:

subject + have/has + past participle

I have eaten ice-cream.

Negative:

subject + have/has not + past participle

We haven't eaten ice-cream.

Question:

have/has + subject + past participle

Has she eaten ice-cream?

Negative question:

have/has not + subject + past participle

Hasn't he eaten ice-cream?

Present Perfect – Examples #1

finished actions with a result in the present

►I've lost my keys. (so I can't get in now)

➤ She has missed the train. (so she will be late now)

finished actions during a person's lifetime

➤I have never been to Portugal. (but I can still go there)

➤ He has seen that film already. (he could still watch it again)

finished actions in a continuing period of time

➤ She has changed jobs twice this year. (another change is possible this year)

➤ I haven't seen Bob today. (but I might still see him later)

Present Perfect – Examples #2

finished actions that happened recently

- The President has announced new tax reforms.
- ►I've just seen Suzy.

unfinished actions that continue into the present

- > I've known Peter since we were children.
- ➤ He has lived in Manchester for five years.

past actions that occurred multiple times

- > I have seen that film ten times.
- > We have been to that pub many times.