5 Present Perfect Continuous

13 **Listen and repeat. Then act out.**

Form: has / has been + verb -ing

Affirmative	Interrogative	Negative
I have been working	Have I been working?	I have not been working
You have been working	Have you been working?	You have not been working
He has been working	Has he been working?	He has not been working
She has been working	Has she been working?	She has not been working
It has been working	Has it been working?	It has not been working
We have been working	Have we been working?	We have not been working
You have been working	Have you been working?	You have not been working
They have been working	Have they been working?	They have not been working
Short form	**Negative-Interrogative**	**Short form**
I've been working ...	Haven't you been working? ...	I haven't been working ...

1 Fill in the *present perfect continuous* of the verbs in brackets.

1 He .has been playing. **(play)** football with his friends all afternoon.

2 They ..... **(watch)** a comedy for over an hour.

3 Annie ..... **(do)** her homework since 10 o'clock this morning.

4 How long ..... **(he/work)** as a doctor?

5 The children ..... **(study)** since breakfast.

6 We ..... **(think)** of buying a house since last year.

7 ..... **(you/feel)** ill for a long time?

8 Chris ..... **(try)** to fix the motorbike since Tuesday.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Present Perfect Continuous is used:

- **for actions which started in the past and continue up to the present.**

They **have been making biscuits** since 11 o'clock. (They're still making biscuits.)

- **for past actions of certain duration which have visible results or effects, in the present.**

  Bob is very tired. He **has been working** all day long.

- **to express irritation, anger, annoyance, explanation or criticism.**

  Who **has been reading** my business papers? (showing anger)

- **to put emphasis on duration, usually with for, since or how long.**
  I've **been typing** letters **since** 9 o'clock.

Present Perfect is used:

- **for actions recently completed.**

They **have made** a lot of biscuits.
(The biscuits are on the plate, so the action has finished.)

- **for actions which happened at an unstated time.**

  James **has bought** a new car.

- **to express personal experiences or changes which have happened.**

  I've **lost** a lot of weight.

- **to put emphasis on number.**
  I've only **typed three** letters since 9 o'clock.

Note

With the verbs live, feel and work we can use either Present Perfect or Present Perfect Continuous with no difference in meaning.
I've **been living** in London for a year.
or I've **lived** in London for a year.

Non-continuous verbs are not used in Present Perfect Continuous (know, believe, see, like, love, taste, understand, want, etc.)
I've **known** her since 2002.
(NOT: ~~I've been knowing her since 2002.~~)

Time adverbs used with Present Perfect Continuous:	Time adverbs and expressions used with Present Perfect:
for, since, how long	just, ever, never, always, already, yet, for, since, so far, how long, recently, today, this week / month / year, once, etc.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

5 Present Perfect Continuous

2 Identify the speech situations, then complete the sentences by putting the verbs in brackets into the *present perfect* or the *present present continuous.*

recently completed action	anger or annoyance	personal experience
unstated time	emphasis on duration	~~visible results~~

1 ....visible results....

He ...has been painting... **(paint)** his room.

2 .....

She .... **(just/win)** the race.

3 .....

.... **(you/read)** my emails again?

4 .....

They .... **(plant)** trees since morning.

5 .....

He .... **(try)** skiing.

6 .....

They .... **(buy)** a pet dog.

3 Put the verbs in brackets into the *present perfect* or the *present perfect continuous.*

- A: My back hurts.
  B: That's because you 1) .....have been working..... **(work)** all day.
  A: I know. But at least I 2) ..... **(finish)** with the gardening.

- A: You look tired. What 3) ..... **(you/do)**?
  B: I 4) ..... **(play)** tennis with Evita.
  A: Oh yes. I 5) ..... **(see)** her play before. She's good, isn't she?
  B: Yes, she is. She 6) ..... **(beat)** me five times since the start of summer.

LIVEWORKSHEETS