

# Present Perfect

## Usage

The present perfect is used to talk about:

1. Things that started in the past which are still true or ongoing in the present.
2. Recently completed actions at an indefinite time which have a result in the present.

## Form

**Affirmative:** Subject + Have/Has + Past participle

→ **I have been to New York.**  
.. ....

**Negative:** Subject + Have/has + not + Past participle

→ **They haven't finished the course yet.**  
.....

**Question:** Have/has + Subject + Past participle

→ **Have you done your homework?**  
... ..

## More example sentences

They've been officially divorced for 3 months.

She's worked for the Civil Service for 7 years.

He's lost his wallet.

Have you eaten this dish before?

We have been friends since childhood.

We use the Past Simple for a specific time in the past.  
We use the Present Perfect for an **unspecific time**.

For example:

1. Daniel went to Japan last year. (Past Simple - we specify **when** the action happened.)
2. Daniel has been to Japan. (Present Perfect Simple - this happened in the past but we **don't say when**.)

**Practice  
activity**

## Fill in the gaps to make present perfect sentences.

She \_\_\_\_\_ (write) a letter to her Grandma who is not feeling well at the moment.

They \_\_\_\_\_ (not stop) since they got up this morning.

Sue \_\_\_\_\_ (give) Tom a present. It was his birthday last week, so it's a bit belated.

They \_\_\_\_\_ (talk) about Judy going to Art School, but her parents would prefer her to study something more vocational.

You \_\_\_\_\_ (visit) Russia, haven't you, John?

Samantha is an avid reader, she \_\_\_\_\_ (read) every Agatha Christie book under the sun.

I know you hate doing house chores, but you \_\_\_\_\_ (not clean) your bedroom in weeks!

You are a fantastic dancer! \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (take) dance classes?

Oops! I' \_\_\_\_\_ (forget) to bring the birthday cake. I'll pop home.

# Present perfect practice

**Practice activity**

Work with a partner. First, write down five things that you have done in your life.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Next, write down five questions that you want to ask your partner using "Have you ever...?"

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**REMEMBER!**

When we say something using a present perfect statement, we can then use the past simple to add more specific details.

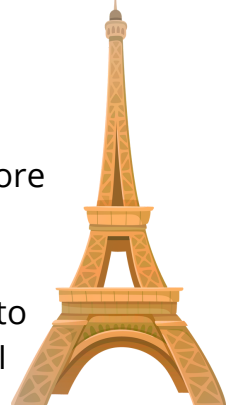
For example:

Yes, I have been to Paris. I went there in my gap year to study French and I was there for a couple of months. I loved the city and the food!

“  
I have studied abroad.

“  
I have climbed two mountains.

“  
Have you ever been to Paris?



## Practice activity

### Answers:

She **has written** a letter to her Grandma who is not feeling well at the moment.

They **have not stopped** since they got up this morning.

Sue **has given** Tom a present. It was his birthday last week, so it's a bit belated.

They **have talked** about Judy going to Art School, but her parents would prefer her to study something more vocational.

You **have visited** Russia, haven't you, John?

Samantha is an avid reader, she **has read** every Agatha Christie book under the sun.

I know you hate doing house chores, but you **haven't cleaned** your bedroom in weeks!

You are a fantastic dancer! **Have** you **taken** dance classes?

Oops! I've **forgotten** to bring the birthday cake. I'll pop home.