

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.

By using '*How Long*', create questions according to the answers below.

1. _____?

She will stay here for two weeks.

2. _____?

He will be waiting for 30 more minutes.

3. _____?

I will write about 100 words.

4. _____?

She will play violin for 1 hour.

5. _____?

It will take 2 hours and 15 minutes.

6. _____?

It will type approximately 3 hours.

7. _____?

They will read for 40 minutes.

8. _____?

They will write for at least 20 minutes.

Exercise 3.

Fill in the blanks using Present Perfect Tense and make questions using *How long?*

Dialogue 1 – At dinner

Rachel: I heard Kate plans to quit her job next month.

Ian: Really? _____?

Rachel: _____.

Ian: That's a very long time! Why does she want to quit?

Rachel: She can't stand her new manager.

Dialogue 3 - At a Class Reunion

Deena: Taylor! Is that you? _____!

Taylor: Hello Deena! What a small world!

Deena: I know! _____?

Taylor: We graduated high school in 2006. So _____!

Deena: Now I feel super old. But it's good to see you! We should catch up!

Dialogue 4 – In the Mountains

Paul: It feels so good to go hiking in the morning! _____.

Tara: I agree. The air is so fresh!

Paul: I'm getting hungry. _____?

Tara: Me, too. _____. My stomach is grumbling.

Paul: What? _____! Let's go grab a bite!