BEYONCÉ: LIFE EXPERIENCES & ACHIEVEMENTS

READING: Beyoncé's Incredible Career

Beyoncé Knowles-Carter **has had** an extraordinary career in music and entertainment. **She has released** many hit albums and **has traveled** around the world on sold-out tours. She **has won 35 Grammy** Awards so far—more than any other artist in history! She won her first Grammy in 2001 with Destiny's Child, and she won Album of the Year for the first time in 2025 for Cowboy Carter. **Beyoncé has also performed** at the Super Bowl halftime show twice; she headlined the show in 2013 and returned as a guest in 2016. In addition, **she has acted in several films**, such as Dreamgirls in 2006. However, there are still a few things she **hasn't done** yet. For example, she **has never won an Academy Award**, although she received her first Oscar nomination in 2022. She **also hasn't directed** a full-length Hollywood feature film yet.



GRAMMAR EXPLANATION: PRESENT PERFECT vs. PAST SIMPLE

Feature	Present Perfect (Life Experiences)	Past Simple (Specific Details)
When we use it	To talk about life experiences, achievements, or things someone has or hasn't done up to now (no specific time).	To give specific details about when, where, or how a past action happened (finished time).
Structure	Subject + have / has (+ not) + past participle (e.g., has won, has traveled, hasn't won)	Subject + verb in past (-ed / irregular) (e.g., won, headlined, acted, received)
Time Expressions & Examples	ever, never, yet, so far, twice, many times • She has won 35 Grammy Awards so far. • She has never won an Oscar.	in 2001, in 2013, in 2025, last year, ago • She won her first Grammy in 2001. • She headlined the Super Bowl in 2013.

How to Combine Present Perfect + Past Simple:

Start with the Present Perfect to introduce a general life experience, then switch to the Past Simple to give specific details:

- General experience (Present Perfect): Beyoncé has performed at the Super Bowl halftime show twice.
- Specific detail (Past Simple): She headlined the show in 2013 and returned as a guest in 2016.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

GRAMMAR PRACTICE EXERCISES: PRESENT PERFECT & PAST SIMPLE

Exercise 1: Complete the sentences with the Present Perfect form of the verbs in parentheses (affirmative or negative).

1. Beyoncé _____ (win) 35 Grammy Awards during her career.
2. She _____ (travel) around the world on many sold-out concert tours.
3. Beyoncé _____ (never / win) an Academy Award (Oscar).
4. She _____ (act) in several famous movies, including Dreamgirls.
5. She _____ (not / direct) a full-length Hollywood feature film yet.

Exercise 2: Choose the correct tense (Present Perfect or Past Simple) to complete each sentence.

1. Beyoncé (has won / won) her first Grammy Award in 2001 with Destiny's Child.
2. She (has performed / performed) at the Super Bowl halftime show twice in her career.
3. In 2025, she (has won / won) Album of the Year for the first time with Cowboy Carter.
4. Beyoncé (has received / received) her first Oscar nomination in 2022.
5. She (has released / released) many successful albums since she started her solo career.

Exercise 3: Complete the pairs of sentences by combining Present Perfect (general experience) and Past Simple (specific detail).

1. Beyoncé _____ (headline) the Super Bowl. She _____ (perform) there in 2013.
2. She _____ (act) in musical films. She _____ (star) in Dreamgirls in 2006.
3. Beyoncé _____ (receive) an Oscar nomination. The Academy _____ (nominate) her in 2022.
4. She _____ (win) Album of the Year. She _____ (take) home the trophy in 2025.
5. Beyoncé _____ (sing) in a famous girl group. She _____ (join) Destiny's Child in the 1990s.

Exercise 4: Write questions using 'Have you ever...?' or 'Has Beyoncé ever...?' and answer them.

1. Beyoncé / win / a Grammy Award? → _____
   Answer: _____
2. Beyoncé / win / an Oscar? → _____
   Answer: _____
3. you / listen / to a Beyoncé song? → _____
   Answer: _____
4. you / go / to a live concert? → _____
   Answer: _____

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