

## 12 The present perfect (2): just, already, yet; for and since



### A Just, already and yet

We can use the present perfect with **just**, **already** and **yet**.

**Just** means 'a short time ago'. Vicky heard about the concert not long ago. **Already** means 'sooner than expected'. They sold the tickets very quickly. We use **yet** when we are expecting something to happen. Vicky expects that Rachel will buy a ticket.

**Just** and **already** come before the past participle (heard, sold). **Yet** comes at the end of a question or a negative sentence.

Here are some more examples.

*We've just come back from our holiday.*

*I've just had an idea.*

*It isn't a very good party. Most people have already gone home.*

*My brother has already crashed his new car.*

*It's eleven o'clock and you haven't finished breakfast yet.*

*Has your course started yet?* But for American English see page 377.

### B For and since

We can use the present perfect with **for** and **since**.

*Vicky has only had that camera for three days. Those people have been at the hotel since Friday. I've felt really tired for a whole week now.*

*We've lived in Oxford since 1992.* NOT ~~*We live here since 1992.*~~ Here something began in the past and has lasted up to the present time.

We use **for** to say how long this period is (*for three days*). We use **since** to say when the period began (*since Friday*).

We use **how long** in questions.

*How long has Vicky had that camera? ~ Since Thursday, I think.*

*How long have Trevor and Laura been married? ~ Oh, for about three years.*

We can also use the present perfect with **for** and **since** when something has stopped happening. / *haven't seen Rachel for ages. She hasn't visited us since July.*

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# 12 Exercises

## 1 Just (A)

Write replies using the present perfect and *just*.

Use these past participles: *checked, eaten, made, remembered, rung, tidied*

► We must find out the address. ~ It's all right, *I've just remembered it.*

1 The children's room looks neat. ~ Yes, they've .....

2 Is Daniel making some coffee? ~ It's ready.

3 What happened to that chocolate? ~ Sorry, .....

4 Has Rachel got all the answers right? ~ Yes, .....

5 Have you told your sister? ~ Yes, I've .....

## 2 Just, already and yet (A)

Complete the dialogue. Use the present perfect with *just, already* and *yet*.

Vicky: (►) *You haven't done your project yet* (you / not do / your project / yet), I suppose.

Rachel: No, I haven't. (1) ..... (I / not / start / it / yet).

Vicky: (2) ..... (I / just / see / Andrew), and he says

(3) ..... (he / already / do) about half of it.

Rachel: Well, he works too hard.

Vicky: (4) ..... (I / not / finish / my plan / yet).

Rachel: (5) ..... (you / already / begin) to worry about it, haven't you?

Take it easy. There's plenty of time.

Vicky: (6) ..... (we / already / spend) too long thinking about it.

(7) ..... (I / not / do / any real work / yet)

and (8) ..... (I / just / realize) that there are only four weeks to the end of term.

Rachel: OK. (9) ..... (I / just / decide) to start next week. Well, maybe.

## 3 For and since (B)

Andrew is a very hard-working student. It's midnight and he is still working at his computer.

Write sentences with the present perfect and *for* or *since*.

► be / at his computer / six hours *He's been at his computer for six hours.*

1 not / have / any fun / a long time .....

2 have / a cold / a week .....

3 not / see / his friends / ages .....

4 not / do / any sport / last year .....

5 be / busy with his studies / months .....

## 4 For and since (B)

Complete the sentences.

? You ought to wash the car. You haven't *washed it for* ages.

? I'd better have a shower. I haven't *had one since* Thursday.

1 I think I'll ring my girlfriend. I haven't ..... the weekend.

2 We're going to see some old friends. We haven't ..... five years.

3 Let's watch a video, shall we? We haven't ..... quite a while.

4 We could have a barbecue. We haven't ..... last summer.

5 Shall we play tennis? We haven't ..... our holiday.

# 13 Exercises

## 1 Gone to or been to? (A)

Complete the conversation. Put in *gone* or *been*.

Emma: Hi. Where's Rachel?

Vicky: She's (►) *gone* to the supermarket to get something for a meal.

Emma: But I've got some chicken for tonight. I've just (1)..... to a supermarket on my way home, that new place near the station.

Natasha: I haven't (2)..... to that one yet.

Vicky: Where's Jessica? Isn't she here?

Emma: No, she's (3)..... to London. She'll be back tomorrow.

## 2 Ever and never (B)

Write the questions and answers. Use the information in brackets.

► Matthew: (sailing?) *Have you ever been sailing?*

Natasha: (no, windsurfing) *No, I've never been sailing, but I've been windsurfing.*

1 Laura: (San Francisco?)

Mark: (no, Los Angeles) .....

But .....

2 Tom: (basketball?) .....

Trevor: (no, volleyball) .....

But .....

3 Daniel: ('Hamlet'?) .....

Vicky: (no, 'Macbeth') .....

But .....

## 3 First time, second time, etc (C)

What would you say in these situations? Use *time* and the present perfect.

► You are watching a cricket match. You have never seen one before.

*This is the first time I've seen a cricket match.*

1 You have lost your bank card. It has happened once before.

This is .....

2 The washing-machine has broken down. This has happened twice before.

3 You are in England for the first time in your life.

4 You are staying in a hotel where you once stayed before.

5 You have missed the bus. You've done the same thing about four times before.

## 4 Today, this week, etc (D)

Complete the sentences. Use the present perfect.

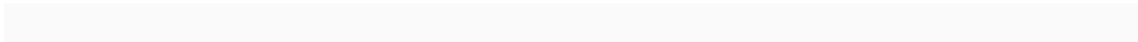
► Mark buys a newspaper most mornings, but *he hasn't bought one this morning.*

1 I see Vicky most days, but .....

2 We go to the club most weekends, but.....

3 We usually have a party each term, but ..

4 Someone usually rings in the evening, but no one



## 13 The present perfect (3): ever, this week, etc

### A Gone to or been to?



*Claire has gone to Australia.*  
*Gone there means that she is still there.*



*Claire has been to Australia.*  
*Been there means that the visit is over.*

### B Ever and never

Mark: *Where have you been this time, Claire?*

Claire: *I've just come back from the States. Florida.*

Mark: *You get around, don't you? I've never been to Florida. Was it good?*

Claire: *It was OK. Not as good as Australia. I might go to Brazil next time. Have you ever been there?*

Mark: *No, / haven't.*

We can use **ever** and **never** with the present perfect. We use **ever** in questions. In *Have you ever been to Brazil?* the word **ever** means 'in your whole life up to the present time'. **Never** means 'not ever'.

Here are some more examples.

*Have you ever played cricket? ~ No, never. Has Andrew ever had any fun? ~ I don't think so. I've never ridden a motor bike in my life. You've never given me flowers before. This is the most expensive hotel we've ever stayed in.*

### C First time, second time, etc

After **It's/This is the first/second time**, we use the present perfect.

*This is the first time we've been to Scotland, so it's all new to us.*

*This is the second time Rachel has forgotten to give me a message. I love this film. I think it's the fourth time I've seen it.*

### D Today, this week, etc

We use the present perfect with **today** and phrases with **this**, e.g. **this morning, this week, this year**.

*We've done quite a lot of work today.*

*I haven't watched any television so far this week.*

*Have you had a holiday this year? ~ No, not yet. This year is the period which began in January and has lasted up to the present time.*

## 14 Present perfect or past simple? (1)

### A I have done or I did?



The present perfect tells us about the past and the present. United have won the Cup, so it's theirs now.

The past simple tells us about the past, a time which is finished. Last year is in the past.

We use the past simple (not the present perfect) to talk about times in the past such as yesterday, last week, in 1994, a hundred years ago.

*We watched United last week, NOT We have watched United last week.*

*Long ago dinosaurs lived here. NOT Long ago dinosaurs have lived here.*

Here are some more examples.

#### PRESENT PERFECT

*Emma has packed her case.*

(So her things are in the case now.)

*Mike has repaired the chair.*

(So it's all right now.)

*The plane has just landed.*

*I've turned the heating on. (It's on now.)*

*I've dropped my calculator. (It's on the floor now.)*

#### PAST SIMPLE

*Emma packed her case last night.*

(Her things may be unpacked now.)

*Mike repaired the chair.*

(It may be broken again now.)

*The plane landed ten minutes ago.*

*I turned the heating on earlier, but it's off again now.*

*I dropped my calculator, but it seems to be OK.*

### 6 I've done it. I did it yesterday.

Trevor: *We've bought a new car.*

Tom: *Oh, have you? What sort?*

Laura: *An Adagio. We bought it last week.*

We often give a piece of news in the present perfect, e.g. *We've bought a new car.* (The car is ours now.) We use the past simple, e.g. *We bought it last week,* to give details or to ask for details about things such as when and where it happened.

Here are some more examples.

*I've found my wallet. ~ Oh, good. Where did you find it?*

*Your parcel has arrived. The postman brought it at eight o'clock.*

*They've closed the factory. ~ Really? When did they do that?*

### C Structures with for, since and last

#### PRESENT PERFECT

We can say that something hasn't happened for a long time or since a specific time in the past.

*We haven't had a party for ages.*

*We haven't had a party since Christmas.*

#### PAST SIMPLE

We can say that it is a long time since something happened or when was the last time it happened.

*It's ages since we last had a party.*

*Christmas was the last time we had a party.*

## 14 Exercises

### 1 I have done or I did? (A)

Put in the correct verb form.

? *I've done* (I / do) all the housework. The flat is really clean now.

? A young couple *bought* (buy) the house next door. But they didn't live there long.

1 Our visitors..... (arrive). They're sitting in the garden.

2 There's still a problem with the television. Someone ..... (repair) it, but then it broke down again.

3..... (I / lose) my bank card. I can't find it anywhere.

4 The match..... (start). United are playing well.

5 My sister..... (run) away from home. But she came back two days later.

6 Daniel..... (earn) some money last week. But I'm afraid he's already spent it all. .... (we / plant) an apple tree in the garden. Unfortunately it died.

8 Prices..... (go) up. Everything is more expensive this year.

9 Someone..... (turn) on the hi-fi. What's that song called?

10..... (I / phone) the office at eleven to speak to the manager, but he isn't there today.

11..... (I / make) a cake. Would you like a piece?

12 The runner Amos Temila..... (break) the world record for the 1500 metres in Frankfurt. Then two days later in Helsinki, Lee Williams ran it in an even faster time.

### 2 I've done it. I did it yesterday. (B)

Things that have happened today are on the radio and TV news.

Give the news using the present perfect and past simple.

► the Prime Minister / visit Luton University / speak to students there / earlier today  
*The Prime Minister has visited Luton University. He spoke to students there earlier today.*

1 the train drivers / go on strike / stop work / at twelve o'clock

2 the Queen / arrive in Toronto / fly there / in an RAF aircraft

3 two men / escape from Parkhurst Prison / get away / during the night

4 the actor Howard Bates / die in a car accident / his car / crash into a wall

5 Linda Jones / win the women's marathon / run it / in 2 hours 27 minutes

### 3 Structures with for, since and last (C)

Complete the conversations.

► Mike: This car is filthy. I haven't been to the car wash for about a year.

Tom: What! You mean it's twelve months *since you last went* to the car wash?

1 Laura: I haven't used my camera recently. June was the last time I took a photo.

Trevor: Really? I'm surprised you ..... June.

2 Rachel: I haven't seen Andrew for weeks.

Daniel: Nor me. It's ..... him.

3 Tom: What about a game of cards? We haven't played since your birthday.

David: Really? You mean my birthday ..... cards?

4 Emma: I feel terrible. It's three days since I ate anything.

Vicky: What did you say? You ..... three days?



# 15 Exercises

## 1 I've been or I was? (A)

Complete this letter to a newspaper. Put in the present perfect or past simple.

A few days ago I (►) *learned* (learn) that someone plans to knock down the White Horse Inn. This pub (*VJ has been* (be) the centre of village life for centuries. It (1)..... (stand) at our crossroads for 500 years. It (2)..... (be) famous in the old days, and Shakespeare once (3)..... (stay) there, they say. I (4)..... (live) in Brickfield all my life. The villagers (5)..... (know) about the plans for less than a week and already there's a 'Save Our Pub' campaign. Last week we (6)..... (be) happy, but this week we're angry. We will stop them, you'll see.

## 2 Have you (ever)...? and Did you (ever)...? (B)

Look at each conversation and choose the best sentence, a) or b).

- Have you heard about the woman walking across the US? ~ Yes, she's reached the Rockies.  
a) The walk is continuing, b) The walk has finished.
- 1 Have you ever played beach volleyball? ~ Yes, we played it on holiday.  
a) The holiday is still going on. b) The holiday is over.
- 2 Did you know old Mr Green? ~ No, I never met him.  
a) Mr Green is probably alive, b) Mr Green is probably dead.
- 3 Wayne Johnson is a great footballer. ~ Yes, he's scored 200 goals for United.  
a) Wayne Johnson still plays for United, b) Wayne Johnson has left United.

## 3 Today, this week, etc (C)

Put in *this*, *last*, *today* or *yesterday*.

- Last month prices went up, but *this* month they have fallen a little.
- 1 It's been dry so far..... week, but ..... week was very wet.
- 2 I went shopping earlier ..... and spent all the money I earned .....
- 3 We didn't have many visitors..... year. We've had a lot more ..... year.
- 4 I don't feel so tired now. We got up quite late ..... morning. I felt really tired ..... when we got up so early.

## 4 Present perfect or past simple? (Units 14 and 15)

Put in the verbs.

- Tom: (►) *Have you heard* (you / hear) the news about David?  
Harriet: No. (1)..... (what / happen)?  
Tom: (2)..... (he / have) an accident. He was walking down some steps.  
(3)..... (he / fall) and (4)..... (break) his leg.  
Harriet: Oh, how awful! When (5)..... (it / happen)?  
Tom: Yesterday afternoon. Melanie (6)..... (tell) me about it last night.  
Harriet: Last night! (7)..... (you / know) about it last night, and (8)..... (you / not / tell) me!  
Tom: Well, (9)..... (I / not / see) you last night. And (10)..... (I / not / see) you today, until now.  
Harriet: I hope he's all right. (11)..... (he / have) lots of accidents, you know. (12)..... (he / do) the same thing about two years ago.

## Test 3 Present perfect and past simple (Units 11-15)

### Test 3A

Put in the past participles of the verbs in brackets.

- We've *found* (find) all the answers.
- 1 Have you ..... (wash) the car?
  - 2 You haven't ..... (eat) very much.
  - 3 They've ..... (open) a new supermarket.
  - 4 You've ..... (write) it in pencil.
  - 5 I've ..... (make) the sandwiches.
  - 6 We've ..... (have) our lunch.
  - 7 United have ..... (score) a goal.
  - 8 The balloon has ..... (land) in a field.
  - 9 Who's ..... (break) this glass?
  - 10 It's warm because the heating has ..... (be) on.
  - 11 Have you ..... (sell) your flat yet?
  - 12 I've ..... (finish) that job at last.

### Test 3B

Complete the second sentence so that it follows on from the first. Use the present perfect.

- My hair is tidy now. I've *brushed* my hair.
- 1 The door is open. Someone ..... the door.
  - 2 This is Oliver's drawing. Look. Oliver ..... a picture.
  - 3 The calculator is broken. Someone ..... the calculator.
  - 4 United are the winners. United ..... the game.
  - 5 There's no more wine in the bottle. We ..... all the wine.
  - 6 The floor is clean now. I ..... the floor.
  - 7 I know my number now. I ..... my number by heart.
  - 8 The guests are here now. The guests .....
  - 9 I'm still working on the computer. I ..... with the computer yet.

### Test 3C

Decide which word is correct.

- I'd like to borrow this book. Has Anna read it *yet*?
- a) done b) for c) just d) yet
  - 1 Ben writes very quickly. He's ..... finished his essay,  
a) already b) been c) for d) yet
  - 2 What are you going to do? ~ I don't know. I haven't decided .....  
a) just b) long c) since d) yet
  - 3 I've ..... to London. I went there in June.  
a) been b) gone c) just d) yet
  - 4 Have you ..... done any skiing?  
a) ever b) for c) just d) long
  - 5 My boyfriend hasn't rung ..... week,  
a) for b) last c) since d) this
  - 6 I haven't seen that coat before. How ..... have you had it?  
a) already b) for c) long d) since
  - 7 The girls have ..... to the cinema. They won't be back until ten o'clock.  
a) already b) been c) gone d) just



## 5 Exercises

### 1 Present continuous or simple? (A-B)

At work Mark is talking to Alan in the corridor. Complete their conversation.

Put in the present continuous or simple of the verbs.

Mark: (►) *Are you looking* (you / look) for someone?

Alan: Yes, (►) / *need* (I / need) to speak to Neil. He isn't in his office.

Mark: (1)..... (he / talk) to the boss at the moment.

(2)..... (I / think) (3)..... (they / discuss) money.

Alan: Oh, right. And what about you? (4)..... (you / look) for someone too?

Mark: Yes, Linda. (5)..... (you / know) where she is?

Alan: Oh, she isn't here today. She only (6)..... (work) four days a week.

(7)..... (she / not / work) on Fridays. She'll be here on Monday.

Mark: Thank you. (8)..... (you / know) a lot about Linda.

Alan: Well, most days (9)..... (I / give) her a lift,

or (10)..... (she / give) me one. (11)..... (she / live)

quite close to me. (12)..... (it / save) petrol.

Mark: Yes, of course. Good idea. Yes, (13)..... (I / agree).

Well, (14)..... (I / waste) my time here then. I'll get back to my computer.

### 2 Present continuous or simple? (A-C)

Complete the sentences. Put in the present continuous or simple of the verbs.

► *I'm writing* (I / write) to my parents. / *write* (I / write) to them every weekend.

1 ..... (it / snow) outside. .... (it / come) down quite hard,  
look

2 Normally ..... (I / start) work at eight o'clock,  
but ..... (I / start) at seven this week. We're very busy at the moment.

3 I haven't got a car at the moment, so ..... (I / go) to work on the bus this week.  
Usually ..... (I / drive) to work.

4 The sun ..... (rise) in the east, remember. It's behind us so  
..... (we / travel) west.

5 I'm afraid I have no time to help just now ..... (I / write) a report. But  
..... (I / promise) I'll give you some help later.

6 ..... (I / want) a new car ..... (I / save) up to buy one.

### 3 Always (D)

Complete the sentences. Use *always* and the present continuous or simple.

► Melanie: Tom talks too much, doesn't he?

Rita: Yes, and *he's always talking* about football.

► Laura: You forget your keys every time.

Trevor: I try to remember them, but / *always forget*.

1 Claire: Sarah takes the train every day, doesn't she?

Mark: Yes, ..... the train.

2 Vicky: Rachel misses lectures much too often in my opinion.

Emma: I agree, ..... lectures.

3 Mike: Every time I drive along here, I go the wrong way.

Harriet: But it's very simple, isn't it? Why ..... the wrong way?

4 David: Trevor and Laura argue much too often, I think.

Melanie: I know .....