

## Practice<sup>2</sup> with Present Perfect Tense

El presente perfecto suele ser difícil para los hispanohablantes porque a menudo sólo utilizan el pasado simple. Veamos las diferencias entre estos dos tiempos.

| PAST SIMPLE vs PRESENT PERFECT                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>past simple<br/>(a) I finished my work <i>two hours ago</i>.</p> <p>present perfect<br/>(b) I <i>have already finished</i> my work.</p>                                                                                                    | <p>In (a): I finished my work at a specific time in the past (<i>two hours ago</i>).</p> <p>In (b): I finished my work at an unspecified time in the past (<i>sometime before now</i>).</p>                                                       |
| <p>past simple<br/>(c) I was in Europe <i>last year / in 1999 / three years ago / when I was 10 years old</i>.</p> <p>present perfect<br/>(d) I <i>have been</i> in Europe <i>many times / once / several times</i>. (no mention of time)</p> | <p>Past simple expresses an activity that occurred at a specific time (or times) in the past, as in (a) and (c).</p> <p>Present perfect expresses an activity that occurred at an unspecified time (or times) in the past, as in (b) and (d).</p> |
| <p>past simple<br/>(e) Ann was in Miami <i>for two weeks</i>.</p> <p>present perfect<br/>(f) Bob <i>has been</i> in Miami <i>for two weeks / since May 1st</i>.</p>                                                                           | <p>In (e): In the simple past, <i>for</i> expresses an activity that began and ended in the past.</p> <p>In (f): In present perfect, <i>for</i> or <i>since</i> express an activity that began in the past and continues to the present.</p>      |

Fíjate en el verbo en *cursiva*. ¿Es pasado simple o presente perfecto? Marque la casilla la casilla que indica si el verbo expresa algo que ocurrió en un momento concreto en el pasado o en un momento indeterminado del pasado.

| SPECIFIED<br>TIME IN<br>THE PAST    | UNSPECIFIED<br>TIME IN<br>THE PAST  |                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1. Ms. Parker <i>has been</i> in Tokyo many times. (→ <i>present perfect</i> ) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 2. Ms. Parker <i>was</i> in Tokyo last week. (→ <i>simple past</i> )           |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 3. I've met Ann's husband. He's a nice guy.                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 4. I met Ann's husband at a party last week.                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 5. Mr. White <i>was</i> in Rome three times last month.                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 6. Mr. White <i>has been</i> in Rome many times.                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 7. I like to travel. I've been in more than thirty foreign countries.          |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 8. I <i>was</i> in Morocco in 2001.                                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 9. Mary <i>has never been</i> in Morocco.                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 10. Mary <i>wasn't</i> in Morocco when I was there in 2001.                    |

Complete las frases con las palabras entre paréntesis. Utiliza el presente perfecto o el pasado simple.

1. A: Have you ever been in Europe?

B: Yes, I have. I (be) have been in Europe several times.  
In fact, I (be) was in Europe last year.

2. A: Are you going to finish your work before you go to bed?

B: I (finish, already\*) have already finished it. I (finish) finished my work two hours ago.

3. A: Have you ever eaten at Al's Steak House?  
 B: Yes, I \_\_\_\_\_. I *(eat)* \_\_\_\_\_ there many times.  
 In fact, my wife and I *(eat)* \_\_\_\_\_ there last night.
4. A: Do you and Erica want to go to the movie at the Palace Theater with us tonight?  
 B: No thanks. We *(see, already)* \_\_\_\_\_ it. We  
*(see)* \_\_\_\_\_ it last week.
5. A: When are you going to write your report for Mr. Goldberg?  
 B: I *(write, already)* \_\_\_\_\_ it. I *(write)*  
 \_\_\_\_\_ it two days ago and gave it to him.
6. A: *(Antonio, have, ever)* \_\_\_\_\_ a job?  
 B: Yes, he \_\_\_\_\_. He *(have)* \_\_\_\_\_ lots of  
 part-time jobs. Last summer he *(have)* \_\_\_\_\_ a job at his  
 uncle's waterbed store.
7. A: This is a good book. Would you like to read it when I'm finished?  
 B: Thanks, but I *(read, already)* \_\_\_\_\_ it. I *(read)*  
 \_\_\_\_\_ it a couple of months ago.
8. A: What European countries *(you, visit)* \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
 B: I *(visit)* \_\_\_\_\_ Hungary, Germany, and Switzerland. I  
*(visit)* \_\_\_\_\_ Hungary in 1998. I *(be)* \_\_\_\_\_ in  
 Germany and Switzerland in 2001.

Completa la frase "He estado aquí . . ." Utilice *since* o *for* con las expresiones dadas.

***I have been here . . .***

- |                            |                                      |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. <u>for</u> two months.  | 9. _____ the first of January.       |
| 2. <u>since</u> September. | 10. _____ almost four months.        |
| 3. _____ 1998.             | 11. _____ the beginning of the term. |
| 4. _____ last year.        | 12. _____ the semester started.      |
| 5. _____ two years.        | 13. _____ a couple of hours.         |
| 6. _____ last Friday.      | 14. _____ fifteen minutes.           |
| 7. _____ 9:30.             | 15. _____ yesterday.                 |
| 8. _____ three days.       | 16. _____ about five weeks.          |