

## Present Perfect and Past Simple

Choose the correct words

1. Look! I've found / found a four-leaf clover.
2. It's been / was Jo's birthday last week!
3. Dan's cat had / has had four black kittens last night.
4. Oh no! Somebody broke / 's broken the mirror!
5. Jo gave / 's given me this charm yesterday.

Complete the essay by choosing the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

### The History of Superstitions

How long (1) \_\_\_\_\_ people \_\_\_\_\_ (have) superstitions?  
Probably since the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (begin)! For thousands of years,  
people (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (look) for ways to explain why certain things  
happen.



### The evil eye

The superstition of the evil eye (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (exist) in Greece since ancient times. The  
ancient Greeks (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (believe) that some people could have a bad effect on  
others just by looking at them. Since then, Greek people (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (wear) special  
bracelets with a blue 'eye' on them to protect them from evil.

### Cats

For centuries, people (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (think) that cats have magical powers. For this  
reason, the ancient Egyptians (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (keep) cats in their homes and (9)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (not allow) anyone to treat them badly.

## The number 13

Why (10) \_\_\_\_\_ this number \_\_\_\_\_ (become) an unlucky number? Some people say it is because there (11) \_\_\_\_\_ (be) 13 people at Christ's last meal. Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> (12) \_\_\_\_\_ (not always be) an unlucky date. People only (13) \_\_\_\_\_ (start) being superstitious about it in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but no one really knows why.