

51 Present perfect with present results



1 Form

	REGULAR VERBS			IRREGULAR VERBS			
infinitive	visit	play	want	break	come	eat	have
past participle	visited	played	wanted	broken	come	eaten	had

Past participles are either regular (infinitive + *-ed*) or irregular.

2 Use

We use the present perfect

- to talk about things that happened a short time ago and that have a result now:
I've broken my leg. (It's broken now.)
Your sister has arrived. (She's here now.)
The post has come. (There's a letter for you.)
They've gone out. (They aren't here.)

With the past simple, the results are also in the past:

I broke my leg last year and didn't play football from August to October.
My sister arrived late and missed the beginning of the film.

- to introduce new information:
'Julian has passed his driving test.' 'Oh, that's good news!'
The US President has arrived in London.

When we give more details about these events, we use the past simple:

Julian has passed his driving test. He took it yesterday.
The US President has arrived in London. He flew here from Washington last night.

3 been and gone

Been is the past participle of *be*. *Gone* is the past participle of *go*:

I've been tired all day. (And I'm still tired now.)
Fran has gone to the doctor's. (And she's still there now.)



But we use *been* as the past participle of *go* when it means 'has gone and come back':

My parents have been to New Zealand. (They have visited it in the past and have returned.)
My parents have gone to New Zealand on holiday. (They are there now.)

Practice

1 Write the past participles of these verbs.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 0 break <i>broken</i> | 3 buy | 6 eat | 9 read |
| 1 take | 4 have | 7 run | 10 see |
| 2 go | 5 be | 8 lose | |

2 Complete these conversations with participles from Exercise 1.

- 0 A Hi, you look happy!
B Yes, we've just *been* on holiday. We had a great time!
- 1 A What's wrong with Jake? He wasn't at school today.
B Well, he's some bad food, I think. He feels ill and he's to bed!
- 2 A Jenny's unhappy because she's her bike.
B I know. Don't tell her yet, but I've her a new one.
- 3 A How good are your computer skills?
B Well, I've several lessons and I've two exams.
- 4 A Hi, Sam, it's me. Is something wrong? You weren't at the gym yesterday.
B Yes, I've my leg, I'm afraid.

3 Match the sentences with the pictures. Then complete them with the verbs in brackets ().

A  I'm really tired!	B  I can't take the exam.	C  I feel sick.	D  Where is it?
0 I to the dentist. (go) <i>E</i> 1 Harry his arm. (break) 2 Pat the door. (paint) 3 I ten kilometres. (run) 4 Louisa her pen. (lose) 5 Alex too much! (eat)	E  My mouth hurts.	F  That looks better.	

4 Write two sentences for each set of words below.

- 0 famous footballer / buy / a royal palace / pay £2 million for it
A famous footballer has bought a royal palace. He paid £2 million for it.
- 1 US President / arrive / in London / plane / land / two hours ago
.....
- 2 TV star David Walliams / swim / English Channel for charity / take eleven hours
.....
- 3 J K Rowling / write / a new book / finish it / twenty-four hours ago
.....