Unit 4: Exercise 6

Match the examples in the box with the reasons for using the present perfect simple or present perfect continuous.

:: drag to move wordpool ::

Amy's just called to say she's back from Spain.

Her plane's already landed, but she hasn't got off yet.

I can't go on holiday because I've lost my passport.

I've been taking a lot of photos recently.

I've been waiting in this queue for over an hour.

I've had this suitcase for ten years.

I've never been to South America.

The plane can't land because it's been snowing a lot.

1 We often use the present perfect simple to talk about experiences in our lives up to now. We can use words like *ever* and *never* to talk about experiences.

2 We often use the present perfect simple with state verbs (e.g. *know, like*) to measure time up to now. We can use words like *for* and *since* to measure time with state verbs.

3 We often use the present perfect continuous with action verbs (e.g. *wait, talk*) to measure time up to now. We can use words like *for* and *since* to measure time with action verbs.

4 We often use the present perfect simple to talk about progress through a list of plans / steps. We can use words like *already* and *yet* to talk about progress.

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5 We often use the present perfect simple to talk about news – things that the other person doesn't know yet. We can use words like *just* to talk about news.

6 We often use the present perfect simple to talk about the present results of a completed past event. We can use words like *because* and *so* to talk about the present results of past events.

7 We often use the present perfect continuous to talk about the present results of a past process – something that happened over a period of time, without a clear start / finish. We can use words like *because* and *so* to talk about the present results of past processes.

8 We often use the present perfect continuous to talk about recent habits – something that is happening a lot. We can use words like *lately* and *recently* to talk about recent habits.

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