

Present perfect and past tenses practice

1) Choose the correct word or phrase in each sentence.

- a) I can't believe it, Inspector. You mean that Smith *stole/has stolen/has been stealing* money from the till all this time!
- b) You three boys look very guilty! What *did you do/have you done/have you been doing* since I *left/have left* the room?
- c) Why on earth *didn't you tell/haven't you told* me about that loose floorboard? I *tripped/have tripped* over it just now and hurt myself.
- d) It's a long time since I *saw/have seen/have been seeing* your brother Paul. What *did he do/has he done/has he been doing* lately?
- e) I can't believe that you *ate/have eaten/have been eating* three pizzas already! I *only brought/have only brought* them in fifteen minutes ago!
- f) Don't forget that you *didn't see/haven't seen* Mrs Dawson. She *has waited/has been waiting* outside since 10.30.
- g) What *did you think/have you thought* of Brighton? *Did you stay/Have you stayed* there long?
- h) I feel really tired. I *weeded/have weeded/have been weeding* the garden for the last three hours and I *didn't rest/haven't rested* for a single moment.
- i) I'm having problems with David. He *has called/has been calling* me up in the middle of the night and *told/telling* me his troubles.
- j) How long *did you have/have you had/have you been having* driving lessons? And *did you take/have you taken/have you been taking* your test yet?

2) Put each verb in brackets into the most appropriate perfect or past verb form.



- a) So far we *..haven't noticed*.....(not/notice) anything unusual, but we(not/pay) very close attention.
- b) I'm sorry I.....(not/come) to class lately.

- c) I.....(work) late in the evenings for the past fortnight.
- d) I wonder if Mary.....(reach) home yet? She
.....(leave) too late to catch the bus.
- e) Here is the news. The Home Office.....(announce) that the two prisoners who.....(escape) from Dartmoor prison earlier this morning.....(give themselves up) to local police.
- f).....(you/make up) your minds? What
.....(you/decide) to do?
- g) Harry.....(leave) home rather suddenly and we
.....(not/hear) from him since.
- h) Recent research.....(show) that Columbus
.....(not/discover) America, but that Vikings
.....(land) there five hundred years before him.
- i) I think that people.....(become) tired of the poor quality of television programmes, though they.....
(improve) lately,
- j).....(something/happen) to the phone lines? I
.....(try) to get through to Glasgow for the past hour.
- k) Bill.....(get) that new job, but he
.....(complain) about it ever since.