

# PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE AND CONTINUOUS

## THE PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE

### EXERCISE 1.

Choose a verb from the box below and put it in the present perfect form

Study	cook	play	visit	work	eat	wait
pass	sing	jump	welcome	wash		

*e.g. They have studied medicine at the University*

1. Paul \_\_\_\_\_ spaghetti for dinner.
2. George and his friends \_\_\_\_\_ water polo once.

3. Sheila \_\_\_\_\_ her little cousins this week.
4. My mother and father \_\_\_\_\_ always \_\_\_\_\_ a lot in their life.
5. Lucy \_\_\_\_\_ all the lemon ice-cream which was in the fridge.
6. Mark \_\_\_\_\_ his coach for two hours but it \_\_\_\_\_ yet.
7. David, Peter and John \_\_\_\_\_ in a church choir up to now.
8. Michael \_\_\_\_\_ his French and English friends.
9. They \_\_\_\_\_ the dishes.

## EXERCISE 2.

Add a sentence. Use the present perfect.

e.g. *There are no biscuits left. (We/eat/all)*

*We have eaten them all.*

1. Sarah and Bill have a big new flat in the city centre.

(They/recently/buy)

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2. She is happy now. (She/find/new job)

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3. I can speak five languages. (I/live/in different continents)

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4. It is really cold today. (It/rain/a lot)

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5. Stephen has a bad headache. (He/drink/too much)

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# PRESENT PERFECT WITH FOR AND SINCE

## EXPLANATION

We use for when we are interested in the duration of the action

*e.g. I have lived in New York for three years.*

We use since when we are interested in the exact moment in  
which the action started

*e.g. I haven't seen Bob since Christmas*

## EXERCISE 1

Complete the sentences below by using **for** or **since**.

e.g. *They have been painting that wall for three hours.*

1. I have worked here \_\_\_\_\_ last July.
2. They have lived in Madrid \_\_\_\_\_ two months.
3. Jim has waited for Eva \_\_\_\_\_ ten minutes.
4. I haven't talked to Laurie \_\_\_\_\_ last Monday.
5. Nick and John have attended school together  
\_\_\_\_\_ ten years.
6. I haven't seen Thomas \_\_\_\_\_ ages!
7. I have spoken to Katie \_\_\_\_\_ one hour.
8. I lived in Milan \_\_\_\_\_ six years.
9. My mother has been shopping \_\_\_\_\_ 9 o'clock this

morning.

10. Terry waited for the bus \_\_\_\_\_ an hour.

11. Lisa was Matthew's girlfriend \_\_\_\_\_ 5 years.

12. Sharon has studied Italian \_\_\_\_\_ she was 12  
years old.

13. Joanna has been dancing \_\_\_\_\_ 2 hours.

14. Linda has been drinking \_\_\_\_\_ midnight.

15. Andy has had his car \_\_\_\_\_ 1992.

## EXERCISE 2

When do we use for? When do we use since?

e.g. for 30 minutes

since 1999



\_\_\_\_\_ your birthday

\_\_\_\_\_ last month

\_\_\_\_\_ three months

\_\_\_\_\_ 1997

\_\_\_\_\_ a decade

\_\_\_\_\_ two centuries

\_\_\_\_\_ three weeks

\_\_\_\_\_ last Monday

\_\_\_\_\_ Christmas

\_\_\_\_\_ 10 minutes

\_\_\_\_\_ July, 3<sup>rd</sup> 2000

\_\_\_\_\_ 10 days

\_\_\_\_\_ 15 years

\_\_\_\_\_ last weekend

# HOW LONG...?

## EXPLANATION

When we use *how long...?* We are interested in the duration of a certain action.

*e.g. How long have you studied French?*

This means that I want to know for how many months, years, hours etc. this person has studied French.

In the answer you can use either *for* or *since*.



## EXERCISE 1

Complete the exercise by answering the following questions and using either **for** or **since**.

e.g. *How long have you lived in New York?*

*I have lived in New York for two years.*

1. How long have you studied English?

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2. How long have you lived in your town?

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3. How long have you worked in your field?

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4. How long have you practised your favourite sport?

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5. How long have you studied at university?

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6. How long have you worked with your favourite colleague?

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7. How long have you been married/engaged?

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# THE PRESENT PERFECT WITH “JUST”

## EXERCISE 1

Complete the following sentences by using the verbs given. Use the Present Perfect tense + just.

drink / marry / arrive / wake up / buy / phone / eat / leave /  
correct / watch

e.g. Where are Jane and Marty? They are missing! We can't start without them!

*Look! They have just disappeared!*

1. I wonder if our tests went well.

Look! The teacher \_\_\_\_\_

2. Last night my mother baked a delicious cake.

Look! My brother \_\_\_\_\_

3. It's 8.00 a.m. Is Jake at work?

No! He \_\_\_\_\_

4. What time is the Linda's train arriving?

Look!

It \_\_\_\_\_

5. When is Jonathan leaving for France?

Look! He \_\_\_\_\_

6. My neighbours need a new car.

Look! They \_\_\_\_\_

7. Are David and Michelle still engaged?

No! They \_\_\_\_\_

8. Don't forget to call Andrew. It's important!

Don't worry! I \_\_\_\_\_

9. Would you like to see this film?

No thanks, we \_\_\_\_\_

10. Does your mum want a cup of coffee?

No thanks, she \_\_\_\_\_

## EXERCISE 2

Answer the questions with the words given

*e.g. Would you like a slice of chocolate cake?*

*(no/thanks/just/have/slice/vanilla cake)*

*No, thanks. I have just had a slice of vanilla cake.*

1) Have you written to your friend David?

*(Yes/just/finish/writing)*

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2) Why don't we go to the hairdresser's?

*(No/just/wash/hair)*

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3) Let's go to a Chinese restaurant for lunch!

*(No/just/cook/spaghetti)*

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4) Would you like a cigarette?

(No/thanks/just/put/one/out)

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5) Has Sheila met her boyfriend?

(Yes/just/meet/him/at/supermarket)

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6) Could you phone Henry to check if he has already arrived home?

(No/he/just/phone/to say/he/arrive/home)

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7) Would you like to read my new autobiography?

(No/thanks/just/read/it)

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# EVER/NEVER

## EXERCISE 1

Make questions and invent answers

e.g. *You/ever/go/to Australia*

*Have you ever been to Australia?*

*No, I have never been to Australia*

1) *She/ever/eat/frogs*

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2) *He/ever/drink/Chinese beer*

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3) *They/ever/be/in love*

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4) You/ever/spend/a holiday in the mountains

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5) We/ever/meet/a famous person

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6) She/ever/be/in prison

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7) What is the most beautiful art exhibition/you/ever/visit

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# THE PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

## EXERCISE 1

Put in the verbs. Use the present perfect continuous.

*E.g. My head hurts. I have been studying English all morning!!*

1) I am very tired. I \_\_\_\_\_ (work/hard)

for two days.

2) Michael and Sandra feel bored. They \_\_\_\_\_

(watch/TV) all day.

3) Oh dear! We cannot go for a picnic this afternoon, it is all wet!

It \_\_\_\_\_ (rain) all morning!

4) Mark is hot and feels really tired. He \_\_\_\_\_

(walk) for three hours.

5) Fiona is really angry. She \_\_\_\_\_ (wait) a long time for her husband.

6) The two girls have made friends. They \_\_\_\_\_ (talk) for hours.

7) John and Sara are exhausted. They \_\_\_\_\_ (jog) in the park for one hour.

## EXERCISE 2

Present perfect simple or present perfect continuous?

Circle the right one

1) I am really satisfied. I (have found/have been finding) a very interesting job.

2) Susan has come back from France. She (has been touring/has toured) the country for one month.

- 3) Where are all my biscuits?! (Have you been eating/have you eaten) them all?
- 4) Maggie (has known/has been knowing) Paulette for a long period.
- 5) How many pages of that book (have you read/have you been reading)?
- 6) Michael (has had/has been having) flu these days but he (has not stayed/has not been staying) away from work.
- 7) Andy and Susan (have been looking/have looked) for a flat since they got married.