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Present perfect simple

You **use** the present perfect simple to express **passed actions linked to the present**.

- You use it to say that an action happened at an unspecified time before:
 - to talk about experiences that **may happen again**.
I have made chocolate cake before.
 - to talk about **change over time**.
My English has really improved since I use Shuffle.
 - to talk about past actions with **no specific time** or **unfinished time periods**.
Scientists have split the atom.
 - to say that an action which we **expected has not happened**.
It hasn't stopped raining.
- You use it to talk about something that started in the past and **has continued up till now**.
I have had a cold for two weeks.

You **form** the present perfect simple using **have / has + past participle**.

I / you / we / they	have	loved him forever.
He / she / it	has	loved him forever.

I / you / we / they	haven't / have not	loved him forever.
He / she / it	hasn't / has not	loved him forever.

Have	I / you / we / they	loved him forever?
Has	he / she / it	loved him forever?

You have regular and irregular past participles.

- regular past participle: infinitive + ed
- irregular participles: you have to study these by heart



Check
The Life of Brian!

17

Read the text. Underline all forms of the present perfect simple.

Mark the regular past participles in green, the irregular past participles in blue.

- Julia has been my friend for over 10 years. We have known each other since we were children.
- Recently she and her family have moved to a house on the same street and now we see each other almost every day.
- For the last ten years, Julia and I have played tennis every Thursday. Julia is a better player than I am, but in the last few weeks she has had some trouble with her arm and has found it hard to play a full game.
- She has visited the doctor several times, but he doesn't know what is causing the pain.
- Julia has decided to take a break from tennis, so her arm can recover. It's going to be lonely without her!

18 Complete with the past participles.

infinitive	past simple	regular past participle	infinitive	past simple	irregular past participle
to open	<i>opened</i>	<i>opened</i>	to be	<i>was</i>	<i>been</i>
to ask	<i>asked</i>	<i>asked</i>	to come	<i>came</i>	<i>come</i>
to live	<i>lived</i>	<i>lived</i>	to take	<i>took</i>	<i>taken</i>
to look	<i>looked</i>	<i>looked</i>	to go	<i>went</i>	<i>gone</i>
to love	<i>loved</i>	<i>loved</i>	to tell	<i>told</i>	<i>told</i>
to listen	<i>listened</i>	<i>listened</i>	to do	<i>did</i>	<i>done</i>
to watch	<i>watched</i>	<i>watched</i>	to speak	<i>spoke</i>	<i>spoken</i>
to try	<i>tried</i>	<i>tried</i>	to drive	<i>drove</i>	<i>driven</i>
to pass	<i>passed</i>	<i>passed</i>	to read	<i>read</i>	<i>read</i>
to want	<i>wanted</i>	<i>wanted</i>	to eat	<i>ate</i>	<i>eaten</i>
to carry	<i>carried</i>	<i>carried</i>	to feel	<i>felt</i>	<i>felt</i>
to complete	<i>completed</i>	<i>completed</i>	to see	<i>saw</i>	<i>seen</i>

19 Match the lines in a, b and c. There is more than one possibility. Read your matches aloud.

a	b	c
I have known my best friend	from 2001 to 2005.	We met in London.
I last went to the hairdresser's	for an hour.	I went camping with some friends.
I have had these jeans	two weeks ago.	Before that it was a church.
We have used this car	since 2002.	The haircut was terrible.
We lived in London	for years.	We bought it on a Monday.
We haven't had a holiday	for three years.	My mum gave them to me.
This building has been a school	in 1999.	We moved because of my father's work.

20 Have or has?

- I have / has answered the question. have / ~~has~~
- My mother have / has opened the door. ~~have~~ / has
- They have / has listened. have / ~~has~~
- You have / has carried the box. have / ~~has~~
- It have / has rained a lot. ~~have~~ / has
- We have / has washed the bikes. have / ~~has~~



- 7) Jenny have / has locked the window. ~~have~~ / has
- 8) John and Sophie have / has helped cleaning the house. have / ~~has~~
- 9) The dog have / has eaten all the cake. ~~have~~ / has
- 10) You have / has read the book. have / ~~has~~

21a Make correct sentences using the present perfect simple.
Use full forms in the first five sentences, short forms in the last five sentences.

- 1) Bob – visit – his aunt
Bob has visited his aunt.
- 2) They – wash – the car
They have washed the car.
- 3) Mother – clean – the house
Mother has cleaned the house.
- 4) I – read – this book
I have read this book.
- 5) My brother – play – hockey
My brother has played hockey.
- 6) Jacky and Jim – eat – cake
Jacky and Jim've eaten cake.
- 7) We – see – Santa Claus
We've seen Santa Claus.
- 8) You – drive – a motorbike
You've driven a motorbike.
- 9) Barbara – try – to finish the puzzle
Barbara's tried to finish the puzzle.
- 10) The dog – go – home
The dog's gone home.

21b Now make the first five sentences negative.
Again, use full forms in the first two sentences, short forms in the last three sentences.

- 1 *Bob has not visited his aunt.*
- 2 *They have not washed the car.*

3 *Mother hasn't cleaned the house.*

4 *I haven't read this book.*

5 *My brother hasn't played hockey.*

21c Now turn the other sentences into questions.

6 *Have Jacky and Jim eaten cake?*

7 *Have we seen Santa Claus?*

8 *Have you driven a motorbike?*

9 *Has Barbara tried to finish the puzzle?*

10 *Has the dog gone home?*

22 Complete. Use the present perfect simple.

1) I (not – work) today.

I haven't worked today.

2) We (buy) a new desk.

We have bought a new desk.

3) She (not – plan) her holiday yet.

She hasn't planned her holiday yet.

4) He (write) five books.

He has written five books.

5) Where (be) you?

Where have you been?

6) She (not – see) her for a very long time.

She hasn't seen her for a very long time.

7) You (be) at school?

Have you been at school?

8) He (speak) to the teacher?

Has he spoken to the teacher?

9) No, he (not – have) time yet.

No, he hasn't had time yet.

10) School (not – start) yet.

School hasn't started yet.



23

First answer the questions for yourself. Then try to guess how many of your classmates have ever ... Discuss.

- Have you ever fished in the North Sea?
- Have you ever visited America?
- Have you ever had a headache?
- Have you ever watched an Indian film?
- Have you ever heard Japanese people speaking?
- Have you ever cooked dinner?
- Have you ever played chess and won?
- Have you ever read a book in one day?
- Have you ever lied to your parents about your whereabouts?



4 Mouth gymnastics

Present perfect simple pronunciation



24a

Write down the past participles of the following words.



show shown

buy bought

know known

fight fought

speak spoken

fly flown

teach taught

rise risen

throw thrown

drive driven

give given

bring brought

think thought

break broken

24b

Try to match the past participles by vowel sound. There is at least one match for each.

e.g. lead – lead

say – said

matches

The infinitives are very different, but the past participles sound the same.

thought / brought / fought / taught / bought

flown / known / shown / thrown

spoken / broken

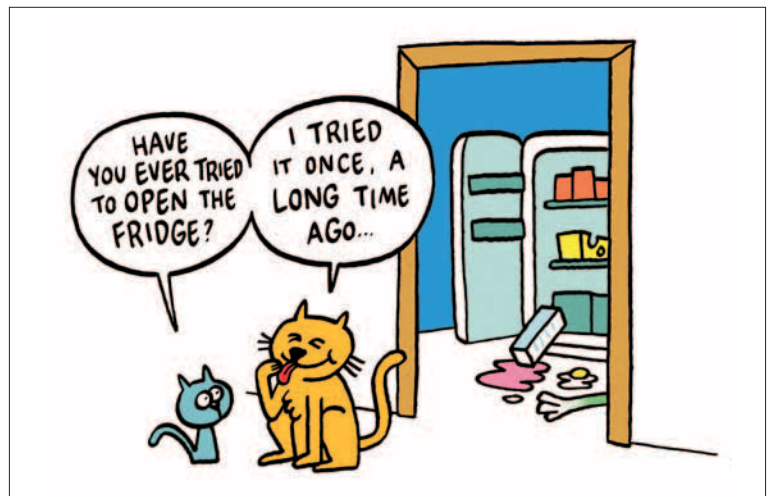
driven / given / risen

5 The basics Completely over or not yet?



25

Read the cartoon and discuss.



Past simple vs. present perfect simple

In **British English**, the use of past simple and present perfect simple is quite strict. As soon as a time expression in the past is given, **the period of time is completely over**, you have to use past simple.

In **American English**, you can normally use past simple instead of present perfect simple.

past simple

certain time in the past
certain event in the past
emphasis on action
yesterday / ... ago / the other day / last ...

present perfect simple

just / already / not yet
whether / how often till now
emphasis on result
just / already / up till now / already / so far / lately / recently / ever

26 Past simple or present perfect simple?

- a) * Have you played / ~~did you play~~ the new computer game?
- No, not yet. I ~~have only bought~~ / only bought it yesterday and I have not had ~~did not have~~ the time yet.
- b) * ~~Have you gone~~ / did you go to the theatre last night?
- Yes. I ~~have been~~ / was there with Derek. Have you been ~~were you~~ to the theatre recently?
* I ~~have gone~~ / went to the theatre two weeks ago.
- So you have not seen ~~did not see~~ the new musical yet.
* No, unfortunately not. ~~Have you enjoyed~~ / did you enjoy it?
- I really ~~have loved~~ / loved it. But Derek ~~hasn't liked~~ / did not like it – too much love.
* Why ~~have you taken~~ / did you take him with you? You ~~have told~~ / told me last week your friendship ~~has been~~ / was over.
- Oh, I don't know. Old habits, I suppose.

27 Past simple or present perfect simple? Complete.

- 1) I (to finish) just my homework.
I have just finished my homework.
- 2) Mary (to write) already two letters.
Mary has already written two letters.
- 3) Janey (to move) to this city in 2000.
Janey moved to this city in 2000.
- 4) My friend (to be) in London two weeks ago.
My friend was in London two weeks ago.
- 5) I (to be) to Canada so far.
I haven't been to Canada so far.
- 6) But I (to travel) to New York a couple of times.
But I have traveled to New York a couple of times.
- 7) Last week, the dog (to eat) lasagna.
Last week, the dog ate lasagna.
- 8) I can't bake a cake because I (to buy – not) any butter yet.
I can't bake a cake because I haven't bought any butter yet.
- 9) They (to spend) their holiday in Turkey last summer?
They spent their holiday in Turkey last summer?
- 10) You (to see) ever a whale?
Have you ever seen a whale?

28 Add a question tag to ask for a reaction.

e.g. Robin has already read the book, hasn't he? Yes, he has.
Sarah didn't leave without us, did she? No, she didn't.

- 1) That girl has just finished dinner, *hasn't she? Yes, she has.*
- 2) She forgot her appointment yesterday, *hasn't she? Yes, she has.*
- 3) He has been to the toilet, *hasn't he? Yes, he has.*
- 4) They haven't bought me a present, *have they? No, they haven't.*
- 5) You have know her for ages, *haven't you? Yes, I have.*
- 6) The cat has been sleeping, *hasn't it? Yes, it has.*
- 7) He hasn't finished the exercise, *has he? No, he hasn't.*
- 8) My mother has cooked stew, *hasn't she? Yes, she has.*
- 9) You have lied to me all along, *haven't you? Yes, I have.*
- 10) He hasn't called since last week, *has he? No, he hasn't.*