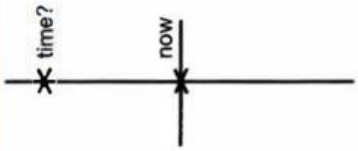
3. Her friends _____ canceled, so she's free tonight.
4. The coffee _____ fresh. Have some.
5. It looks like your package _____ arrived.
6. Your sister _____ downstairs. She's borrowing some boxes for her move.
7. Our neighbors _____ planned a party for next weekend.
8. What _____ we told them? Are we going?

EXERCISE 18 ▸ Warm-up. (Chart 2-6)
What do you notice about the verb tenses in blue? Discuss the differences.

2-6 Present Perfect vs. Simple Past

PRESENT PERFECT



(a) *I've met* Linda, but I *haven't met* her husband. *Have* you *met* him?

before now + unclear time --> PP

before now + clear time --> SP

The PRESENT PERFECT is used to talk about *past events when there is no specific mention of time.*

In (a): The speaker is talking about *some unspecified time before now.*

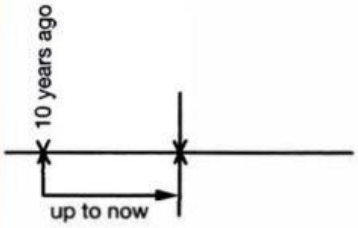
SIMPLE PAST

(b) I *met* Helen *yesterday* at a party. Her husband *was* there too, but I *didn't meet* him. *Did* you *meet* him at the party?

The SIMPLE PAST is used when there is *a specific mention of time.*

In (b): The speaker is thinking of a specific time: yesterday.

PRESENT PERFECT



(c) Sam *has been* a math teacher *for* ten years. He loves teaching.

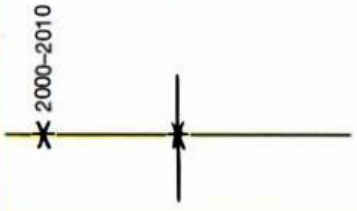
before now + up to now -> PP

before now + ended in past -> SP

The PRESENT PERFECT is used for *situations that began in the past and continue to the present.*

In (c): The present perfect tells us that Sam is still a teacher now.

SIMPLE PAST



(d) Jim *was* a teacher *for* ten years, from 2000 to 2010. Now he is an engineer.

The SIMPLE PAST is used for *situations that began and ended in the past.*

In (d): The simple past tells us that Jim is not a teacher now.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

EXERCISE 19 ▸ Looking at grammar. (Chart 2-6)

Use the information in the timeline to:

a. make past tense sentences with: ***leave, start;***
b. make present perfect sentences with: ***be, live, study, work.***

Jin's Timeline

Example: Jin's parents have been in Australia since 1990.

1990: Jin's parents immigrated to Australia from Hong Kong.
1991: They settled in Sydney, Australia.
1992: They opened a restaurant.
1995: Jin was born.
2013: He entered the University of Melbourne.
2015: He went to Hong Kong to study Chinese.
Now: Jin is studying in Hong Kong.
His parents are working at their restaurant in Sydney.

EXERCISE 20 ▸ Looking at grammar. (Chart 2-6)

Complete the sentences. Use the simple past or the present perfect form of the verbs in parentheses

1. Noor is from a hot, dry country. She (*see, never*) never saw / has never seen snow. Last January, I (*see*) saw / has seen snow for the first time in my life.
2. Last night my friend and I (*have*) had / have had some free time, so we (*go*) went / have gone to a show. Since (starting PAST time) classes began, I (*have, not*) didn't have / haven't had much free time. (up to now)
3. Ming Won (*be*) was / has been in this class for three months. His English is getting better and better. He plans to take this class until the end of May. Mrs. Perez (*be*) was / has been in our class for three months, but then she left school to get a job.
4. Late-breaking news! A major earthquake (*occur, just*) _____ in southern California. It (*occur*) _____ at 9:25 A.M.
5. A: Greg Adams? Yes, I know him. I (*know*) _____ him since college.
   B: Did Natalie just say Joe North passed away? I'm sorry to hear that.
   I (*know*) _____ him well when we were in college together.
6. I admit that I (*get***) _____ older since I last (*see*) _____ you, but with any luck at all, I (*get, also*) _____ wiser.

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*Typically, the present perfect is used in sentences with *already, yet,* and *just,* but in some situations the simple past is also commonly used with these adverbs in informal English, especially American English, with no difference in meaning.

**COMPARE:

(a) ***I have gotten*** or ***have got*** *four letters so far this week.* In this sentence, *have gotten / have got* is present perfect. (NOTE: *Got* is used as the past participle of *get* in both American English and British English. *Gotten* occurs only in American English.)

(b) ***I have got*** *a problem.* In this sentence, *have got* is not present perfect. *I've got a problem = I have a problem.* The expressio *have got* means "have" and is common in informal spoken English. Its meaning is present; it has no past form.

LIVEWORKSHEETS