

Exercises about Simple Past and Present Perfect

Exercise 1: Put the verbs in bracket into the past simple or the present perfect

1. I _____ (not/play) tennis since I was at school but I _____ (be) very good at it back then.
2. A: _____ you _____ (choose) a dress for the party yet?
B: Yes, I _____ (buy) one yesterday.
3. I think our teacher _____ (forget) about the test! He _____ (not/ say) anything about it in the last season!
4. A: _____ (you/ sell) your house yet?
B: Yes, some people _____ (see) it last month and _____ (buy) it.
5. They _____ (lose) their cat. It _____ (run) away last week.
6. _____ Helen ever _____ (try) sushi?
7. _____ you _____ (go) to the wedding last night?
8. I _____ never _____ (be) to Paris
9. This year I _____ (travel) to Athens 3 times so far.
10. Paul and Judith _____ (be) married since 1998.
11. _____ you _____ (finish) your homework yet?
12. Last night aunt Betty _____ (come) by. She _____ (tell) us that this summer they are going to Hawaii.
13. I _____ (visit) many different countries so far. Last summer I _____ (go) to Italy and 3 years ago I _____ (be) in Spain. I _____ (not/ visit) Germany yet.
14. When _____ you _____ (come) to Greece?
15. I _____ (come) in 2007.
16. _____ you _____ (watch) the film E.T. yesterday?
17. They _____ already _____ (leave) the train station
18. How long _____ you _____ (know) Jonathan?
19. I _____ (meet) him in 2009, so I _____ (know) him for 3 years
20. What _____ (happen) to Lucy last night?
21. _____ you _____ (read) "Harry Potter" when you were on holidays?

Exercise 2: Choose the correct answer

1. I _____ a new dress yesterday.

A. buy

B. bought

C. have bought

2. They _____ their homework yet

A. have finished

B. haven't finished

C. finished

3. I _____ TV last night.

A. didn't watch

B. haven't watched

C. hasn't watched

4. She _____ married in 2018

A. have got

B. has got

C. got

5. He _____ to school last week. He was ill

A. hasn't gone

B. went

C. didn't go

6. We _____ the children's toys yesterday.

A. found

B. find

C. have found

7. Helen has already _____ lunch.

A. have

B. has

C. had

8. I didn't _____ breakfast yesterday.

A. have

B. had

C. has

9. Ben has just _____ a vase

A. break

B. broke

C. broken

Exercise 3: Fill in the gaps with “yet, ago, ever, last night, for or since”

1. My father went to Italy five days _____.

2. He has known her _____ 2001.

3. Have you _____ seen an elephant?

4. She hasn't finished her work _____.

5. He has lived in Madrid _____ ten years.

6. We went to bed at 11 o'clock _____.

Exercise 4: Circle the correct item

1. Has Jack gone to school then/ yet?

2. Tonia has sent twenty invitations yesterday/ so far.

3. Tina took a test already/ three days ago.

4. I sent you an email two days already/ ago but you haven't replied.

5. Helen has already/ yet had her breakfast.

Exercise 5: Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple or the present perfect

I (1) _____ (be) a ski instructor for many years now. I (2) _____ (take up) the sport when I (3) _____ (be) at school. I still remember the first time I (4) _____ (try) to ski. I (5) _____ (slip) on the ice and (6) _____ (break) my ankle. Thankfully, I (7) _____ (not/ have) a serious accident since then. Last year, I (8) _____ (try) ice-skating for the very first time. I (9) _____ (slip) on the ice rink a couple of times since then but I (10) _____ (not/ break) anything. Two years ago, I (11) _____ (take) snowboarding lessons. I (12) _____ (not/ like) it because I (13) _____ (find) it a little dangerous. I (14) _____ (not/ play) ice - hockey yet. There's a game tomorrow. I can't wait to go!

Exercise 6: Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple or the present perfect

1.A: _____ (you/ ever/ meet) anyone famous?

B: Yes, last summer I _____ (sit) next to Brad Pitt on a plane to LA.

2.A: How long ago _____ (you/ start) painting?

B: Ten years ago. I _____ (recently/ complete) a painting that the National Gallery _____ (ask) me to do a year ago.

3. A: Last night, I _____ (see) the latest James Bond film.

B: Oh, I _____ (already/ see) it twice.

4. A: Do you know that Mrs Janet _____ (work) here for sixteen years?

B: I thought she _____ (start) working here ten years ago.

5. I (invite) _____ them to my birthday party yesterday, however, they (not come) _____.

6. My brother (begin) _____ looking for a job in January.

7. Timson (make) _____ 13 films and I think her latest is the best.

8. She (be) _____ extremely quiet since her husband died.

9. Jane (leave) _____ just a few minutes ago.

Exercise 7. Fill in the present perfect simple or the past simple.

1) She _____ (live) in seven different countries, so she knows a lot about different cultures.

2) I _____ (go) to the cinema last night.

3) Ow! I _____ (cut) my finger!

4) _____ (you/see) 'The King's Speech'?

5) John _____ (never/understand) the present perfect.

6) She _____ (break) her leg the day before her exam.

7) We _____ (see) Oliver yesterday.

8) He _____ (be) here all morning.

9) King Henry the Eighth of England _____ (have) six wives.

10) Last night I _____ (lose) my keys - I had to call my flatmate to let me in.

11) I _____ (lose) my keys - can you help me look for them?

12) I _____ (visit) Paris three times.

13) Last year I _____ (visit) Paris.

- 14) I _____ (know) my great grandmother for a few years - she died when I was eight.
- 15) I _____ (know) Julie for three years - we still meet once a month.
- 16) I _____ (play) Hockey since I was a child - I'm pretty good!
- 17) She _____ (play) hockey at school but she didn't like it.
- 18) Sorry, I _____ (miss) the bus - I'm going to be late.
- 19) I (miss) the bus and then I _____ (miss) the aeroplane as well!
- 20) Last month I _____ (go) to Scotland.

Exercise 8: Correct the mistakes

1. She didn't finish her homework yet

2. She has knew Tome for a long time

3. Where's Bill? - He just left

4. Eva given me a present last week

5. The postman hasn't given me the letter already

6. Lisa already ate dinner

Exercise 9: Put in the verbs in the correct form

1. We _____ to the restaurant last night. (go)
2. I _____ a lot of money last month. (earn)
3. Jenny _____ yet. (not/ arrive)
4. The people _____ the latest decisions of their authorities. (not/ like)
5. The kids _____ their grandparents last Sunday. (visit)
6. _____ you _____ the birds in the garden yesterday?
(feed)
7. We _____ this man near our house this morning. (see)

8. We _____ that problem many weeks ago. (discuss)
9. I _____ a letter just a few minutes ago. (receive)
10. They _____ in London since 1980. (live)
11. Linda is working in this department. She _____ (work) here for two years.
12. Up to present, John _____ good work in the class. (do)
13. _____ their book on my desk last night? (they/ put)
14. He _____ English at this school for six weeks up to now. (study)
15. Nobody lives in those houses. They _____ empty for many years. (be)

Exercise 10: Write the past simple and present perfect form of the verb in parentheses into the blank space

Everyday we have new guest speakers and the talks (1) _____ (be) fascinating so far, at least until yesterday when John Glenn (2) _____ (have) to cancel because of a delayed flight. Our camp leaders then (3) _____ (decide) to bring us to the laboratory, and we (4) _____ (make) eggshell geode crystals instead. Well, you know that I (5) _____ (do) a lot of different experiments in my life, but this one (6) _____ (be) truly cool, and unlike my chemistry experiments gone wrong, nothing (7) _____ (explode).

The world of science sure (8) _____ (change) a lot in the last few years! (9) _____ (you/ hear) about the discovery of water on Mars?

Xem đáp án

Exercise 11: Fill in the gaps using either Present Perfect or the Simple Past

Last week I _____ (meet) an old lady called Cindy. She _____ (be) eighty-two. She _____ (be) a beggar. She _____ (talk) to me and I _____ (hear) the story of her entire life. I _____ (feel) so sad when she _____ (finish) it that I almost _____ (cry). As I _____ (feel) sorry for her, I _____ (give) Cindy some money.

This morning something wonderful and amazing _____ (happen) to me. I _____ (meet) Cindy again, but my goodness, she _____ (be) different. She told me the following.

Since you _____ (give) me that money my life _____ (change) completely. With the money you _____ (give) me I _____ (buy) a lottery ticket and I _____ (win). I _____ (buy) myself a house where I'm living now. I _____ (also buy) some new clothes, a TV set... you can't imagine how happy I am!

I _____ (be) so astonished that I couldn't even say a word. I _____
(follow) her and surprise! She _____ (buy) me a yellow Ferrari.

Xem đáp án

Exercise 12: Choose either the past tense or the present perfect form in the following sentences

1. Mr. Johnson **left/ has left** last week for a business trip.
2. Sam **lost/ has lost** his car keys and can't get home.
3. The choir **sang/ has sung** that song a hundred times.
4. The garage **had/ has had** my car for a week now, and it still isn't fixed.
5. I **complained/ have complained** about that problem a dozen times.
6. Last winter, my grandmother **fell/ has fallen** and broke her hip.
7. Since the train strike began, I **drove/ have driven** to work every day.
8. I **drove/ have driven** my wife's car to work this morning.
9. I'm hungry. I **didn't eat/ haven't eaten** anything today.
10. Grandma **visited/ has visited** us last weekend.
11. Look! Tomek **broke/ has broken** his arm.
12. Sorry, Sir. I **forgot/ have forgotten** my homework
13. Mrs Ziarko **worked/ has worked** at this school for 5 years.
14. Uncle Tim **was/ has been** in hospital since Friday.
15. **Did you/ Have you** ever read a book in English?