

Present perfect tense (4) since • for

A: How long have you been a pianist?

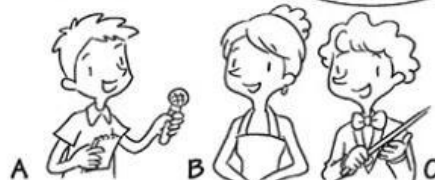
B: I've been a pianist **for** thirty years.

A: How long have you been a conductor?

C: I've been a conductor **since** 2005.

30 years ago → now

2005 → now



Use the **present perfect tense** to talk about things that started in the past and continue to the present.

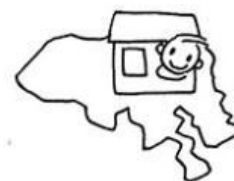
since + a point in time (e.g. 2003, February, two o'clock)

for + a period of time (e.g. three hours, five days, four weeks, two months, four years)



Underline the verbs in the present perfect tense. Then fill in the blanks with 'since' or 'for'.

- 1 Mr Black has lived in Hong Kong _____ many years.
- 2 Leo has sung in the school choir _____ 2010.
- 3 Gary has slept _____ an hour.
- 4 He has been a pilot _____ twelve years.
- 5 I have studied for this exam _____ days.
- 6 She has been sick _____ Monday.
- 7 Grandma has lived in Hong Kong _____ February.
- 8 Miss Wu has been a ballet teacher _____ six months.
- 9 The Wong family have had their dog Rocky _____ 2009.
- 10 Mr and Mrs Mak have become parents _____ last year.



Date: _____

Practice

Complete the questions and the answers using 'since' or 'for' and the present perfect tense.

1 A: How long _____ Miss Fung _____ a teacher?

B: She _____ a teacher _____ ten years.



2 A: How long _____ you _____ football for this club?

B: I _____ football for this club _____ 2007.



3 A: How long _____ Uncle Tommy _____ a model lover?

B: He _____ four years.



4 A: How long _____ Mr and Mrs Li _____ in Hong Kong?

B: _____ January.

Grammar
in
Context

Roy is writing in his diary. Complete the diary entry using the present perfect tense and the words given.

since for just
yet already

write say visit
eat wash be



17th September 20XX, Saturday

Cloudy

I had a very busy day today. My pen friend Shirley is visiting Hong Kong.

Shirley and I ① _____ to each other ② _____ 2013. She

③ _____ in Hong Kong ④ _____ one week now. She

⑤ _____ Disneyland and the Peak ⑥ _____. Dad said

I should take Shirley to eat seafood but Shirley ⑦ _____

_____ some. She went to a seafood restaurant on Lamma Island yesterday.

I decided to take her to Ocean Park instead. We looked at the pandas and went on

the rides there. I am very tired now. Mum ⑧ _____

goodnight to me. I ⑨ _____ not _____ my face ⑩ _____,

so I will do that now.