

HOW DO I KNOW WHETHER TO USE Past Simple or Present Perfect?

1 Is the action finished? 2 Do we know when? 3 Is the time finished?

IF the answer to **all** of these is YES, use past simple. If not, use present perfect.

<u>PAST SIMPLE</u>			<u>PRESENT PERFECT</u>		
<u>Positive</u>					
Subject		past	Subject	HAVE HAS	past participle
I you we they he she it		ate	I you we they have he she has it		eaten
<u>Negative</u>					
Subject	DID NOT	infinitive	Subject	HAVE HAS	NOT past participle
I you we they he she it		didn't eat	I you we they haven't he she hasn't it		eaten
<u>Question</u>					
Did	Subject	infinitive	HAVE HAS	Subject	past participle
Did	I you we they he she it	eat?	Have Has	I you we they he she it	eaten?

Practice

- A Fill in the boxes with **Y** or **N** - **it's only past simple** if the answer is yes to all three.
- B Complete the sentence with the correct verb in the past simple or present perfect.

	Is the action finished?	Do we know when?	Is the time finished?
1. James lives in Birmingham. He <u>has lived</u> (live) there for 12 years.	N	Y	Y
2. Julie is a doctor. She _____ (work) at the same hospital since 2006.			
3. Annie _____ (work) in a hospital when she was young.			
4. I _____ (visit) Florence several times. I'm going there again next summer.			
5. Joseph _____ (go) to several countries when he was in the army.			
6. Benfica _____ (lose) to Sporting last night.			
7. Manchester United _____ (play) well so far this season.			
8. Alison _____ (never visit) the Tower of London, but today she will.			
9. Leo Tolstoy _____ (write) 'War and Peace', among many other books.			
10. Since the 1960s computers _____ (become) much smaller.			
11. Vannevar Bush _____ (build) the analogue computer in 1930.			
12. In the 1960s children _____ (not play) computer games.			
13. In many countries unemployment _____ (increase) because of the introduction of computers.			