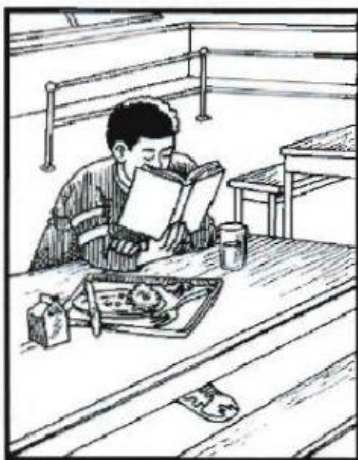


# PRESENT PERFECT

In this lesson, we are going to look at WHEN to use the present perfect tense, in what situations do we need to use it.

## 4-3 MEANINGS OF THE PRESENT PERFECT

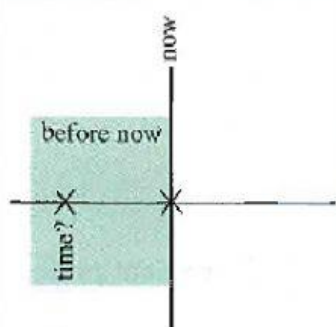


Jim has eaten lunch.



Ann hasn't eaten lunch.

PRESENT PERFECT, MEANING #1: SOMETHING HAPPENED BEFORE NOW AT AN UNSPECIFIED TIME.



- (a) Jim **has** already **eaten** lunch.  
 (b) Ann **hasn't eaten** lunch yet.  
 (c) **Have** you ever **eaten** at that restaurant?

The PRESENT PERFECT expresses an activity or situation that occurred (or did not occur) *before now, at some unspecified time in the past.*

In (a): Jim's lunch occurred **before** the present time. The exact time is not mentioned; it is **unimportant or unknown**. For the speaker, the only important information is that Jim's lunch occurred in the past, sometime before now.

## Unspecified Time – Life experiences



The **present perfect tense** is used when the event happened at an **unspecified time in the past**. We don't say or specify **WHEN** something happened, the time in the past is not mentioned.

Look at this example:

- I **have been** to Spain.

Look at this sentence in the past simple tense:

- I **went** to Spain in 2019.

*Note: Here, we have **specified a time** in the past – the year 2019. Therefore, **ONLY Simple Past Tense** can be used.*

Let's look at some more example sentences:

- ✓ I've **met** the President. (I don't say when it happened)
- ✓ She's **won** many awards. (Again, we don't say when)
- ✓ We've **done** this before. (Before now, but we don't specify when)
- ✓ He **has appeared** on TV. (We don't specify when)
- ✓ I have finished the report.
- ✓ They have visited that place.
- ✓ We have opened all of the windows.
- ✓ She has spoken to a large audience many times.

**Task Instructions:** Check the box that describes whether the verb expresses something that happened at specified time in the past or at an unspecified time in the past.

SPECIFIED TIME IN THE PAST	UNSPECIFIED TIME IN THE PAST	STATEMENTS
		Ms. Parker has been in Tokyo many times.
		Ms. Parker was in Tokyo last week.
		I've met Ann's husband. He's a nice guy.
		I met Ann's husband at a party last week.
		Mr. White was in Rome three times last month.
		Mr. White has been in Rome many times.
		I like to travel. I've been in more than thirty foreign countries.
		I was in Morocco in 2001.
		Mary has never been in Morocco.
		Mary wasn't in Morocco when I was there in 2001.



**Task Instructions:** Tell us about some activities you have done. Remember, do not use a specified time. Tell us as many ideas as you can.





Look at the structure for affirmative sentences in the present perfect tense. The word order is: **subject + have / has + past participle**

## PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

**+ Affirmative**

SUBJECT		AUXILIARY		PAST PARTICIPLE	
I / you / we / they	+	have	+	lived	...
he / she / it	+	has	+	studied	...
				eaten	...

 I **have** **finished** the report.

**AUXILIARY**      **PAST PARTICIPLE**

-  I **have** **finished** the report.
-  We **have** **opened** all of the windows.
-  She **has** **lived** in Germany for ten years.
-  He **has** **called** his mother twice today.
-  I **have** **been** very busy this week.
-  We **have** **done** our homework.
-  She **has** **spoken** to a large audience many times.
-  Rob Woodward **has** **taught** English since 1997.



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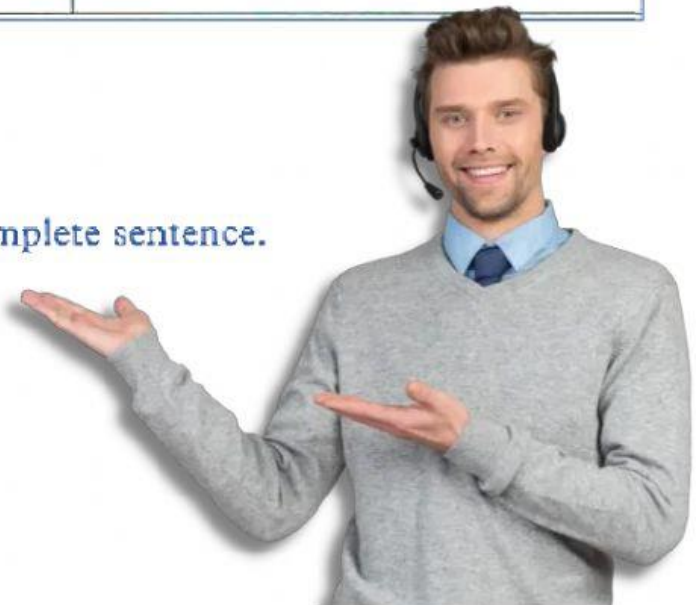
In spoken English, we almost always use contractions with the present perfect tense. We contract the subject, and the auxiliary have / has.

❖ Here is the list of present perfect tense contractions:

-  I have  I've
-  You have  You've
-  He has  He's
-  She has  She's
-  It has  It's
-  We have  We've
-  They have  They've

	<p>(d) Pete <i>has eaten</i> at that restaurant <i>many times</i>.  (e) I <i>have eaten</i> there <i>twice</i>.</p>	<p>An activity may be repeated two, several, or more times <i>before now</i>, at <i>unspecified times in the past</i>, as in (d) and (e).</p> 
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Use { *many times*  
*lots of times*  
*several times*  
*a couple of times*  
*once in my lifetime*  
*never* } in the complete sentence.



❖ We use the present perfect tense to talk about periods of time that have not finished such as today, this week, this month.

- ✓ Today has not finished.
- ✓ This week has not finished.
- ✓ This month has not finished.
- ✓ This year has not finished.



### Look at these examples:

- ✚ I've been very busy *this week*. (This week has not finished)
- ✚ She's had five cups of coffee *today*. (Today hasn't finished)
- ✚ We've spent a lot of money *this month*. (This month has not finished)
- ✚ He has studied a lot *this year*. (This year hasn't finished)
- ✚ He has called his mother many times.
- ✚ I have been to Mexico once in my lifetime.



# PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

## – Negative

SUBJECT		AUXILIARY		PAST PARTICIPLE	
I / you / we / they	+	haven't	+	lived	...
he / she / it	+	hasn't	+	studied	...
				eaten	...

✔ I **have not** finished the report.

NEGATIVE

✔ I **haven't** finished the report.

NEGATIVE CONTRACTION

✔ I **haven't** cleaned the kitchen today.

✔ We **haven't** finished our meal yet.

✔ It **hasn't** rained this week.

✔ He **hasn't** been very busy.



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Let's look at some more examples of negative sentences in the present perfect tense:

- ✓ I haven't cleaned the kitchen today.
- ✓ We haven't finished our meal yet.
- ✓ It hasn't rained this week.
- ✓ He hasn't seen the movie.



# PRESENT PERFECT TENSE



## ? Questions

AUXILIARY		SUBJECT		PAST PARTICIPLE	
Have	+	I / you / we / they	+	lived	... ?
Has	+	he / she / it	+	studied	... ?
				eaten	... ?

⊕ Affirmative: They have studied for the test.



? Question: Have they studied for the test?

Have you done your homework?

Yes, I have. ...or... No, I haven't.

Has he told you the truth?

Yes, he has. ...or... No, he hasn't.

Has Mary called today?

Yes, she has. ...or... No, she hasn't.



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## Present Perfect Tense – Short Answers

We can also give short answers to present perfect tense questions.  
Look at these questions:

- ✓ Have you done your homework?
- ✓ Has he told the truth?
- ✓ Has Mary called today?





Since this question is HAVE YOU...? Or Have you ever.....?

You could say:

Has he told the truth?      **Yes, he has. ... or ... No, he hasn't.**  
Has Mary called today?    **Yes, she has. ... or ... No, she hasn't.**

## Present Perfect Tense with Questions Words

We can also use question words (what, where, why, etc.) at the beginning of the question. For example:

- ✓ What have you done?
- ✓ Where has he gone?
- ✓ Why have they stopped?
- ✓ How has she felt today?

Pair Work



# HAVE YOU EVER.....?

*Example:* be in Florida\*\*

SPEAKER A: Have you ever been in Florida?

SPEAKER B: Yes, I have. I've been in Florida many times. OR  
No, I haven't. I've never been in Florida.

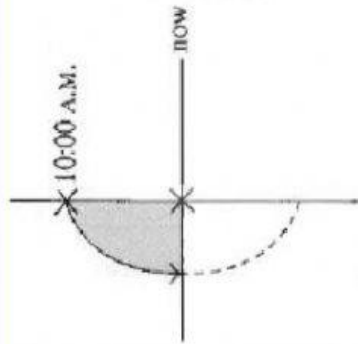
1. be in Europe
2. be in Africa
3. be in Asia
4. eat Chinese food
5. eat Italian food
6. eat (a certain kind of) food
7. ride a horse
8. ride a motorcycle
9. ride an elephant

*Switch roles.*

10. be in (name of a city)
11. be in (name of a state/province)
12. be in love
13. play soccer
14. play chess
15. play a video game
16. walk to (a place in this city)
17. stay up all night
18. buy something on the Internet



PRESENT PERFECT, MEANING #2: A SITUATION BEGAN IN THE PAST AND CONTINUES TO THE PRESENT.



- (f) We've **been** in class **since** ten o'clock this morning.  
 (g) I **have known** Ben **for** ten years. I met him ten years ago. I still know him today. We are friends.

When the present perfect is used with **since** or **for**, it expresses situations that began in the past and continue to the present.

In (f): Class started at ten. We are still in class now, at the moment of speaking.

**INCORRECT:** We are in class **since** ten o'clock this morning.

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# FOR - SINCE



I have been living in Japan **since** 2012.

**since**  
2012

**SINCE** + starting point  
(and continues until now)

**FOR** + duration of time

**NOW**

**for 4 years**

I have been living in Japan **for** 4 years.



**FOR**

+ period of time  
+ number + time word

When we measure the duration of something or how long it lasts.

It has a start point and an end point and can be used in different tenses.

- I studied English in Ireland **for** 2 years.
- I will be there **for** around two months.
- We have been married **for** 14 years.

**for** ten minutes  
**for** eight hours  
**for** five days  
**for** six months  
**for** three years  
**for** two centuries

**FOR**

**SINCE**

+ starting point  
+ a time / a date

When something started in the past and continues until now.

**Since** is mostly used in the present perfect and perfect progressive tense.

- He hasn't eaten **since** 7 o'clock.
- I have been working here **since** June.
- We have been married **since** 2002.

**since** 8 o'clock  
**since** Monday  
**since** February  
**since** 1982  
**since** I left school  
**since** the end of last century

**SINCE**

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