Unit 4: Exercise 6

Match the examples in the box with the reasons for using the present perfect simple or present perfect continuous.

:: drag to move wordpool ::

- Amy's just called to say she's back from Spain.
- Her plane's already landed, but she hasn't got off yet.
- I can't go on holiday because I've lost my passport.
- I've been taking a lot of photos recently.
- I've been waiting in this queue for over an hour.
- I've had this suitcase for ten years.
- I've never been to South America.
- The plane can't land because it's been snowing a lot.

1 We often use the present perfect simple to talk about experiences in our lives up to now. We can use words like *ever* and *never* to talk about experiences.

2 We often use the present perfect simple with state verbs (e.g. *know, like*) to measure time up to now. We can use words like *for* and *since* to measure time with state verbs.

3 We often use the present perfect continuous with action verbs (e.g. *wait, talk*) to measure time up to now. We can use words like *for* and *since* to measure time with action verbs.

4 We often use the present perfect simple to talk about progress through a list of plans / steps. We can use words like *already* and *yet* to talk about progress.

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5 We often use the present perfect simple to talk about news – things that the other person doesn't know yet. We can use words like *just* to talk about news.

6 We often use the present perfect simple to talk about the present results of a completed past event. We can use words like *because* and *so* to talk about the present results of past events.

7 We often use the present perfect continuous to talk about the present results of a past process – something that happened over a period of time, without a clear start / finish. We can use words like *because* and *so* to talk about the present results of past processes.

8 We often use the present perfect continuous to talk about recent habits – something that is happening a lot. We can use words like *lately* and *recently* to talk about recent habits.

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