



**English Grammar**

## present perfect simple

- number of times you have done something**  
How many times have you seen that film? I've seen it twice.  
Have you been to Paris before? I've only been there once.
- things you have done in a continuing time period**  
I've done many things in my life. (your life is continuing)  
I haven't spoken to her this week. (this week is continuing)
- recently completed actions (often with 'just')**  
The film's just started so you haven't missed anything.  
I'm not hungry because I've just had my dinner.
- situations that started in the past and continue**  
Ireland has been in the EU since 1973 while Spain has been in it for 20 years.  
I've lived in Italy for most of my life. I've been here for 27 years.
- past actions with an important present result**  
I can't play tennis because I've hurt my knee.  
I've left my keys at work and now I can't get into my house.

**used with key words**  
just  
already  
still  
yet  
ever  
never  
recently

## past simple

- finished past state/action (with a specific time)**  
I saw that film last week when I went to the cinema with my friends.  
Ireland joined the EU in 1973. Spain and Portugal joined in 1986.  
I didn't speak to her this morning. (finished time period - now it's 18:00)

CORK ENGLISH TEACHER

Read and choose the correct option.

- Nobody recognised / has recognised me at the costume party last night.
- We moved / have moved to our new home a week ago.
- I studied / have studied here for four years now.
- I didn't study / haven't studied for the English test yet.
- Look! He washed / has washed his car. It looks new again.
- My bother has already taken / already took the bus there.
- We can't take the 11:00 o'clock train. We forgot / have forgotten our travel tickets.
- My father saw / has seen Simon some time ago. He was old and skinny.
- I travelled / have travelled abroad many times in my life.
- The cinema just opened / has just opened so, we haven't waited long.
- I didn't do / haven't done sport when I was young.

Read and complete with the past simple or

present perfect form of the verbs

Michael Jun drives racing cars. This year he \_\_\_\_\_ (already win) 6 races but he \_\_\_\_\_ (not-win) the World Championship yet. Last year he nearly \_\_\_\_\_ (get) the Cup but he \_\_\_\_\_ (lose) his last race! Unbelievable! Through the years, he \_\_\_\_\_ (earn) a lot of money and \_\_\_\_\_ (become) very famous. He \_\_\_\_\_ (start) racing fast cars when he was 20. He \_\_\_\_\_ (just sign) a contract with a new sponsor.

Read and complete with the past simple or present perfect form of the verbs.

Mrs. Guzman is usually standing at her window, gossiping. She knows everything about her neighbours. She tells a friend about them.

'Marlon and Carmen \_\_\_\_\_ (just / return) from their holiday to Spain. They \_\_\_\_\_ (be) there for a week and they \_\_\_\_\_ (not take) their children with them. Her new neighbours, the Miller's, \_\_\_\_\_ (rent) the house opposite hers. They \_\_\_\_\_ (sell) their old apartment two weeks ago to pay medical debts. Mrs Donald \_\_\_\_\_ (go) for a walk and \_\_\_\_\_ (not return) yet. She \_\_\_\_\_ (leave) her home at 3:00 in the afternoon and she \_\_\_\_\_ (not be) alone. She \_\_\_\_\_ (already/meet) the mysterious man twice'.

If you want to know about someone, ask Mrs. Guzman. She will be glad to tell you.

