

PRESENT PERFECT + FOR AND SINCE

Main theme addressed	In this lesson, you will learn about the Present Perfect.
Key Goals	<p>Here is an outline of what you will learn today:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do we conjugate verbs in the Present Perfect? 2. When do we use the Present Perfect? 3. The Present Perfect with “for” or “since”

1. How do we conjugate verbs in the Present Perfect?

The Present Perfect is formed as follows:

Present Simple of the verb “to have” + Past Participle of the main verb
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Examples:

	to eat	to sing	to play	to bet
I	have eaten	have sung	have played	have bet
You	have eaten	have sung	have played	have bet
He/She/It	has eaten	has sung	has played	have bet
We	have eaten	have sung	have played	have bet
You	have eaten	have sung	have played	have bet
They	have eaten	have sung	have played	have bet

- The negative form of the Present Perfect is as follows:

Haven't or Hasn't + Past Participle of the main verb

Examples:

I **haven't** seen her for a long time.

He **hasn't** eaten since this morning.

- In questions, the Present Perfect is used as follows:

To have (not) + Subject + Past Participle of the main verb

Examples:

Have you done your homework?

2. When do we use the Present Perfect?

The Present Perfect is used to talk about an action or event that happened in the past but has a clear link to the present.

- It happened in the past. In the present, we now know that the groceries are done.

Examples:

I **have done** the groceries.

- It started in the past and is still true today.

Examples:

We **have travelled** around the

I **have lived** in Australia for a year.

Exercise:

Write the following verbs in the Present Perfect form to fill in the blanks:

1. We (to live) _____ here since 1998.
2. My mother (not to call) _____ me since our last lunch.
3. c) I (to buy) _____ my coffee here for over ten years now.

Answers:

1. have lived
2. hasn't called
3. have bought

3. Present Perfect with “for” or “since”

The Present Perfect can be used with two different words: “**since**” and “**for**”.

The preposition “**for**” always introduces the **duration** of the action described in the sentence.

Examples:

I have been living in England **for five years**.

They haven't seen their family **for a very long time**.

My brother has been a lawyer **for as long as I can remember**.

The Present Perfect with “**since**”, however uses this word to talk about a **moment in time** either as:

- **A preposition:** to introduce a noun phrase, a date, etc.

Examples:

I have been living in England **since October 2014**.

They haven't seen their family **since last Christmas**.

- **A conjunction:** to introduce a subordinate clause

Examples:

I have been living in England **since I moved in 2014.**

They haven't seen their family **since they argued.**

My brother has been a lawyer **since he graduated a long time ago.**

Exercise:

Write “for” or “since” to complete the sentences below:

1. We have been married _____ 43 years.
2. She hasn't returned any of my calls _____ I last saw her.
3. I have prepared for this competition _____ I was a little boy.
4. My friends have lived abroad _____ decades.
5. I have only worked here _____ Monday.

Answers:

1. for
2. since
3. since
4. for
5. since

Learn More:

<https://www.englishpage.com/verbpage/presentperfect.html>

<https://www.ecenglish.com/learnenglish/how-use-present-perfect>

http://guidetogrammar.org/grammar/tenses/present_perfect.htm