

Theme : People and Culture

Unit 8 : Good Luck, Bad Luck

Language/ Grammar Focus : Learn and review Present Perfect and the use of *for* and *since*.
Make questions using *How long*?

since	We use since with the present perfect or the past perfect to say when something started : if the starting point is given (two o'clock, last Friday, 1998) <i>I have worked here since December.</i> <i>They had been watching since seven o'clock in the morning.</i>
for	We use for to say how long : if the period of time is given (twenty minutes, two days, one year) <i>We have been waiting for twenty minutes.</i> <i>They lived in Manchester for fifteen years.</i> We can also use a noun phrase without <i>for</i> : <i>Let's go. We've been waiting nearly an hour.</i> <i>I've worked here twenty years.</i>

Exercise 1

Choose the correct answer: **since** or **for**?

1. I have lived in Penang ___ three years.
2. Dido has been a nurse ___ 2000.
3. We haven't met ___ our last year at secondary school.
4. I have been working ___ a long time.
5. My neighbours have been on vacation ___ two weeks.
6. What have you been doing ___ you left your last job?
7. He has had his new smartphone ___ a month.
8. Where have you been working ___ you had your bachelor's degree?
9. The Post Office has been closed ___ Monday.
10. He has known her ___ they were twelve years old.
11. I have been waiting ___ 2 o'clock.
12. Sussana has only been waiting ___ 20 minutes.
13. Doreen and Norme have been learning English ___ five years.
14. Sharmilah and Saryati have been learning French ___ 2010.
15. Yvonne and Joseph have been going out together ___ Valentine's Day.
16. I haven't been on holiday ___ last August.
17. Jai has been saving his money ___ many at least 5 years.
18. I haven't eaten anything ___ yesterday.
19. You have been watching drama ___ hours.
20. We have been living here for ___ 10 months.

We use **how long** to talk about the amount of time something takes: *How long is the movie? It's 2 hours.*

How long? is used to ask questions about amounts or periods of time. Take a look at the following:

- **'How long** have you been waiting?' 'Only for a minute or two.'
- **'How long** have they been married?' 'Oh, for a very long time. More than 25 years.'
- **'How long** will the concert last?' 'It should be over by ten o' clock, I think.'
- **'How long** was your stay in Malaysia?' 'The project lasted for two years, but I was there for two and a half years.'
- **'How long** have you been living in this house?' 'For 12 years now, ever since my mother died.'
- **'How much longer** can you stay?' **'Not much longer.** For another ten minutes perhaps. I have to be home before midnight.

Exercise 2.

Rearrange the questions below.

[Cue: How long + will + (He, She, It, You, we, they) + verb]

1. Here? /How long/he/ stay/

_____.

2. Will/ he/How long/ wait? /

_____.

3. You/How long/ write? / You/

_____.

4. Play? /How long/ will/ he/

_____.

5. How long/ take? / It /will/

_____.

6. Type? /How long/it/will/

_____.

7. How long/read? / They/ will/

_____.

8. How long/write? / Will /they/

_____.