

present perfect and simple past

present perfect: *have / has + past participle (worked, seen, etc.)*

1 past experiences

I've **been** to Miami but I **haven't been** to Tampa.

Have you ever **lost** your credit card?

Sally **has** never **met** Bill's ex-wife.

2 with yet and already (for emphasis)

I've already **seen** this movie twice. Can't we watch another one?

My brother **hasn't found** a job yet. He's still looking.

Have you **finished** your homework yet? No, not yet.

- We use the present perfect for past experiences when we don't say exactly when they happened.
 - We often use *ever* and *never* when we ask or talk about past experiences. They go **before** the main verb.
- In American English, we use the present perfect and the simple past with *yet* and *already*.
 - already* is used in **[+]** sentences and goes **before** the main verb.
 - yet* is used with **[-]** sentences and **[?]**. It goes **at the end** of the phrase.
 - For irregular past participles see **Irregular verbs p.165**.

simple past (*worked, stopped, went, had, etc.*)

They **got** married last year.

What time **did** you **wake up** this morning?

I **didn't have** time to do my homework.

- Use the simple past for finished past actions (when we say, ask, or know when they happened).

present perfect or simple past?

I've **been** to Miami twice.

(= in my life up to now)

I **went** there in 1998 and 2002.

(= on two specific occasions)

- Use the simple past (NOT the present perfect) to ask or talk about finished actions in the past, **when the time is mentioned or understood**. We often use a past time expression, e.g., *yesterday, last week, etc.*

- a Complete the mini dialogues with the present perfect form of the verb in parentheses and an adverb from the list. You can use the adverbs more than once.

already ever never yet

A _____ you _____ the lottery _____? (play)

B That's why I'm smiling – I won \$50!

1 A _____ you _____ a flight online? (book)

B Yes, of course. I've done it many times.

2 A When are you going to buy a motorcycle?

B Soon. I _____ almost \$1,000. (save)

3 A _____ you _____ the electricity bill _____? (pay)

B No, sorry. I forgot.

4 A _____ your parents _____ you money? (lend)

B Yes, but I paid it back as soon as I could.

5 A How does eBay work?

B I don't know. I _____ it. (use)

6 A _____ you _____ to Thailand? (be)

B No, I haven't. But I'd like to some day.

7 A Why don't you have any money?

B I _____ my salary. I bought a new tablet last week. (spend)

8 A Do you like Hugh Jackman?

B Yes, I _____ his new movie twice! (see)



- b Right or wrong? Write a check ✓ or an ✗ next to the sentences. Correct the wrong sentences.

I've never been in debt. ✓

How much has your new camera cost? ✗

How much did your new camera cost?

- Dean inherited \$5,000 from a relative.
- Did your sister pay you back yet?
- We booked our vacation online a month ago.
- When have you bought that leather jacket?
- They've finished paying back the loan last month.
- We haven't paid the gas bill yet.
- Have you ever wasted a lot of money on something?
- I'm sure I haven't borrowed any money from you last week.
- I spent my salary really quickly last month.
- Have you seen the Batman movie on TV yesterday?

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