

Contrast: past simple and present perfect

I can distinguish the use of the past simple and the present perfect.

1 Choose the correct verb form (a or b) in the sentences.

- ___ to the west coast of Ireland? It's beautiful.
a Did you ever go b Have you ever been
- I ___ a lot of interesting cities in my life, but I think New York is my favourite.
a 've visited b visited
- I ___ Mexican food a few times, but it's too spicy for me.
a 've tried b tried
- You should get your postcard soon. I ___ it a week ago.
a 've posted b posted
- My dad ___ about two hundred photos on this holiday so far.
a has taken b took
- ___ any souvenirs when you were in Canada?
a Have you bought b Did you buy

2 Complete the email. Use the present perfect or past simple form of the verbs in brackets.

To: anna@email.com

Dear Anna,

I'm on a coach tour of Europe with my parents. So far we ¹ _____ (visit) two cities – Paris and Amsterdam.

We ² _____ (start) the tour in Paris. ³ _____ you _____ (go) there? It's beautiful. The first day we ⁴ _____ (go) up the Eiffel Tower. The view was incredible. I ⁵ _____ (never / see) anything like it.

Now we ⁶ _____ (arrive) in Florence, in Italy. Yesterday we ⁷ _____ (explore) the old town on foot. Then we ⁸ _____ (climb) up the Campanile, which is a really tall tower. There were 414 steps, but it was worth it.

Next, we're going to Rome. I ⁹ _____ (read) all about it last night and am really looking forward to it. I hope you're enjoying the summer. The weather here ¹⁰ _____ (be) fantastic.

Love
Daisy

photo1 ▼



3 Complete the sentences with *has / have been*, *has / have gone* or *went*.

- Lucy isn't at home. She's *gone* to the sports centre.
- We haven't had a holiday this year, but last year we _____ to Brazil.
- We've got plenty of food – I _____ to the supermarket yesterday.
- She knows Madrid very well. She _____ there lots of times since she moved to Spain.
- I love water sports. I _____ surfing in lots of different countries.
- I hope Toby is enjoying the summer. He _____ to Italy for six weeks.

4 Complete the mini-dialogues. Use the correct present perfect or past simple form of the verbs in brackets.

- A _____ ever _____ (you / have) a holiday in Turkey?
B Yes, I _____. I _____ (spend) two weeks there last year.
A Which cities _____ (you / visit)?
B Only two. We _____ (start) in Istanbul and then _____ (travel) to Izmir.
- A _____ ever _____ (you / try) an extreme sport?
B No, I _____. But I _____ (learn) to ski last winter.
A Really? _____ (you / enjoy) it?
B Yes, I _____. In fact, yesterday I _____ (book) my next skiing holiday!
- A _____ ever _____ (you / go) on a coach tour?
B Yes, we _____. We _____ (go) across the USA by coach last July.
A How long _____ (it / take)?
B Three weeks. We _____ (stop) at lots of interesting places on the way.
- A _____ ever _____ (you / eat) insects?
B Yes, I _____. I _____ (buy) a bag of insects as a snack in Thailand. But I _____ (not enjoy) them very much.