

The Perfect Aspect

EXERCISES

1 Choose the best options to complete the sentences.

- 1 I haven't *had* / *been having* this book for very long. In fact I've *already* / *just* bought it.
- 2 We've *owned* / *been owning* this car *for* / *since* three years.
- 3 I used to see Peter every morning on the train, but I haven't *seen* / *been seeing* him *recently* / *yet*.
- 4 Have you *lived* / *been living* in this house *for* / *just* a long time?
- 5 *Are you still working* / *Have you worked* on your project or have you *already* / *since* finished it?
- 6 She's *arrived* / *been arriving* at the office late *yet* / *all week*.
- 7 I've *tried* / *been trying* to find my keys *for* / *since* an hour.
- 8 I haven't *used* / *been using* my computer *since* / *all* last Tuesday.

2 Rewrite these sentences in the present perfect continuous. Use the verb and time expressions in brackets.

- 1 My sister repairs bicycles. She started when she was a kid. (repair, since)
My sister _____.
- 2 James is using the washing machine again. He's used the washing machine every day this week. (use, all)
James _____.
- 3 How much longer until we get to New York? We left London five hours ago. (fly, already, for)
How much longer until we get to New York? We _____.
- 4 Aren't they hungry? They started work at nine o'clock! (work, since)
Aren't they hungry? They _____.
- 5 I live in this apartment. I moved here twelve months ago (live, all)
I've _____.

3 Choose the correct form of the verb.

- 1 I'd never *been using* / *used* Skype before you suggested it.
- 2 He'd *been starting* / *started* saving for his daughter's university education before she finished primary school.
- 3 They hadn't *been turning on* / *turned on* their air conditioning once in five years, so they got rid of it.
- 4 You'd *been working* / *You've been working* there for ten years by the time you left, hadn't you?
- 5 Until I bumped into Alexi last week, I *didn't see* / *hadn't seen* her since we left university.
- 6 It's going well but we *haven't finished* / *didn't finish* painting the bedroom yet.

4 Complete the sentences using the future perfect simple or continuous form of the verb.

- 1 How long _____ (we / drive) by the time we reach Los Angeles?
- 2 She _____ (not complete) her degree before she starts her job.
- 3 By the time I retire next month I _____ (not have) a single day off in ten years.
- 4 I don't think we need to rush. Jason and Jessie _____ (not arrive) yet.
- 5 By the end of this afternoon, you _____ (talk) for about three hours, so your voice will need a rest.
- 6 _____ (you / study) English for six years by the time you move to New York?
- 7 I need to speak to Claire. Do you think they _____ (finish) the meeting by now?
- 8 Ross _____ (not see) the new Bond film already, will he?

5 Complete the text using the correct perfect form of the verb. Use the continuous where possible.

My partner and I ¹ _____ (just / decide) to have an adventure and go sailing around the world. In a year we ² _____ (sell) our house where we ³ _____ (live) for 18 years now, and if all goes well, we ⁴ _____ (sail) for a month by this time next year. I'm excited because until we started planning this trip I ⁵ _____ (never do) anything adventurous, even though before our first child was born ⁶ _____ (talk) about doing something like this. We ⁷ _____ (have) sailing lessons for 18 months now but we ⁸ _____ (not complete) our training for another 6 months.