The Present Perfect Continuous

GRAMMAR

1. **FORM:**

a I, YOU,WE, THEY HAVE BEEN + V-ING
as in *We have been talking...*

b HE, SHE, IT HAS BEEN V-ING
as in *It has been snowing ...*

AFFIRMATIVE, NEGATIVE, INTERROGATIVE:

We have been waiting for her for two hours.
You haven't been doing anything lately!
Have you been working out? You're so fit!
How long have we been waiting for her?
What has she been doing?

2. USAGE:

a This verb tense stresses the duration of the action. Prepositions since and for can be used.
She has been playing in the garden for hours. (she's still there)

b It's also used to describe a long action that began in the past and has just stopped. The result of the action is clear or implied.
It has been raining. The ground is still wet.

c. We can also use it to talk about something that has been in progress recently or lately.

You look wonderful! Have you been working out lately?

Have you been smoking recently? I can smell cigarette smoke here!

You haven't been taking things seriously lately.

PRACTICE

Complete the dialogues between a writer and a reporter using the *Present Perfect Continuous* and the necessary prepositions:



R: How long _____
_____ (you- write) books?[1]
W: _____[2]
them _____[3] five years.



R: How long _____
_____in Africa?[4]
W: I _____[5] (live) in Africa _____[6]1998.
R: How long _____
_____[7] (your guide -work) with you?
W: He _____
_____[8] (work) with me ____ [9]two years.



R: What else _____
_____(you-do) in Africa?[10]
W: I_____
(take)[11] photos for my guidebook.
R: How long _____
(travel)[12] around Kenya?



W:_____
[13] (I - travel) _____[14] 6 a.m.
R:_____
[15] (you-walk) around Kenya!?
W: I _____
(drive)[16] and _____(walk)[17]



R: _____
(you - ride)[18] elephants too?
W: No, I _____[19]. But I _____
_____ (send)[20] photos of elephants and many other animals to some magazines. I've sold most of my photos. I _____
(think)[21] of becoming a full time photographer.
R: _____
_____ [22] (I-consider) changing my job _____[23] two years!





LIVEWORKSHEETS



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