

Present Perfect or Past Simple?

Definition and use: Write down the name of each tense.

1. We use _____ to talk about finished events in the past.

We use these time expressions: yesterday, 2 days ago, last year, in 2010.

We also use this tense when we ask or answer questions with 'When'.

*We **started** our company in 2017.*

2. We use _____ to talk about very recent past experiences (with JUST/RECENTLY); past events at a unspecified time (EVER/NEVER) or events that started in the past and are connected to the present (FOR/SINCE/ALL MY LIFE). We use this tense with 'How long'.

*We've **been** on the market for 15 years.*

Task: Put the verb in the correct form in the Present Perfect or the Past Simple

A: How long¹ (*your offices / be*) in this area?

B: Since April 2007.

A: Where² (*you / be*) before that?

B: In the city centre. But the rent³ (*be*) outrageously expensive, so we⁴ (*decide*) to relocate to the suburbs.

A: And⁵ (*you / ever / regret*) your decision?

B: Frankly, we⁶ (*be*) slightly worried about all the changes in the first couple of months, but we⁷ (*soon / realise*) that it was the right move. This part of town is extremely attractive, and in fact, it⁸ (*develop*) enormously over the last two or three years.