

PERFECT TENSES



PRESENT PERFECT

PAST PERFECT

PRESENT PERFECT vs. PAST SIMPLE

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

PRESENT PERFECT

SUBJECT+ HAS/HAVE+ PAST PARTICIPLE+ COMPLEMENTS

AFFIRMATIVE	NEGATIVE	INTERROGATIVE
<i>You have already finished it</i>	<i>You haven't finished it.</i>	<i>Have you finished it?</i>
<i>She's just come back home.</i>	<i>She hasn't come back home yet.</i>	<i>Have you come back home?</i>
<i>They've done everything</i>	<i>They haven't done anything</i>	<i>Have they done anything?</i>

USE: 1) Finished action related to the present situation.

2) Finished action without a temporal reference.

3) Action that began in the past and continues in the present.

4) Finished action in an unfinished period of time.

"I've lost my keys"

"I've met many people here"

"I've lived here for 2 years"

"I have seen your brother twice this morning"

Already, just, yet

She's **already** finished it.

I've **just** come back home.

I haven't read it **yet**

never, ever

I've **never** been to NY.

I haven't **ever** dreamed of it.

Have you **ever** been to Delhi?

for, since

How long have you lived here?

I've lived here **for** 3 years *so far*.

I've been here **since** 2001

PRESENT PERFECT vs. PAST SIMPLE

- a) What _____ (you/do) yesterday?
- b) She _____ (already/visit) that famous monument.
- c) It _____ (be) very cold!
- d) I _____ (not/ pay) the telephone bill yet.
- e) I _____ (go) to France last year.
- f) In 1591 Shakespeare _____ (write) Romeo and Juliet.
- g) The price of the houses in Spain _____ (decrease) in recent years.
- h) Your car seems to be clean now. _____ (you/wash) it?
- i) When we were 8, our parents _____ (move) to The UK.
- j) Mr Goldman _____ (give) a thousand pounds to the charity this year.
- k) _____ (she/watch) that film last night?

PAST PERFECT

SUBJECT+ HAD+ PAST PARTICIPLE + COMPLEMENTS

AFFIRMATIVE	NEGATIVE	INTERROGATIVE
<i>I had visited NY .</i>	<i>I hadn't visited NY</i>	<i>Had I visited NY</i>
<i>You had lost your keys.</i>	<i>You hadn't lost your keys.</i>	<i>Had you lost your keys?</i>
<i>She'd come to my party.</i>	<i>She hadn't come to my party.</i>	<i>Had she come to my party?</i>

USE: 1. Action took place before a certain time in the past. “She’d found what she was looking for”

2. Sometimes interchangeable with past perfect continuous.

3. Putting emphasis on the fact (not the duration). “My sister told me that Joe had died”

4. If clause Conditional Sentence Type III. “ IF I had known...

Already, just, never, yet, once, until that day

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

SUBJECT+ HAVE/HAS+ BEEN + VERB-ING+ COMPLEMENTS

AFFIRMATIVE	NEGATIVE	INTERROGATIVE
<i>I've been waiting for you for 3 hours.</i>	<i>I haven't been waiting for you for 3 hours.</i>	<i>Have I been waiting for you for 3 hours?</i>
<i>She's been dreaming all night long.</i>	<i>She hasn't been dreaming all night long.</i>	<i>Has she been dreaming all night long?</i>
<i>We have been writing a letter.</i>	<i>We haven't been writing a letter.</i>	<i>Have we been writing a letter?</i>

USE:

- 1) Emphasis on the course or duration (not the result)
- 2) Action that recently stopped or is still going on.
- 3) Finished action that influenced the present

ALL DAY, FOR 4 YEARS, SINCE 1995, HOW LONG?, THE WHOLE WEEK.

PAST PERFECT CONTINUOUS

SUBJECT+ HAD+ BEEN + VERB-ING+ COMPLEMENTS

AFFIRMATIVE	NEGATIVE	INTERROGATIVE
<i>I'd been using that laptop for 2 years.</i>	<i>I hadn't been using that laptop for 2 years.</i>	<i>Had I been using that laptop for 2 years.</i>
<i>She had been teaching English.</i>	<i>She hadn't been teaching English</i>	<i>Had she been teaching English?</i>
<i>They had been running fast</i>	<i>They hadn't been running fast.</i>	<i>Had they been running fast?</i>

USE:

- 1) ACTION TAKING PLACE BEFORE A CERTAIN TIME IN THE PAST.
- 2) EMPHASIS ON THE DURATION OR COURSE OF THE ACTION. "She'd been working Germany for 4 years"

THE WHOLE DAY, ALL DAY LONG, FOR, SINCE, ALL NIGHT LONG...

PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE vs. CONTINUOUS

- a) Dr Gómez _____(give) the same lecture for the past 7 years.
- b) All day, the police _____(stop) motorists to question them about the accident.
- c) Great! The noise _____(stop). We can start concentrating on our work again.
- d) With my win yesterday, I _____(move) to the second place in the table.
- e) As house prices in the city have risen, people _____(move) into the countryside.
- f) It _____(snow) all day long.
- g) It _____(snow) a lot this morning, so we have stayed at home.
- h) We _____(solve) the main problem, we can leave now.
- i) We _____(try) to solve the problem all day long.
- j) Plants _____(disappear) from my garden since we had new neighbours.
- k) A very important file _____(disappear) from my office.

REPHRASING PERFECT TENSES

a) It's a long time since you last played squash with me.

You ...

b) It is ages since I last visited Russia.

I ...

c) They came to live in New York two years ago.

They ...

d) I've never seen such a beautiful mosque.

This is the ...

e) She hasn't enjoyed herself so much for years.

It is years ...

f) The film started before we arrived at the cinema

By the time...

g) I haven't phoned my mom for 3 months.

It's ...

h) They have been working here for two years.

They started...

KEY

PRESENT PERFECT vs. PAST SIMPLE

- a) What **did you do** (you/do) yesterday?
- b) She **has already visited** (already/visit) that famous monument.
- c) It **was** (be) very cold!
- d) I **haven't paid** (not/ pay) the telephone bill yet.
- e) I **went** (go) to France last year.
- f) In 1591 Shakespeare **wrote** (write) Romeo and Juliet.
- g) The prince of the houses in Spain **has decreased** (decrease) in recent years.
- h) Your car seems to be clean now. **Have you washed** (you/wash) it?
- i) When we were 8, our parents **moved** (move) to The UK.
- j) Mr Goldman **has given** (give) a thousand pounds to the charity this year.
- k) **Did she** (she/watch) that film last night?

PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE vs. CONTINUOUS

- a) Dr Gómez **has been giving** (give) the same lecture for the past 7 years.
- b) All day, the police **has been stopping** (stop) motorists to question them about the accident.
- c) Great! The noise **has stopped** (stop). We can start concentrating on our work again.
- d) With my win yesterday, I **have moved** (move) to the second place in the table.
- e) As house prices in the city have risen, people **have been moving** (move) into the countryside.
- f) It's **been snowing** (snow) all day long.
- g) It **'s snowed** (snow) a lot this morning, so we have stayed at home.
- h) We **have solved** (solve) the main problem, we can leave now.
- i) We **have been trying** (try) to solve the problem all day long.
- j) Plants **have been disappearing** (disappear) from my garden since we had new neighbours.
- k) A very important file **has disappeared** (disappear) from my office.

REPHRASING PERFECT TENSES

- a) It's a long time since you last played squash with me.
You **haven't played squash with me for ages**.
- b) It is ages since I last visited Russia.
I **haven't visited Russia for ages**.
- c) They came to live in New York two years ago.
They **have lived in New York for 2 years**.
- d) I've never seen such a beautiful mosque.
This is the **first time I have seen such a beautiful mosque**.
- e) She hasn't enjoyed herself so much for years.
It is years **since she hasn't enjoyed herself so much**.
- f) The film started before we arrived at the cinema
By the time **we arrived at the cinema, the film had already started**.
- g) I haven't phoned my mom for 3 months.
It's **3 months since I last phoned my mom**.
- h) They have been working here for two years.
They started **working here 2 years ago**.