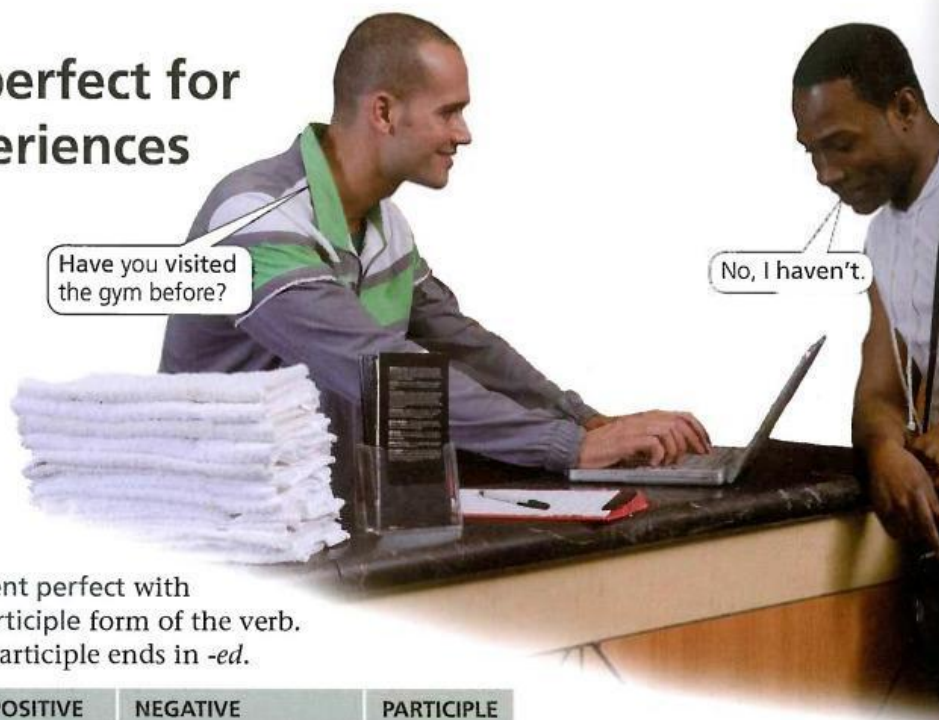


50 Present perfect for past experiences



1 Form

We form the present perfect with *have* + the past participle form of the verb.
The regular past participle ends in *-ed*.

SUBJECT	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE	PARTICIPLE
I/We/You/They	have ('ve)	have not (haven't)	finished.
He/She/It	has ('s)	has not (hasn't)	

Yes/No QUESTIONS			SHORT ANSWERS
Have	I/we/you/they	finished?	Yes, I/we/you/they have. No, I/we/you/they haven't.
Has	he/she/it		Yes, he/she/it has. No, he/she/it hasn't.

Wh- QUESTIONS			
What	have	you	finished?
Where	has	she	worked?

2 Use

We use the present perfect to talk about past experiences in our lives. It is not important when they happened:

John has worked in several gyms. I've travelled a lot.

We can use *before*, *once*, *twice*, *several times*, etc. to say how often:

I haven't visited the gym before but I've stayed at this hotel several times.

My parents have visited the United States once.

We often use *ever* to ask about past experiences. It means 'in your life':

'Have you ever played golf?' 'Yes, several times.'

'Has she ever tasted Japanese food?' 'Only once.'

We use *never* in negative sentences. It means 'not in your life':

I've never played golf. She's never cooked Italian food.



We put *ever* and *never* BEFORE the past participle:

✗ *'Have you stayed ever in a Hilton Hotel?'*

✓ *'Have you ever stayed in a Hilton hotel?'*

✗ *'I've stayed never in any hotels!'*

✓ *'I've never stayed in any hotels!'*

3 Superlatives

We often use the present perfect with superlative adjectives

That was the best food I've ever tasted!

Practice

1 Choose the correct words in *italics*.

- 0 I have / *has* worked in several different companies.
- 1 They haven't *live* / *lived* in the city before now.
- 2 Have you *played* / *play* baseball before?
- 3 'Have you finished your homework?' 'Yes, I *do* / *have*.'
- 4 We *have* / *did* watched all of Quentin Tarantino's films.
- 5 'Has Maria called the shop?' 'No, she *hasn't* / *haven't*.'
- 6 The cat *has* / *have* never tasted real steak before!

2 **GRAMMAR IN USE** Read the advertisement and the email. Then complete them with words from the box.

ever has Have have
haven't stayed visited

HOME to HOME the special holiday experience

Have you (0) *ever* wanted to experience real Spanish life?

(1) you always wanted to be more than a tourist in a hotel?

WELL, HOW ABOUT A HOUSE EXCHANGE?

We organise exchanges of two to four weeks – you live in a Spanish family house here in Spain, and the Spanish family lives in your house in the UK.

Contact us for more information.



Subject House exchange

Dear Sir / Madam

I'm writing about your advert for a 'house exchange'. My family and I have

(2) Spain on holiday many times but we've only (3)

in hotels before so we (4) experienced 'real Spanish life'. We

would like a house for four weeks in the south of Spain. My daughter is learning

Spanish at school but she (5) never talked to Spanish people, so

four weeks in the country will be perfect for her.

We (6) never invited other people to live in our house, so could you tell me ...

3 Write the words in the correct order to make questions. Then write true answers.

0 you visited Have another country ever ?

Have you ever visited another country? Yes, I have. I've visited the USA.

1 Have worked ever in a shop you ?

2 watched ever film the best you have What's ?

3 your parents Have lived in a foreign country ever ?

4 ever you stayed in Have a luxury hotel ?

5 you the most interesting What's tasted have food ever ?