

GRAMMAR

Present perfect continuous

1 Write sentences in the present perfect continuous.

- 1 You / play / that game / for hours / !
- 2 Sam and Sara / amuse / themselves / all day
- 3 We need to find out what / cause / the computer to crash
- 4 How long / you / learn / Spanish / ?
- 5 she / cry / for long / ?
- 6 No, I / not / use / your laptop

2 Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- 1 I've thought / been thinking – we should get a new computer.
- 2 She's never used / been using an iPad before.
- 3 This is the first time they've visited / been visiting London.
- 4 The sun has shone / been shining all day today.
- 5 Have you waited / been waiting here for long?
- 6 Sorry, I haven't finished / been finishing my homework yet.
- 7 You look exhausted. What have you done / been doing?
- 8 How long have they known / been knowing each other?

3 Complete the conversation with the present perfect continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

A: What's that you're wearing?
B: This? It's a fitness tracker – it measures the distance I run. It's really useful.

A: Oh, ¹ (you / use) it for long?
B: Yes, since I started running, I ² (run) every day for two years now.

A: To keep fit?
B: Yes, but I enjoy it. I ³ (train) for a half-marathon recently.

A: Wow! How long do you run every day?
B: Well, today I ⁴ (jog) for about an hour, but I'm going to stop now.

A: Oh, good. I ⁵ (intend) to ask you about my party next weekend. Can we discuss it now?

4 Complete the email with the present perfect simple or present perfect continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

Hi Mary,

How are you? I ¹ (not hear) from you for ages. What ² (you / do)? I ³ (just have) some great news! I ⁴ (be) accepted at the university in my home town to study computing. You know I ⁵ (program) computers since I was 12 years old and I ⁶ (want) to build a career in software design for ages – well now it's time to start studying seriously!

The trouble is, I'm so excited that I ⁷ (not sleep) very well since I heard. I'm working in a café at the moment, and I ⁸ (arrive) late a couple of times already. My boss ⁹ (already warn) me twice, and if I'm late again, I'll lose my job. I don't care too much, though – I ¹⁰ (save) quite a lot of money already.

I have to go now. Dad ¹¹ (ask) me all week to set up his new printer in his office, so that's what I'm going to do now. Then I'm going for a bike ride. It looks like it ¹² (rain), because the roads are wet – but the sun's shining now.

Write soon!

Jackie

5 Correct the mistakes in three of the sentences. Which two are correct?

- 1 I study English for two years.
- 2 I have been playing football since I was a child, and I like it very much.
- 3 I like children and I have been working in a similar job before.
- 4 I haven't written for so long, but I have been studying for my exams.
- 5 I was thinking about the ideas you suggested, but I haven't decided yet.