

LANGUAGE IN ACTION

Present perfect with *for/since* and *How long ... ?*

1 ☆ Circle the best ending for each sentence.

- 1 I've lived here for ...
 (a) two years. b I was 14 years old.
- 2 I've had this phone for ...
 a a long time. b 2015.
- 3 I haven't eaten anything since ...
 a about three hours. b this morning.
- 4 I've been able to speak French since ...
 a 10 years ago. b I was a child.
- 5 My best friend and I have known each other for ...
 a six years. b we started school together.
- 6 Max has been on the computer since ...
 a all day. b he woke up.

2 ☆☆ Complete the questions with *How long* and the present perfect form of the verbs in the box.

be have know like live

- A ¹ *How long have you lived* here?
 B For about six months. I really like it here. It's a nice city.
- A So Emma and Kirsty are friends? ² _____ each other?
 B Since they were about three years old. They've been best friends for ages!
- A I didn't know Olivia liked watching tennis.
³ _____ it?
 B For a long time. She's played in the school team since she was really young.
- A I see that Will's got a new bike. ⁴ _____ it?
 B For ages. He needed a new one. The old one was too small for him.
- A I'm sorry I'm late, everyone. ⁵ _____ here?
 B Not long. Don't worry. We only got here ten minutes ago.

Present perfect and past simple

3 ☆☆☆ Complete the joke with the past simple or present perfect form of the verbs in brackets.

My friend ¹ *told* (tell) me a funny joke this morning. I ² _____ (hear) a lot of jokes in my life, but this one ³ _____ (make) me laugh when I ⁴ _____ (hear) it.



A girl and her father ⁵ _____ (be) at the dinner table, having some soup. The girl ⁶ _____ (ask) her dad, 'Dad, are spiders nice to eat?' 'What a horrible question,' ⁷ _____ (say) the father. 'Can't you think of anything nice to say at dinner time? Please let me eat. I ⁸ _____ (eat not) anything since this morning!' The girl ⁹ _____ (decide) to be quiet. They both ¹⁰ _____ (eat) their dinner in silence. Later, the girl's father ¹¹ _____ (ask), 'Why did you want to know about spiders earlier?' She replied, 'Oh, there was a spider in your soup. But it ¹² _____ (go) now.'

4 ☆☆☆ Write questions with the present perfect or the past simple.

- 1 a you / ever / tell / a lie? *Have you ever told a lie?*
 b Who / you / tell / the lie to?

 c Why / you / tell / it?

- 2 a anyone / ever / tell / you a secret?

 b it / a very big secret?

 c you / ever / tell / another person the secret?

5 ☆☆☆ Choose question 1 or 2 from Exercise 4. Write your answers.

