Grammar

Present perfect (*for* / *since*)

Talking about present activities that started in the past

1 Look at the chart.

Present perfect	*for* / *since*
Bon Jovi **has been** successful	**for** more than 30 years.
The Foundation has campaigned	**since** 2006.

Take note!

for and *since*

- **We use *for* to talk about a period of time up to the present.**
  for twelve years, for three months, for two days, etc.
- **We use *since* to talk about a point of time in the past.**
  since 1995, since last year, since she was ten, etc.

2 Circle *for* or *since*.

1 Jon Bon Jovi has been a rock star for / since 30 years.
2 Charity rock concerts have been popular for / since the 1960s.
3 I've campaigned against world poverty for / since 2008.
4 Sam has been in a band for / since four years.
5 I've known about Jon Bon Jovi for / since I was a child.
6 Isabel has had her own company for / since three years.

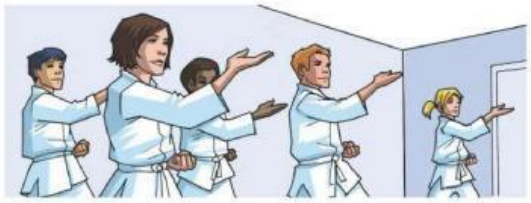
3 Write sentences with *for* and *since*.

1 Mel / live / New York / 2010
Mel has lived in New York since 2010.

2 She / be / a doctor / two years
.....

3 She / have / a dog / five years
.....

4 She / live / in her house / last summer
.....



5 She / do karate / six months
.....

6 She / write / a blog / March
.....

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4 Over to you!

Think of three activities you do. Use *for* or *since*, and tell the class how long you've done these activities. Can the class guess the activities?

Student A: My clue is: for six years.
Student B: Have you been a student at this school for six years?
Student A: No, I haven't.
Student B: Have you been on the field hockey team for six years?
Student A: That's right! Your turn.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Grammar

1 Fill in the blanks with *for* or *since*.

1 Ellie has lived in Beijing for the last two years.
2 My brother has taken piano lessons _____ 2005.
3 They have lived in Guatemala _____ they were children.
4 I love my dog. I've had him _____ six months.
5 We've played on the soccer team _____ last summer.
6 You have been my friend _____ more than five years.

2 Make questions with the words in parentheses. Then match them with the answers.

1 How long have you lived in Sydney? (you / live)
2 How long _____ there? (Luis / work)
3 How long _____ French? (they / study)
4 How long _____ her cat? (Taseem / have)
5 How long _____ at this school? (you / be)
6 How long _____ broken? (your bike / be)

a She's had it for three years.
b I've been here since I was five years old.
c It's been broken for a week.
d I've lived there since 2008.
e He's worked there since he was sixteen.
f They've studied French for six months.

3 You are talking to Hugo. Complete the conversation with the correct forms of the present perfect and *for* or *since*.

You: How long (1) have you lived (you / live) in New York?
Hugo: (2) I've lived in New York since 2009.

You: How long (3) _____ (you / study) Chinese?
Hugo: (4) _____ Chinese _____ three years.

You: How long (5) _____ (you / have) your cat?
Hugo: (6) _____ _____ six years.

You: How long (7) _____ _____ (your aunt / be) a teacher?
Hugo: (8) _____ 2007.

You: (9) _____ doctors? (your parents / be)
Hugo: (10) _____ _____ ten years.

You: (11) _____ the saxophone? (you / play)
Hugo: (12) _____ _____ last November.

LIVEWORKSHEETS