

Practice² with Present Perfect Tense

El presente perfecto suele ser difícil para los hispanohablantes porque a menudo sólo utilizan el pasado simple. Veamos las diferencias entre estos dos tiempos.

PAST SIMPLE vs PRESENT PERFECT	
<p>past simple (a) I finished my work <i>two hours ago</i>.</p> <p>present perfect (b) I <i>have already finished</i> my work.</p>	<p>In (a): I finished my work at a specific time in the past (<i>two hours ago</i>).</p> <p>In (b): I finished my work at an unspecified time in the past (<i>sometime before now</i>).</p>
<p>past simple (c) I was in Europe <i>last year / in 1999 / three years ago / when I was 10 years old</i>.</p> <p>present perfect (d) I <i>have been</i> in Europe <i>many times / once / several times</i>. (no mention of time)</p>	<p>Past simple expresses an activity that occurred at a specific time (or times) in the past, as in (a) and (c).</p> <p>Present perfect expresses an activity that occurred at an unspecified time (or times) in the past, as in (b) and (d).</p>
<p>past simple (e) Ann was in Miami <i>for two weeks</i>.</p> <p>present perfect (f) Bob <i>has been</i> in Miami <i>for two weeks / since May 1st</i>.</p>	<p>In (e): In the simple past, <i>for</i> expresses an activity that began and ended in the past.</p> <p>In (f): In present perfect, <i>for</i> or <i>since</i> express an activity that began in the past and continues to the present.</p>

Fíjate en el verbo en *cursiva*. ¿Es pasado simple o presente perfecto? Marque la casilla la casilla que indica si el verbo expresa algo que ocurrió en un momento concreto en el pasado o en un momento indeterminado del pasado.

SPECIFIED TIME IN THE PAST	UNSPECIFIED TIME IN THE PAST	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. Ms. Parker <i>has been</i> in Tokyo many times. (→ <i>present perfect</i>)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Ms. Parker <i>was</i> in Tokyo last week. (→ <i>simple past</i>)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. I've met Ann's husband. He's a nice guy.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. I met Ann's husband at a party last week.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Mr. White <i>was</i> in Rome three times last month.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Mr. White <i>has been</i> in Rome many times.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. I like to travel. I've been in more than thirty foreign countries.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. I <i>was</i> in Morocco in 2001.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Mary <i>has never been</i> in Morocco.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Mary <i>wasn't</i> in Morocco when I was there in 2001.

Complete las frases con las palabras entre paréntesis. Utiliza el presente perfecto o el pasado simple.

1. A: Have you ever been in Europe?

B: Yes, I have. I (be) have been in Europe several times.
In fact, I (be) was in Europe last year.

2. A: Are you going to finish your work before you go to bed?

B: I (finish, already*) have already finished it. I (finish) finished my work two hours ago.

3. A: Have you ever eaten at Al's Steak House?
 B: Yes, I _____. I *(eat)* _____ there many times.
 In fact, my wife and I *(eat)* _____ there last night.
4. A: Do you and Erica want to go to the movie at the Palace Theater with us tonight?
 B: No thanks. We *(see, already)* _____ it. We
(see) _____ it last week.
5. A: When are you going to write your report for Mr. Goldberg?
 B: I *(write, already)* _____ it. I *(write)*
 _____ it two days ago and gave it to him.
6. A: *(Antonio, have, ever)* _____ a job?
 B: Yes, he _____. He *(have)* _____ lots of
 part-time jobs. Last summer he *(have)* _____ a job at his
 uncle's waterbed store.
7. A: This is a good book. Would you like to read it when I'm finished?
 B: Thanks, but I *(read, already)* _____ it. I *(read)*
 _____ it a couple of months ago.
8. A: What European countries *(you, visit)* _____ ?
 B: I *(visit)* _____ Hungary, Germany, and Switzerland. I
(visit) _____ Hungary in 1998. I *(be)* _____ in
 Germany and Switzerland in 2001.

Completa la frase "He estado aquí . . ." Utilice *since* o *for* con las expresiones dadas.

I have been here . . .

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| 1. <u>for</u> two months. | 9. _____ the first of January. |
| 2. <u>since</u> September. | 10. _____ almost four months. |
| 3. _____ 1998. | 11. _____ the beginning of the term. |
| 4. _____ last year. | 12. _____ the semester started. |
| 5. _____ two years. | 13. _____ a couple of hours. |
| 6. _____ last Friday. | 14. _____ fifteen minutes. |
| 7. _____ 9:30. | 15. _____ yesterday. |
| 8. _____ three days. | 16. _____ about five weeks. |