

PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE VS CONTINUOUS

Choose the best tense in these sentences.

1. I love that film. **I've seen / I've been seeing** it three times.
2. She's got some great ideas for her book, but she **hasn't written / hasn't been writing** it yet.
3. Sorry I'm late. How long **have you waited / have you been waiting**?
4. My mum often works abroad. This week, **she's worked / she's been working** in Paris.
5. Don't take my plate away. I **haven't finished / I haven't been finishing** my lunch!
6. **We've got / We've been getting** ready for the party. We still need to decorate the room.
7. Can you speak more slowly? I **haven't understood / haven't been understanding** everything.

Read this email and put the verbs into the most appropriate form (present perfect simple or present perfect continuous)

Hi Stephanie

How are you? I (1) *ve been having* (have) a lovely time here in Spain. Sorry I (2) (not write) to you for ages but I (3) (work) hard here in Spain since I arrived six weeks ago. The family I'm living with are very kind and I (4) (met) some really nice Spanish people of my age. They (5) (take) me out a few times. I think my Spanish (6) (improve) a lot because I (7) (not have) the opportunity to speak much English since I arrived, except to the children. My job is to look after the children, who are 5, 8 and 11. I'm normally not supposed to work at weekends but the parents (8) (go) to Madrid this weekend. I think the mother is missing the children a lot – she (9) (phone) six times already! The children (10) (play) in the garden since breakfast though and they're quite happy so I (11) (write) emails all morning. I (12) (send) six so far!

I won't see you now until the end of September because I (13) (change) my flight so that I can go travelling before I come home.

I (14) (wonder) what you (15) (do) since I left! Write back soon and tell me all your news.

Love Emily

A week later, Stephanie phones Emily and asks her some questions. Use the prompts to write her questions using the most appropriate form (present perfect simple or continuous) in the speech balloons.

- 1 you visit / Madrid yet?

Have you visited Madrid yet?

- 2 you get up early / every day?

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- 3 you buy / anything?

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- 4 you learn / how to cook Spanish food?

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- 5 How many times / you eat / paella?

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- 6 where / you decide / to go travelling?

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