# THE GRAMMAR GAMESHOW

**Will** Hello, and welcome to today's Grammar Gameshow! I'm your host, Will. But I'm no auxiliary! And, of course, let's not forget Leslie, our all-knowing voice in the sky.

**Leslie** Hello, everyone!

**Will** Tonight, we're going to ask you three questions about…

**Leslie** The present perfect simple and continuous tenses. Yes, those past to present tenses using have plus a past participle!

**Will** OK! Now, let's meet our contestants!

**Mya** Hi everyone. I'm Mya!

**Will** And contestant number two?

**Mike** Hi, Will. My name's Mike!

**Will** Welcome back Mike. OK! Let's get going. And don't forget you can play along at home too. Question one: True or false? The present perfect continuous has a use that is the same as the present perfect simple.

**Mya** _____ !

**Will** Leslie?

**Leslie** It is true. Both can be used for an activity which started _____ and continues _____ .

**Will** Well done. You score 2 points. And for a bonus 19 points, can you give us an example?

**Mya** Errr… I' _____ as an accountant for 8 years?

**Will** And?

**Mya** Err… I' _____ as an accountant for 8 years?

**Will** Leslie?

**Leslie** Yep. Both correct and with the same meaning.

**Will** Well done Mya. You score six points.

**Mya** But you said…

**Will** Question 2: As we have just said, the present perfect simple and continuous can have the same use. However, sometimes the present perfect continuous cannot be used but the present perfect simple can. Why?

**Mike** Trick question! They can always be used the same!

**Will** Leslie?

**Leslie** Nope! Sorry! Because of its continuous form, the present perfect continuous cannot usually be used with _____. This means you must use the simple form. Even if you mean continuous.

**Will** Mike, if you can give us an example of some state verbs, you can still score.

**Mike** _____?

**Will** That'll do nicely! 1 point for you. OK, time for our final question. This one is a picture question. Have a look at this picture, and make two sentences with it; one in the present perfect simple and one in the continuous.

**Mya** He's been writing letters _____. He's written _____.

**Will** Leslie?

**Leslie** Absolutely right again. The present perfect simple looks at _____ actions, and often counts _____ or _____, whereas the present perfect continuous tends to see one action _____, and cares about _____.

**Will** Good job. 33 points to you. Well that brings us to the end of today's Grammar gameshow. Let's count the points. And the winner is… Mya

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with 37 and a half. Well done! Here's what you've won!

**Leslie** It's a toothbrush!

TRUE OR FALSE: THE PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE AND PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS TENSES ALWAYS HAVE THE SAME USE AND MEANING.

WHICH OF THESE SENTENCES DOES NOT HAVE THE SAME USE AS THE OTHERS?
A He's always loved playing the violin.
B They've been going on summer holiday to Spain since 1982!
C He's been arrested for dangerous driving.
D I've just been cleaning the car.

YOU STARTED BAKING CAKES AN HOUR AGO. YOU ARE NOT FINISHED. SOMEONE ASKS YOU A QUESTION. WHICH OF THESE IS INCORRECT?
A How long have you been baking cakes?
B How long have you baked cakes?
C How many cakes have you baked?
D How many cakes have you been baking?