

# Past Simple VS Present Perfect

## Definite, finished time

1. We lived there from 2015 till 2019.
2. I ate 10 cakes last week.

### Series of finished actions in the past

I came there, bought that book and started reading it.

### Repeated actions

She went to the cinema every weekend last year.

## No connection to now

### When something happened is important

I saw the Eiffel Tower in 2010.

## Indefinite, unfinished time

1. I've worked as a teacher.
2. I've eaten 10 cakes this week.

### Experiences, achievements and accomplishments

Have you ever read that book?

### Result

She has already watched this movie 5 times.



## Connection to now

### When something happened is not important

I have seen the Eiffel Tower.

### 1 Underline the correct tense.

a <b>I've never been / never went</b> to Australia.	d <b>I've never eaten / didn't eat</b> sushi.
b <b>I haven't done / didn't do</b> my homework last night.	e <b>I've been / went</b> skiing last winter.
c <b>My parents haven't called / didn't call</b> me recently.	f <b>I've had / had</b> a bicycle when I was a child.

**2 Complete the table with the time expressions in the box.**

a few minutes ago    in 2015    in the last two weeks  
last week    never    over the years    recently  
this week    today    when I was a student    years ago

"Finished" time	Time "up to now"
a few minutes ago	in the last two weeks

**3 Complete the sentences with the present perfect form of the verbs in parentheses.**

A How many different jobs has she had (she had)?  
B She has had (have) lots of different jobs in her life.  
C Have you ever worked (you ever work) in a factory?  
D No, I haven't worked (never be) in a bakery.  
E What's the worst meal you have ever eaten (ever eat)?  
F I like (like) most of my jobs and I like this one, too.  
G Yes, I have always wanted (always want) to be a ballet dancer.

**4 Write questions for the answers below.**

a Have you ever been on TV?

No, I've never been on TV.

b Have you ever worked as an au pair?

No, I've never worked as an au pair.

c Has your parents ever forgotten your birthday?

No, my parents have never forgotten my birthday.

d Has your teacher ever made a joke in class?

No, my teacher has never made a joke in class.

e Have you ever seen a ballet?

No, I've never seen a ballet.

f Have you ever voted in a political election?

No, I've never voted in a political election.

g Have you ever ridden a motorcycle?

No, I've never ridden a motorcycle.

**5 Put the verbs in parentheses in the correct form. Use the simple past or the present perfect.**

I (1) have had (have) lots of horrible jobs in my life, but the worst job I (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (ever have) was selling hot dogs. I (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (start) the job at the beginning of last summer because I (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (need) some money to buy a car. It was the biggest mistake I (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (ever make) in my life. I (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (not like) the smell of the hot dogs and, on the first day, I (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (feel) sick. The weather (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (be) really bad and I only (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (sell) two or three. At the end of the day, the boss (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (say) to me, "You (11) \_\_\_\_\_ (no sell) enough!" The next morning, I (12) \_\_\_\_\_ (decide) to stay in bed.

**6 Underline the correct time expression.**

- a I learned to drive ever / in my life / when I was eighteen.
- b I haven't been to the movies a few weeks ago / last week / this week.
- c I bought a beautiful dress in my life / over the years / yesterday.
- d I didn't go to the beach at all last summer / over the years / recently.
- e I've been to a few good restaurants last Friday / recently / years ago.
- f I've spent way too much money last night / today / yesterday.
- g I've done a lot of silly things in 2017 / a few moments ago / over the years.

**7 Complete the sentences with the phrases in the box.**

a break	a day	a decision
a living	money	a part-time job
permission	two weeks	

- a I'm going to have a day off tomorrow and go for a long walk.
- b I asked my boss for two weeks to leave work early.
- c I need to make a decision about my future.
- d I think I'll take two weeks now and finish the work later.
- e I usually have two weeks off in the summer and go on vacation with my family.
- f I'd like to make a living as a model.
- g I'm hoping to find a part-time job in the evenings and on the weekends.
- h The job isn't well-paid and I don't make much money.

**8 Complete the sentences with an appropriate verb.**

- a It's extremely difficult to have a well-paid job.
- b Every morning, they take a fifteen-minute coffee-break.
- c He only wanted to have a nap, but he slept for three hours.
- d In some countries, men can have some time off when their wife has a baby.
- e Is it really possible to make a living as a snowboarder?
- f The factory is closing and she's going to lose her job.
- g Why don't you ask your parents for their advice?
- h You can make a lot of money as a sales person, but you have to be good.