

Past Simple and Present Perfect

Practice • Natural science topics

Before you start. Use **full forms** in Tasks 3–6: *did not, have not, has not* (not *didn't, haven't, hasn't*).

Useful words:

glacier — льодовик

geyser — гейзер

continental drift — дрейф континентів

lightning — блискавка

sandstorm — піщана буря

powder — порошок

crack — тріщина

shore — берег

crab — краб

tide — приплив / відплив

cave explorer — дослідник печер

canyon — каньйон

1 Build the verb forms

Complete the table with the Past Simple (V2) and the past participle (V3). Some verbs are regular, so be careful with spelling.

V1	V2	V3	V1	V2	V3
1. freeze			8. blow		
2. erupt			9. identify		
3. shrink			10. sink		
4. dig			11. hide		
5. strike			12. grind		
6. spot			13. measure		
7. rise			14. ride		

2 Choose the tense

Choose the correct verb form in each sentence.

- Last night, a strong wind **blew** / **has blown** sand across our camp.
- Our team **dug** / **has dug** three deep holes so far this month.
- Last winter, the lake **froze** / **has frozen** completely for the first time in years.
- Our group **never watched** / **has never watched** a geyser erupt, but we hope to see one soon.
- The glacier **shrank** / **has shrunk** by 200 metres since 1990, and it is still melting.
- In yesterday's experiment, a heavy stone **sank** / **has sunk** to the bottom of the tank.
- The volcanologists **recorded** / **have recorded** four earthquakes this week, and they are still monitoring the area.
- Alfred Wegener **developed** / **has developed** the theory of continental drift.

3

Complete the sentences

Use the Past Simple or the Present Perfect. In questions, complete both gaps.

1. In yesterday's lab experiment, a glass bottle _____ (**burst**) because it got too hot.
2. The river _____ (**wear**) away the rocks in this valley for thousands of years, and it is still changing the valley today.
3. So far this week, the sun _____ (**not / shine**) at all, so the snow is still deep.
4. During last night's storm, lightning _____ (**strike**) an old tree near our camp.
5. _____ you ever _____ (**hide**) from a sandstorm?
6. A: When _____ the water in the river _____ (**rise**) above the bridge?
B: Last Sunday night.
7. The scientists _____ (**study**) this volcano since 2015.
8. Last Tuesday, we _____ (**grind**) some rocks into powder in the lab.
9. The researchers _____ (**not / publish**) any results on the earthquake so far this month.
10. How many rock samples _____ the students _____ (**collect**) so far this term?

4

Correct the verb phrase

Each **bold** phrase has one mistake. Write only the correct phrase. Keep the same tense unless the sentence has a finished past time.

1. The flood **has swepted** away the old bridge. People cannot cross the river now.
Correct phrase: _____
2. Our lecturer **has just lended** us her geological hammer. We can use it now.
Correct phrase: _____
3. The researchers **did not brought** enough water on last year's trip to the desert.
Correct phrase: _____
4. The earthquake **has shaken** the old buildings so badly that nobody can live in them now.
Correct phrase: _____
5. The large rock **has splitted** into two parts. Now there is a deep crack in the middle.
Correct phrase: _____
6. The ecologists **have spotted** rare birds near the lake last Monday.
Correct phrase: _____

5

Complete a coastal study report

Complete each gap with the Past Simple or the Present Perfect.

It is Friday. Our project is still in progress.

On Wednesday, our group (1) _____ (**drive**) to the coast to study waves and marine life. Our guide (2) _____ (**lead**) us along the rocky shore. We (3) _____ (**notice**) small crabs between the stones and (4) _____ (**catch**) a few of them for a short study. So far, we (5) _____ (**identify**) twenty species near the shore. Our lecturer (6) _____ (**already / send**) us feedback twice this week. So far, we (7) _____ (**not / draw**) the final map of the coast. Yesterday, I (8) _____ (**spend**) two hours reading about the Moon's effect on tides.

6

Use both tenses

Complete the conversations with the Past Simple or the Present Perfect. Look at the time words and think: is the action finished, or is it connected to now?

Conversation 1

A: _____ you ever _____ (**ride**) a horse through a canyon?

B: Yes, I have. My friends and I _____ (**hire**) horses in Utah last summer.

Conversation 2

A: Where is our lecturer?

B: She _____ (**go**) to the geology museum. She is still there.

A: _____ you ever _____ (**be**) there?

B: Yes. I _____ (**buy**) a book about minerals there last Saturday.

Conversation 3

A: When _____ the cave explorers _____ (**find**) the underground lake?

B: Last week. They _____ (**film**) it, but they _____ (**not / explore**) the whole lake yet.