

## Present perfect and past 2 (I **have done** and I **did**)

A

Do not use the present perfect (**I have done**) when you talk about a *finished* time (for example, **yesterday / ten minutes ago / in 2005 / when I was a child**). Use a past tense:

- It was** very cold **yesterday**. (not has been)
- Paul and Lucy **arrived ten minutes ago**. (not have arrived)
- Did you **eat** a lot of sweets **when you were a child**? (not have you eaten)
- I **got** home late **last night**. I was very tired and **went** straight to bed.

Use the past to ask **When** ... ? or **What time** ... ?

- When did your friends arrive? (not have ... arrived)
- What time did you finish work?

Compare:

## Present perfect

- Tom **has lost** his key. He can't get into the house.
- Is Carla here or **has she left**?

### *Past simple*

- Tom **lost** his key **yesterday**.  
He couldn't get into the house.
- When did** Carla **leave**?

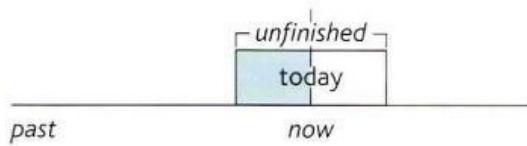
B

Compare:

### *Present perfect (have done)*

I've done a lot of work **today**.

We use the present perfect for a period of time that continues *until now*. For example: **today / this week / since 2007.**

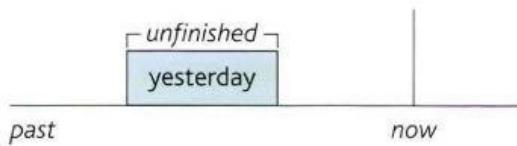


- It hasn't rained this week.**
- Have you seen Anna this morning?**  
(it is still morning)
- Have you seen Tim recently?**
- I don't know where Lisa is. I **haven't seen** her. (=I haven't seen her recently)
- We've been waiting** for an hour.  
(we are still waiting now)
- Jack lives in Los Angeles. He **has lived** there for seven years.
- I have never played** golf. (in my life)
- It's the last day of your holiday. You say:*  
**It's been** a really good holiday.  
**I've** really **enjoyed** it.

### *Past simple (did)*

I did a lot of work yesterday.

We use the past simple for a *finished* time in the past. For example:



- It didn't rain last week.**
- Did you see Anna this morning?**  
(it is now afternoon or evening)
- Did you see Tim on Sunday?**
- A: **Was** Lisa at the party **on Sunday?**  
B: I don't think so. I **didn't** see her.
- We waited (or were waiting) for an hour.** (we are no longer waiting)
- Jack lived in New York for ten years.**  
Now he lives in Los Angeles.
- I didn't play golf last summer.**
- After you come back from holiday you say:** It **was** a really good holiday.  
I really **enjoyed** it.

# Exercises

## 14.1 Are the underlined parts of these sentences right or wrong? Correct them where necessary.

1 I've lost my key. I can't find it anywhere. OK  
 2 Have you eaten a lot of sweets when you were a child? Did you eat  
 3 I've bought a new car. You must come and see it.  
 4 I've bought a new car last week.  
 5 Where have you been yesterday evening?  
 6 Lucy has left school in 1999.  
 7 I'm looking for Mike. Have you seen him?  
 8 'Have you been to Paris?' 'Yes, many times.'  
 9 I'm very hungry. I haven't eaten much today.  
 10 When has this book been published?

## 14.2 Make sentences from the words in brackets. Use the present perfect or past simple.

1 (it / not / rain / this week) It hasn't rained this week.  
 2 (the weather / be / cold / recently) The weather  
 3 (it / cold / last week) It  
 4 (I / not / read / a newspaper yesterday) I  
 5 (I / not / read / a newspaper today)  
 6 (Emily / earn / a lot of money / this year)  
 7 (she / not / earn / so much / last year)  
 8 (you / have / a holiday recently?)

## 14.3 Put the verb into the correct form, present perfect or past simple.

1 'What's Madrid like?' 'I don't know. I haven't been (I / not / be) there.'  
 2 When (I / get) home last night, (I / go) straight to bed. (I / be)  
 very tired and  
 3 A: (you / see) Lisa recently?  
 B: Yes, (I / saw) her a few days ago.  
 4 I'm tired. (I / not / sleep) well last night.  
 5 The bus drivers were on strike last week. (there / be) no buses.  
 6 Mr Lee (work) in a bank for 15 years. Then (he / give) it up. Now he works as a gardener.  
 7 Mary lives in Dublin. (she / live) there all her life.  
 8 A: (you / go) to the cinema last night?  
 B: Yes, but (it / be) a mistake. The film (be) awful.  
 9 My grandfather (die) before I was born.  
 (I / never / meet) him.  
 10 I don't know Karen's husband. (I / never / meet) him.  
 11 It's nearly lunchtime, and (I / not / see) Martin all morning.  
 I wonder where he is.  
 12 'Where do you live?' 'In Boston.'  
 'How long (you / live) there?' 'Five years.'  
 'Where (you / live) before that?' 'In Chicago.'  
 'And how long (you / live) in Chicago?' 'Two years.'

## 14.4 Write sentences about yourself using the ideas in brackets.

1 (something you haven't done today) I haven't eaten any fruit today  
 2 (something you haven't done today)  
 3 (something you didn't do yesterday)  
 4 (something you did yesterday evening)  
 5 (something you haven't done recently)  
 6 (something you've done a lot recently)