

## Past simple / present perfect – 12

### a) Revise the rules of use:

1. We use the **simple past** for actions finished in a past period of time, **when the time is important**, with time expressions like “in the 15<sup>th</sup> century”, “last night”, “in 1945”, “ten days ago”, “yesterday”,....:

*I went to London last year.*

We use the **present perfect** for actions finished in an undetermined moment in the past, with adverbs like “ever”, “never”, “just”, “already”, “yet”, “recently”, “lately”,... **when the time is not important**:

*I have been to London three times.*

*I have already seen that film.*

2. We use the **simple past** with actions that started and finished in the past:

*The Arabs lived in Spain for seven centuries.*

*They lived in Spain from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> centuries.*

(= They don't live in Spain any longer).

We use the **present perfect** for actions that started in the past and continue in the present:

*The Irish have always lived in Ireland.*

*The Anglo-Saxons have lived in Great Britain since the 5<sup>th</sup> century.*

(= They still live in Great Britain).

b) Choose the correct tense (past simple or present perfect):

1. His parents \_\_\_\_ give \_\_\_\_ him a new mobile phone for his birthday last week, and he \_\_\_\_ already scratch \_\_\_\_ its screen. He's so careless!

2. I \_\_\_\_ buy \_\_\_\_ a book last month, but I \_\_\_\_ not read \_\_\_\_ it yet.



3. In 1066 William the Conqueror \_\_\_\_\_ invade \_\_\_\_\_ England and \_\_\_\_\_ become \_\_\_\_\_ the new king. A lot of French words \_\_\_\_\_ enter \_\_\_\_\_ the English language since then.
4. I \_\_\_\_\_ not do \_\_\_\_\_ my homework today because I \_\_\_\_\_ leave \_\_\_\_\_ my book at school yesterday, and this morning I \_\_\_\_\_ not can find \_\_\_\_\_ it.
5. I \_\_\_\_\_ switch \_\_\_\_\_ the computer on, but it \_\_\_\_\_ not start \_\_\_\_\_ yet. It is really slow!
6. \_\_\_\_\_ you ever \_\_\_\_\_ see \_\_\_\_\_ a theatre play? I \_\_\_\_\_ go \_\_\_\_\_ to see a comedy last Saturday, and it \_\_\_\_\_ be \_\_\_\_\_ really funny! We \_\_\_\_\_ not can stop \_\_\_\_\_ laughing the whole time!
7. I \_\_\_\_\_ just see \_\_\_\_\_ your sister, she \_\_\_\_\_ be \_\_\_\_\_ at the library, but I \_\_\_\_\_ not speak \_\_\_\_\_ to her.

8. This is a bit boring. Last week he  
\_\_\_\_\_ invite \_\_\_\_\_ twelve people to his  
birthday party, but only two  
\_\_\_\_\_ come \_\_\_\_\_.
9. I \_\_\_\_\_ never eat \_\_\_\_\_ at a Japanese  
restaurant, but my parents  
\_\_\_\_\_ have \_\_\_\_\_ dinner in one last  
weekend.
10. — \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ see \_\_\_\_\_ Alice?  
— Yes, she \_\_\_\_\_ leave \_\_\_\_\_ a  
parcel on your desk five minutes ago.

d) Now listen to check your answers.  
Correct the wrong answers, please.