

# Present perfect

Talking about the past and present together

## have + past participle

In this unit you learn ways to talk about the past and present together using the present perfect.

### Form of the present perfect

#### Have + past participle

The past participle of regular verbs is formed by adding **-ed** to the infinitive.

Infinitive	Past participle	Example
cook	cooked	He has cooked dinner for us.
work	worked	Have you worked hard today?
finish	finished	She hasn't finished it.

### Remember!

You can use a short form of have.

*I've = I have*

*they haven't = they have not*

*he's = he has*

*she hasn't = she has not*

*we've = we have*

- If the infinitive ends in **-e**, you add only **-d**.

Infinitive	Past participle
live	lived

- Many common verbs have irregular forms. Here are a few.

Infinitive	Past participle
be	been
have	had
go	gone
see	seen
eat	eaten

## Uses of the present perfect

You can use the present perfect

- to talk about something that happened in the past but that is still important in the present:



- to describe something that started in the past and is still happening now:

*A: Do you know this part of town?*

*B: Yes, I've lived here for ten years.*

- to talk about things you have done at some time in the past:

*I've been to America three times.*

*I've never read any Harry Potter books.*

- with **just** to talk about the recent past:

*I've just finished my exams. I'm so happy.*

*A: Do you want some of my chocolate?*

*B: No thanks, I've just eaten.*

- with **ever** to ask questions to find out things that people have done:

*A: Have you ever eaten Japanese food?*

*B: Yes, many times.*

- with **yet** and **already**:

*Have you done your homework yet?*

*Don't tell me what happens at the end of the film. I haven't seen it yet.*

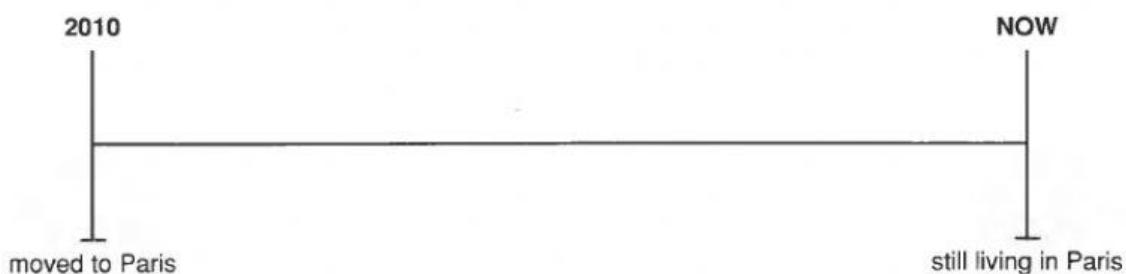
*We don't need any more milk. I've already bought some.*

### Remember!

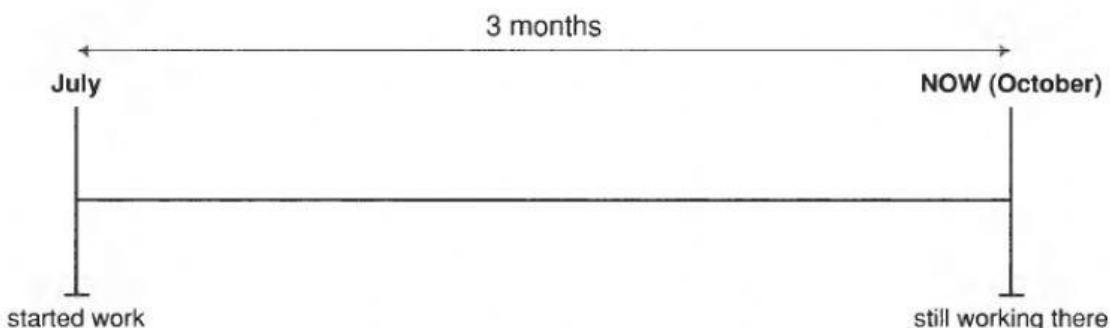
You use **already** in positive sentences, and **yet** in negative sentences and questions.

- with **for** (for a period of time) or **since** (from a point in time):

*I've lived in Paris since 2010.*



*He's worked there for three months.*



*She's been a fan since she saw them in concert.*



### Present perfect with **been** and **gone**

Look at these examples:

*Sam's gone to the shops to buy a newspaper. He'll be back in a few minutes.*

This means that Sam is still at the shops.

*Julia's been to the shops so we've got enough food for dinner.*

This means that Julia has gone to the shops and come back.

## Exercise 1

Match the sentences with the pictures, as shown.

1 He's already eaten  
the sandwich.

a



2 She hasn't drunk  
her coffee yet.

b



3 She hasn't got up  
yet.

c



4 He's already had a  
shower.

d



5 She hasn't made  
her bed yet.

e



6 She's already  
tidied her room.

f



## Exercise 2

Match the sentence halves.

1 Jack has worked in the same office for  
2 I've lived in the same house since  
3 They've been in love since  
4 The food has been in the microwave for  
5 Sarah has been away at university since  
6 Tim's brother has been good at maths since

a he was five.

b she started last term.

c they met at school.

d three years.

e I was born.

f three minutes.

**Exercise 3**

Choose the correct word.

- 1 Have you **never** / **ever** eaten fish and chips?
- 2 I've **ever** / **never** been to the US.
- 3 Tessa has **never** / **ever** had a cold.
- 4 Has Ben **ever** / **never** worked in an office?
- 5 Have Mary and Bill **ever** / **never** invited you to their home?
- 6 Amy's teachers have **never** / **ever** known such a clever student.

**Exercise 4**

Match the sentence halves.

1 He's already put	a to work yet.
2 She hasn't had	b breakfast yet.
3 He's already cleaned	c the car.
4 It hasn't stopped	d the dishes in the cupboard.
5 She's already taken	e raining yet.
6 He hasn't gone	f the dog for a walk.

**Exercise 5**

Choose the correct word.

- 1 Sally isn't here. She's **gone** / **been** to the bank.
- 2 I'm tired because I've just **been** / **gone** for a swim.
- 3 Kevin's back now – he's just **been** / **gone** to the supermarket.
- 4 Rita's **gone** / **been** to buy some lunch. She'll be back in a minute.
- 5 Have you ever **gone** / **been** to the mountains?
- 6 Tom has **been** / **gone** to a meeting, so he won't be in the office today.

**Exercise 6**

Which sentences are correct?

1 Donald has lived in France since two years.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 I've known my friend Sasha for a long time.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3 Liz has never learnt to swim.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 Sarah has ever been to China.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5 Peter has washed already the dishes.	<input type="checkbox"/>
6 Claire hasn't had her lunch yet.	<input type="checkbox"/>