

THE PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

A/ FORM

The present perfect tense is formed with the present tense of have + the past participle: I have worked etc.

| <u>Affirmative</u> | <u>Negative</u> | <u>Interrogative</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| I have worked | I have not worked | have I worked? |
| you have worked | you have not worked | have you worked? |
| he/she/it has worked | he/she/it has not worked | has he/she/it worked? |
| we have worked | we have not worked | have we worked? |
| you have worked | you have not worked | have you worked? |
| they have worked | they have not worked | have they worked? |

Negative interrogative: has he not worked? etc.

Contractions: have/has and have not/has not can be contracted thus: I've worked, you haven't worked, hasn't he worked? etc.

have and **has** may also be contracted : Where 've you been? What's he done?

B/ USE

This tense may be said to be a sort of mixture of present and past. It always implies a strong connexion with the present and is chiefly used in conversations, letters, newspapers and television and radio reports.

Used with just for a recently completed action

He has just gone out = He went out a few minutes ago.

This is a special use of this tense, just must be placed between the auxiliary and the main verb. This combination is used chiefly in the affirmative, though the interrogative form is possible:

Has he just gone out?

It is not normally used in the negative.

Used for recent actions when the time is not mentioned:

I have read the instructions but I don't understand them.

Have you had breakfast? ~ No, I haven't had it yet.

Recent actions that have results in the present, or have a connection with the present;

I've lost my keys (so I can't get into my house).

She's hurt her leg (so she can't play tennis today).

They've missed the bus (so they will be late).

I've cooked dinner (so you should come and eat).

John Smith has written a number of short stories (implies that John Smith is still alive and can write more)

Actions that occur or last through an incomplete period :

An incomplete period may be indicated by today or this morning / afternoon / evening / week / month / year / century , **lately**, **recently**, ever, never, always, , several times, **since** + a point in time, **for** + a period of time etc.

Tom has rung up three times this morning already.

I haven't seen Tom this afternoon.

Have you seen him today?

Has he been here lately/recently ?

I haven't seen him since 2015.

I haven't seen him for 3 years.

He has been in the army for two years. (He is still in the army.)

I have smoked since I left school. (I still smoke.)

We have waited all day. (We are still waiting.)

He has lived here all his life. (He still lives here.)

He has always worked for us. (He still works for us.)

Exercise 1 : Make present perfect questions

1. (They / go / to the USA?)
2. (You / read / 'War and Peace'?)
3. (She / be / late for a meeting?)
4. (He / meet / your family yet?)
5. (They / live / here as long as we have?)
6. (How long / she / live in London?)
7. (Where / you / be?)
8. (How much coffee / you / drink today?)
9. (What / you / do today?)
10. (How long / he / work here?)

Exercise 2 : Make negative and engative-interrogaitve present perfect sentences

1. (We / not / go / to Paris)
2. (She / not / see / 'The Lord of the Rings')
3. (He / not / meet / my mother)
4. (They / not / visit / St. Paul's)
5. (I / not / know / him for three months)
6. (You / not / study / French for ten years)
7. (They / not / be / in London for six months)
8. (He / not / hurt / his leg)
9. (She / not / leave / her phone in a taxi)
10. (We / not / lose / our tickets)

Exercise 3 : choose positive, negative or question.

1. (I / go / to the library today)
2. (you / keep a pet for three years)
3. (you / eat Thai food before?)
4. (it / rain all day?)
5. (who / we / forget to invite?)
6. (we / not / hear that song already)
7. (he / not / forget his books)
8. (she / steal all the chocolate!)
9. (I / explain it well?)
10. (who / he / meet recently?)

THE PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS TENSE

A/ FORM

The present perfect of the verb **to be** + the present participle:

Affirmative: *I have been working, he has been working* etc.

Negative: *I have not/haven't been working* etc.

Interrogative: *have I been working?* etc.

Negative interrogative: *have I not/haven't I been working?* etc.

B/ Use

1: To say how long for unfinished actions which started in the past and continue to the present. We often use this with for and since.

- I've been living in London for two years.

- She's been working here since 2004.

- We've been waiting for the bus for hours.

2: Actions which have just stopped (though the whole action can be unfinished) and have a result, which we can often see, hear, or feel, in the present

- I'm so tired, I've been studying.

- I've been running, so I'm really hot.

- It's been raining, the pavement is wet.

Exercise 1 : Put the verbs in brackets into the present perfect continuous

1 I (make) cakes. That is why my hands are all covered with flour.

2 Her phone (ring) for ten minutes. I wonder why she doesn't answer it.

3 He (overwork). That is why he looks so tired.

4 There is sawdust in your hair. ~ I'm not surprised. I (cut) down a tree.

5 Have you seen my bag anywhere? I (look) for it for ages.

6 What you (do)? ~ I (work) in the laboratory.

7 He (study) Russian for two years and doesn't even know the alphabet yet.

8 How long you (wait) for me? ~ I (wait) about half an hour.

9 It (rain) for two days now. There'll be a flood soon.

10 We (argue) about this for two hours now. Perhaps we should stop

Exercise 2 : Make the present perfect continuous positive or negative

1. (she / work here for five years)

2. (I / study all day)

3. (you / eat a lot recently)

4. (we / live in London for six months)

5. (he / play football so he's tired)

6. (I / not / work today)

7. (you / not / eat well recently)

8. (we / not / exercise enough)

9. (she / not / study)

10. (they / not / live here for very long)

Exercise 3 : Make the present perfect continuous questions

1. (she / run much recently?)

2. (it / rain?)

3. (he / work today?)

4. (I / talk a lot?)

5. (we / eat too much?)

6. (what / the child / eat?)

7. (how long / he / work in the bank?)

8. (where / she / buy food?)

9. (how long / we / wait for the bus?)

10. (what / you / do all day?)

Exercise 4 : Put the verbs in brackets into the present perfect or the present perfect continuous tense.

1 We (walk) ten kilometres.

2 We (walk) for three hours.

3 You (walk) too fast. That's why you are tired.

4 I (make) sausage rolls for the party all the morning.

5 How many you (make)? ~ I (make) 200.

6 That boy (eat) seven ice-creams.

7 He (not stop) eating since he arrived.

8 The driver (drink). I think someone else ought to drive.

9 I (pull) up 100 dandelions.

10 I (pull) up dandelions all day.

11 What you (do)? ~ We (pick) apples.

12 How many you (pick)? ~ We (pick) ten basketfuls.

13 I (sleep) on every bed in this house and I don't like any of them.

14 I'm sorry for keeping you waiting. I (try) to make a telephone call Rome.

15 You (not eat) enough lately. That's why you feel irritable,

16 they (arrive) already?

17 Lucy (run) 2000 metres today.

18 I (clean) all morning – I'm fed up!

19 How long you (know) Simon?

20 I (drink) more water lately, and I feel better.

21 Sorry about the mess! I (bake).

22 How many times you (take) this exam?

23 He (eat) six bars of chocolate today!

24 Julie (cook) dinner. Let's go and eat!

25 The students (finish) their exams. They're very happy.

26 (not / do) the housework yet.

27 They (study) very hard recently.

28 She (promise) to help many times.

29 He (clean) the kitchen. Everything is sparkling clean.

30 She (write) her essay and (send) it to her professor.

31 He (see) the film 'The King's Speech' about six times.

32 Julie (be) at the office since 6 am.