

Put each verb in brackets into either the past simple, present perfect simple or present perfect progressive.

I (1) _____ (move) to London three weeks ago to take up a new post at my company's London office. Ever since then, I (2) _____ (wonder) if I (3) _____ (make) the right decision.

I (4) _____ (see) a lot of negative things about living in the capital, and I can't say London (5) _____ (make) a very favourable impression on me. It's so polluted and expensive, and the people are so distant.

You see, I (6) _____ (grow up) in a fairly small town called Devizes and I (7) _____ (spend) all of my life there.

I (8) _____ (always/want) to live in a big city and so when my company (9) _____ (offer) me a job in London, I (10) _____ (jump) at the chance.

I think I'm not alone in my aversion to the big city. According to a programme

I (11) _____ (just/hear) on the radio, more and more people (12) _____ (stop) working in London recently, and a lot of large companies (13) _____ (choose) to move away from the centre. Oh well, it's too late to change my mind now, because the job is up and running, and I (14) _____ (already/sell) my house in Devizes. But I must admit, over the past few days, I (15) _____ (secretly/hope) that the company would relocate me back to my old town.

Choose the correct word or phrase in each sentence.

- a) It's a long time *since/when I* last saw you.
- b) I've seen Bill quite often *lately/from time to time*.
- c) Have you spoken to the director *beforehand/already*?
- d) I've lived in the same house *for years/for ever*.
- e) I've read the paper *now/still*.
- f) Diana has bought a computer *two years ago/since then*.
- g) Nothing much has been happening *by now/so far*.
- h) I've finished reading her new book *at last/this evening*.
- i) Sue bought a CD player last week and she's been listening to music *ever since/for a while*.
- j) Sorry, but I haven't got that work finished *already/yet*.

Match the expressions (a-j) with the explanations of when they might be said(1-10).

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| a) Have you heard the one about ... ? | 1 Saying you don't follow what someone is saying. |
| b) I haven't seen you for ages! | 2 Having doubts about a big decision. |
| c) I've had enough of this! | 3 Having a brilliant idea. |
| d) Sorry, you've lost me! | 4 Introducing a joke. |
| e) I've had a brainwave! | 5 Declining more food. |
| f) It's been one of those days! | 6 Spreading gossip. |
| g) I've had enough, thanks. | 7 Seeing an old face from the past. |
| h) I haven't had a chance yet. | 8 Having a frustrating time, when everything is going wrong. |
| i) I've been having second thoughts. | 9 Wanting to stop doing something because it's annoying you. |
| j) Oh, haven't you heard? | 10 Apologising for not doing something you said you'd do. |