11 Present Perfect vs Past Simple

Present Perfect vs Past Simple

We use the present perfect:

- **for recent actions or states, or for actions which happened at an unstated time in the past.**



I **have bought** a new bicycle.
(**When** did he buy it? **We don't know**.)
unstated time

- **for actions or states which began in the past and continue up to the present.**



I **have been** a teacher for two years.
(He is still a teacher.)

We use the past simple:

- **for actions or states which finished at a stated time in the past.**



I **bought** this bicycle five years ago.
(**When** did he buy it? Five years **ago**.)
stated time

- **for actions or states which finished in the past.**



I **was** a student fourteen years **ago**.
(He isn't a student now. He is a teacher.)

Time expressions used with the present perfect:

just, ever, never, already, yet, always, how long, so far, for, since, recently, etc.

Time expressions used with the past simple:

yesterday, last night / week / month / year, ago, then, when, in 2004, etc.

8 Circle the correct item.

1 I haven't tidied my room **just** / **yet**.
2 We went to the cinema **already** / **yesterday**.
3 Helen has **already** / **yet** had her breakfast.
4 The children have **never** / **ever** been to Italy.
5 I didn't play football **yet** / **last weekend**.
6 I sent you an email two days **already** / **ago** but you haven't replied.
7 Billy took a test **already** / **three days ago**.
8 Tonia has sent twenty invitations **yesterday** / **so far**.
9 She hasn't watched any new films **yesterday** / **recently**.
10 Has Ben gone to school **then** / **yet**?

9 Fill in the gaps with *yet*, *ago*, *ever*, *last night*, *for* or *since*.

1 My father went to Spain two days ...ago...
2 He has known her ..... 2001.
3 She hasn't finished her work ..... .
4 Have you ..... seen an elephant?
5 We went to bed at 10 o'clock ..... .
6 He has lived in Madrid ..... ten years.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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10 Choose the correct item.

1 I ..... a new dress yesterday.
A buy **B** bought
C have bought

2 She ..... anything since 9 o'clock this morning.
A hasn't eaten **B** ate
C didn't eat

3 He ..... to school last week. He was ill.
A hasn't gone **B** went
C didn't go

4 I ..... such a delicious cake.
A have never eaten **B** have ever eaten
C never ate

5 ..... you ..... me last night?
A Have, called **B** Do, call
C Did, call

6 She ..... married in 2008.
A has got **B** got
C have got

7 Jane ..... painting.
A always like **B** always has liked
C has always liked

8 I ..... TV last night.
A didn't watch **B** haven't watched
C hasn't watched

9 They ..... their homework yet.
A have finished **B** haven't finished
C finished

10 Last year, the Smiths ..... to Australia.
A have gone **B** went
C have never gone

11 Put the verbs in brackets into the *past simple* or the *present perfect*.

1 Kevin ..has lost... **(lose)** his keys. He .....left..... **(leave)** them on the bus yesterday.
2 I ..... **(not/play)** tennis since I was at school but I ..... **(be)** very good at it back then.
3 Mr and Mrs Little ..... **(visit)** Egypt. They ..... **(go)** there on holiday in 2007.
4 A: ..... you ..... **(choose)** a dress for the party yet?
B: Yes, I ..... **(buy)** one yesterday.
5 A: ..... you ..... **(see)** any new films lately?
B: Yes, I ..... **(watch)** the new James Bond film last week.
6 I think our teacher ..... **(forget)** about the test! He ..... **(not/say)** anything about it in the last lesson!
7 Sarah ..... **(break)** her leg. She ..... **(fall)** off a horse last week.
8 A: ..... **(you/sell)** your house yet?
B: Yes, some people ..... **(see)** it last month and ..... **(buy)** it.
9 I ..... **(finish)** decorating my room. I ..... **(paint)** it last week and I ..... **(put up)** the new curtains last night.
10 They ..... **(lose)** their cat. It ..... **(run)** away last week.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

11 Present Perfect vs Past Simple

12 **Put the verbs in brackets into the *present perfect* or the *past simple*.**

a) Ann: 1) ...Did you go... **(you/go)** on holiday last year?
Costas: Yes, I 2) ..... **(go)** to Spain. 3) ..... **(you/ever/be)** there?
Ann: Yes, I 4) ..... **(go)** there two years ago.

b) Maria: I 5) ..... **(sell)** my old radio.
Helen: Really? When 6) ..... **(you/sell)** it?
Maria: I 7) ..... **(sell)** it yesterday.

c) Ian: I 8) ..... **(go)** to the new sports centre yesterday.
Josh: Really? I 9) ..... **(not/be)** there yet. What's it like?
Ian: It's fantastic! I 10) ..... **(never/see)** anything like it before.

13 **Put the verbs in brackets into the *past simple* or the *present perfect*.**



I 1) ...'ve been... **(be)** a ski instructor for many years now. I 2) ..... **(take up)** the sport when I 3) ..... **(be)** at school. I still remember the first time I 4) ..... **(try)** to ski. I 5) ..... **(slip)** on the ice and 6) ..... **(break)** my ankle. Thankfully, I 7) ..... **(not/have)** a serious accident since then. Last year, I 8) ..... **(try)** ice-skating for the very first time. I 9) ..... **(slip)** on the ice rink a couple of times since then but I 10) ..... **(not/break)** anything. Two years ago, I 11) ..... **(take)** snowboarding lessons. I 12) ..... **(not/like)** it because I 13) ..... **(find)** it a little dangerous. I 14) ..... **(not/play)** ice-hockey yet. There's a game tomorrow. I can't wait to go!

GAME

Brain Gym

In 5 minutes, write 3 things you have already done today and 3 things you did yesterday.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS