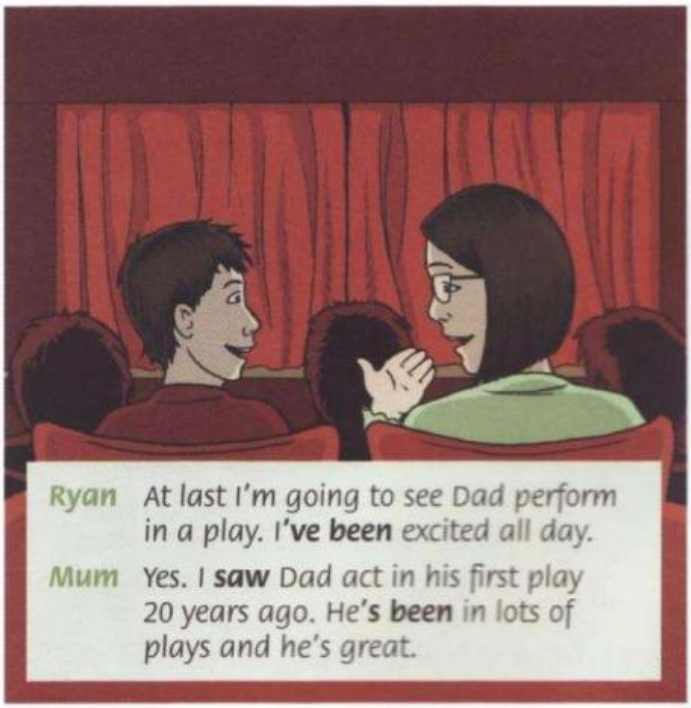
2 On the stage

The present perfect or past simple?
The present perfect (3): *already, yet, just* and *before*



The present perfect or past simple?

We use the present perfect to talk about something that happened very recently.
*The lights **have gone down**.*

We also use the present perfect to talk about an action in the past that is still true now.
I've been excited all day.

We also use the present perfect to talk about events from our life that have happened up to the present time. It doesn't matter when they happened.
He's been in lots of plays.

We use the past simple to talk about actions that started and finished in the past. We often say when they happened.
I saw Dad act in his first play 20 years ago.

1 Tick (✓) the correct sentence.

1 Have you ever seen a play by Shakespeare? ☑
Have you ever see a play by Shakespeare? ☐

2 Have you ever been to the theatre? ☐
Did you ever been to the theatre? ☐

3 I saw my first play in 2003. ☐
I've seen my first play in 2003. ☐

4 She never been to a drama class. ☐
She's never been to a drama class. ☐

5 The actors learnt the script last week. ☐
The actors have learnt the script last week. ☐

6 Yesterday we watched a film at the cinema. ☐
Yesterday we have watched a film at the cinema. ☐

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 Match 1–5 with a–e.

1 __d__ Have you ever been to the theatre?
2 _____ Did you like it when the lights went out?
3 _____ Have you caught flu?
4 _____ Did you act in the last play?
5 _____ Have you put your coat on?

a Yes, I did. I was a detective.
b Yes, I have. I felt cold.
c No, I didn't. I hate the dark!
d Yes, I have. I love watching plays.
e Yes, I have. I feel ill.

3 Circle the correct answers.

1 We've **finished** / **finished** our homework. Can we go outside now?
2 When **he was** / **he's been** six, **he went** / **he's been** to school in New York.
3 Amy **didn't read** / **hasn't read** the third book in the series yet.
4 **Have you met** / **Did you meet** the new science teacher?
5 I **went** / **'ve been** to London twice in my life.
6 Leo and Fred **didn't know** / **haven't known** the answer so they asked their Dad.
7 **Were you** / **Have you been** at home last Friday morning?
8 Have you spoken to Grandpa today? **Yes, I did.** / **Yes, I have.**

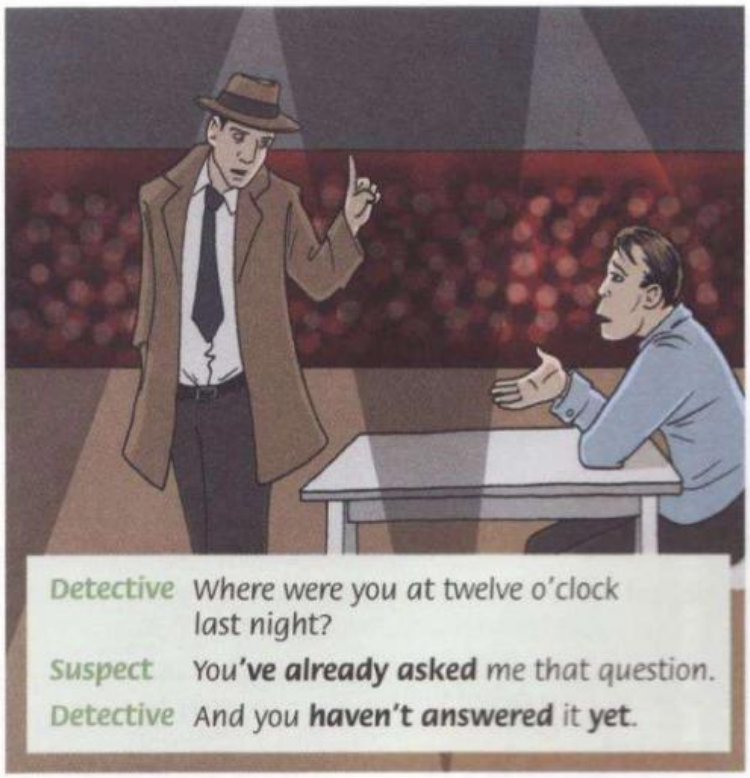
4 Complete the text. Use the present perfect or the past simple.

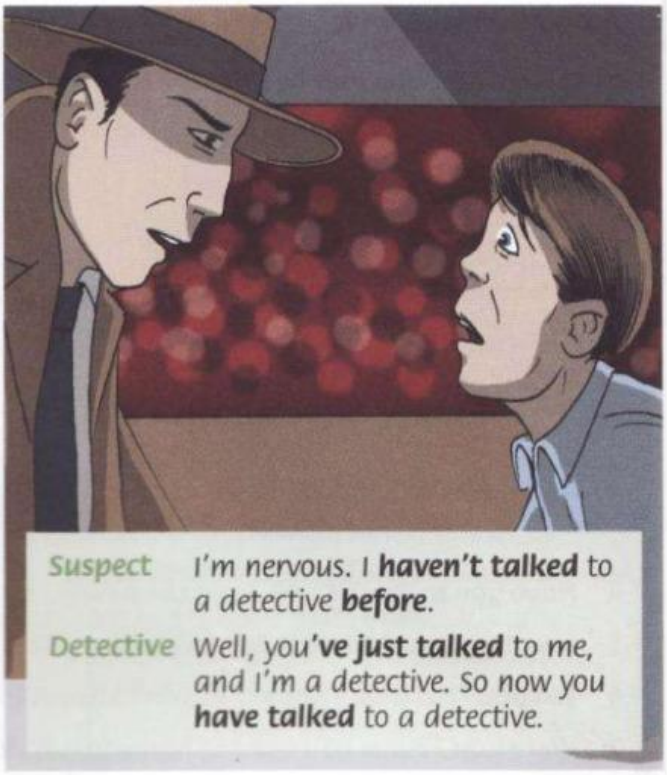
Brian is really good at volleyball and he's got lots of friends who play it with him. He [1] __'s known__ (know) some of them for five years. When Brian [2] _____ (meet) his friends, he [3] _____ (not know) how to play. His friends [4] _____ (tell) him to go with them to their club and they [5] _____ (teach) him how to play. Soon, everyone [6] _____ (want) him to be on their team. Now, Brian [7] _____ (be) on the team for three years and he [8] _____ (play) in lots of matches.

5 Look at exercise 4. Answer the questions. Use short answers.

1 Did Brian meet his friends five years ago? __Yes, he did.__
2 Did Brian teach his friends to play volleyball? _____
3 Is Brian a good volleyball player? _____
4 Has Brian ever played on the team? _____
5 Has Brian ever played in any matches? _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS





The present perfect with **already, yet, just** and **before**

Already, **yet**, **just** and **before** can all mean 'at some time up to now'. We often use them with the present perfect.

We use **yet** to talk about something we expect. It often comes at the end of the sentence. We only use **yet** in questions and negative sentences.

*You haven't answered it **yet?***
*Have you answered it **yet?***

Before means 'at any time up to the present'. It often comes at the end of the sentence.

*I haven't talked to a detective **before**.*

We use **already** to say that we are surprised that something has happened sooner than we expected.

*You've **already** asked me that question.* OR
*You've asked me that question **already**.*

Just means 'very close to the time now'. We can use it to talk about something that has happened very recently. The affirmative form is subject + **have/has** + **just** + past participle.

*You've **just** talked to me.*

We form questions with **have/has** + subject + **just** + past participle.

*Have you **just** talked to him?*

6 Circle the correct answers.

1 The curtain has **just** / **yet** gone up.
2 He hasn't played chess **before** / **already**.
3 They've **painted just** / **just painted** the set.
4 Have you shown **the script to him yet** / **yet the script to him**?
5 You haven't given the books to them **just** / **yet**.
6 Have you ever acted **before** / **just**?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

7 Complete the sentences and questions. Use the present perfect.

1 you / go / to America / before / ?
Have you been to America before?

2 you / already / act / in four plays
_____

3 I / see / the film / before
_____

4 I / already / go / to five different countries
_____

5 you / speak / to an English person / before / ?
_____

6 you / eat breakfast / already / ?
_____

7 I / never / act / before
_____

8 they / already / paint / the stage / ?
_____

8 Complete the questions and answers. Use yet and just.

1 she / meet her new drama teacher
Has she met her new drama teacher yet? Yes, she's just met her.

2 they / speak to the actors
_____ Yes, _____ to them.

3 she / buy the costumes
_____ Yes, _____ them.

4 the children / paint the stage
_____ Yes, they _____ it.

5 the actors / finish their costumes
_____ Yes, _____ them.

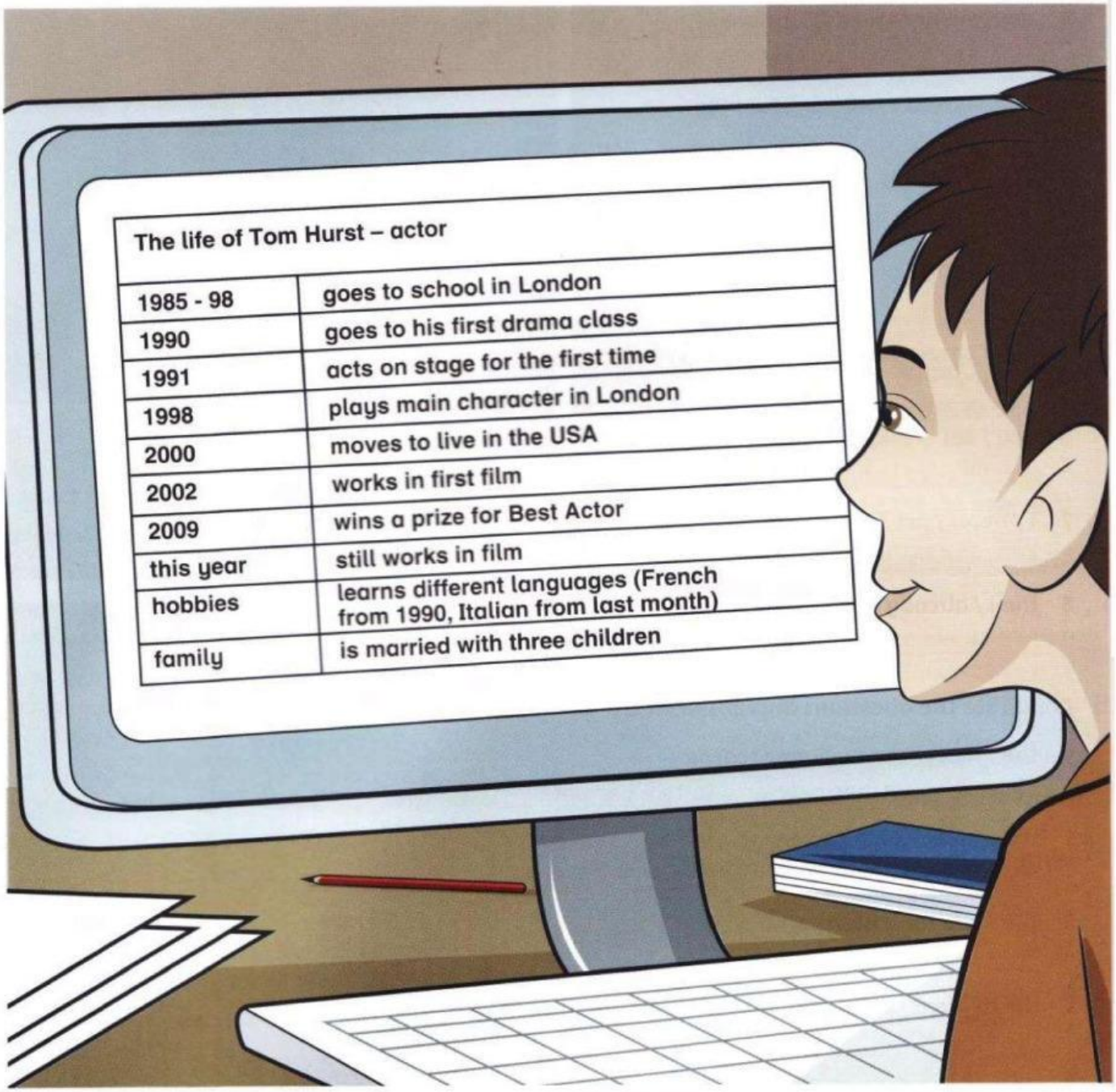
6 she / washed her hair
_____ Yes, _____ it.

7 they / open the curtains
_____ Yes, they _____.

8 the play / finish
_____ Yes, it _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

9 **Look at the text. Write questions with the present perfect or past simple.**



The life of Tom Hurst – actor	
1985 - 98	goes to school in London
1990	goes to his first drama class
1991	acts on stage for the first time
1998	plays main character in London
2000	moves to live in the USA
2002	works in first film
2009	wins a prize for Best Actor
this year	still works in film
hobbies	learns different languages (French from 1990, Italian from last month)
family	is married with three children

1 (Tom / go) Did Tom go to school in London from 1985 to 1998?

2 (he / go) _____ to his first drama class in 1990?

3 In 1998, (Tom / act) _____ in Paris?

4 (he / live) _____ in Spain since 2000?

5 (Tom / won) _____ a prize for acting yet?

6 (he / start) _____ to learn French in 1990?

7 (he / just start) _____ to learn Italian?

8 (Tom / have) _____ three children already?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

10 Look at exercise 9. Answer the questions.

1 Yes, he did. He went _____ to school in London from 1985 to 1998.
2 _____ to his first drama class in 1990.
3 _____ in London in 1998.
4 _____ in the USA since 2000.
5 _____ a prize for acting in 2009.
6 _____ to learn French in 1990.
7 _____ to learn Italian last month.
8 _____ three children already.

11 Write negative sentences. Use the present perfect or the past simple.

1 Andy didn't go _____ (not go) to school in Cairo when he was a child.
2 Mandy _____ (not have) French lessons before.
3 Kate _____ (never study) Spanish.
4 We _____ (not live) in London since 1996.
5 Max _____ (not go) to his first painting class in 1989.
6 Mum and Dad _____ (not just start) to learn German.
7 I _____ (not finish) my homework yet.
8 You _____ (not miss) the bus once last week – well done.
9 Jamie and Jack _____ (not try) to skateboard before.
10 Lily _____ (not take) her mobile phone with her yesterday.

12 Write short answers.

1 Has Cara acted in a play before? ✓ Yes, she has. _____
2 Has Ted just had a PE lesson? ✗ _____
3 Have you met a famous person before? ✓ _____
4 Have you already done any homework today? ✗ _____
5 Have they had lunch yet? ✓ _____
6 Has Eric played football already today? ✗ _____
7 Have you had an English test today? ✓ _____
8 Have I asked you to bring your trainers? ✗ _____
9 Have they written a letter to the Queen? ✓ _____
10 Has Carrie made some bread? ✓ _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS