

## What's the difference?

### Present Perfect and Past Simple

Present Perfect Simple	Past Simple
<p>Unfinished actions that started in the past and continue to the present:</p> <p>I <b>'ve known</b> Julie for ten years (and I still know her).</p>	<p>Finished actions:</p> <p>I <b>knew</b> Julie for ten years (but then she moved away and we lost touch).</p>
<p>A finished action in someone's life (when the person is still alive: life experience):</p> <p>My brother <b>has been</b> to Mexico three times.</p>	<p>A finished action in someone's life (when the person is dead):</p> <p>My great-grandmother <b>went</b> to Mexico three times.</p>
<p>A finished action with a result in the present:</p> <p>I <b>'ve lost</b> my keys! (The result is that I can't get into my house now).</p>	<p>A finished action with no result in the present:</p> <p>I <b>lost</b> my keys yesterday. It was terrible! (Now there is no result. I got new keys yesterday).</p>
<p>With an unfinished time word (this week, this month, today):</p> <p>I <b>'ve seen</b> John this week.</p>	<p>With a finished time word (last week, last month, yesterday):</p> <p>I <b>saw</b> John last week.</p>

#### Remember:

1. We use the past simple for past events or actions which have no connection to the present.
2. We use the present perfect for actions which started in the past and are still happening now OR for finished actions which have a connection to the present.
3. We CAN'T use the present perfect with a finished time word:

NOT: I ~~'ve been~~ to the museum **yesterday**.  
**Went**

**I Choose the present perfect or past simple:**

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ (never / go) to Vienna.
2. My great great grandfather \_\_\_\_\_ (have) five sisters
3. He \_\_\_\_\_ (live) in Manila for a year when he was a student.
4. Oh no! I \_\_\_\_\_ (lose) my wallet!
5. \_\_\_\_\_ (you / see) Julie today?
6. At the weekend, they \_\_\_\_\_ (play) football, then they \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to a restaurant.
7. I \_\_\_\_\_ (read) six books this week.
8. Amy \_\_\_\_\_ (live) in Portugal when she was young.
9. She \_\_\_\_\_ (visit) her grandmother last month.
10. The Vandals \_\_\_\_\_ (invade) Rome in the year 455.
11. She \_\_\_\_\_ (live) in seven different countries, so she knows a lot about different cultures.
12. I \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to the cinema last night.
13. Ow! I \_\_\_\_\_ (cut) my finger!
14. \_\_\_\_\_ (you / see) 'The King's Speech'?
15. John \_\_\_\_\_ (never / understand) the present perfect.
16. She \_\_\_\_\_ (break) her leg the day before her exam.
17. We \_\_\_\_\_ (see) Oliver yesterday.
18. He \_\_\_\_\_ (be) here all morning.
19. They \_\_\_\_\_ (live) here for many years (and they still do).
20. King Henry the Eighth of England \_\_\_\_\_ (have) six wives.

**II Choose the correct answer.****1) Why haven't you called the doctor \_\_\_\_\_?**

- A) already      B) yet      C) ever      D) still

**2) Have you \_\_\_\_\_ been to the Bahamas?**

- A) lately      B) still      C) ever      D) already

**3) I have \_\_\_\_\_ read your e-mail.**

- A) just      B) ever      C) still      D) yet

**4) We haven't met \_\_\_\_\_ the summer festival.**

- A) still      B) never      C) for      D) since

**5) The manager \_\_\_\_\_ hasn't decided what to do.**

- A) still      B) never      C) ever      D) yet

**6) Have you seen him \_\_\_\_\_?**

- A) already      B) ever      C) recently      D) still

**7) They have had their house \_\_\_\_\_ two and a half years.**

- A) already      B) for      C) since      D) still

**8) Dan has \_\_\_\_\_ climbed a mountain. (This is the first time.)**

- A) yet      B) never      C) since      D) for

**9) I have \_\_\_\_\_ written an article about drug addiction but I have to write one about tourism.**

- A) already      B) still      C) since      D) yet

**10) Prices have gone up \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A) for      B) still      C) yet      D) lately

**III Write the suitable signal words on the lines. There are sentences where more signal words can be used. (Write all possibilities.)**

- |            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| A) already | F) never    |
| B) ever    | G) recently |
| C) for     | H) since    |
| D) just    | I) still    |
| E) lately  | J) yet      |

- 1) Sally has \_\_\_\_\_ finished his last book. I have \_\_\_\_\_ read such an interesting novel \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) We \_\_\_\_\_ haven't received their invitation card.
- 3) \* What a great smell! \* I have \_\_\_\_\_ baked a cake for my children.
- 4) Our team has had more trainings \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) My mum hasn't had an accident \_\_\_\_\_ she got her driving licence.
- 6) Has the prime minister \_\_\_\_\_ travelled to the USA?
- 7) They've been on holiday \_\_\_\_\_ a fortnight.
- 8) Steve has \_\_\_\_\_ tried to cheat on a test. He studies hard.
- 9) I have \_\_\_\_\_ thought about our possibilities.
- 10) She hasn't played tennis \_\_\_\_\_ then.
- 11) We can have lunch. I have \_\_\_\_\_ set the table.
- 12) His uncle has written two books \_\_\_\_\_.
- 13) Ms Greene has acted in our theatre \_\_\_\_\_ a season.
- 14) My neighbours \_\_\_\_\_ haven't cut the grass.
- 15) Dave has \_\_\_\_\_ been late. He is always on time.
- 16) Heidi has ridden a bike in the park \_\_\_\_\_ the end of her last lesson.
- 17) Have they taken some photos \_\_\_\_\_?
- 18) Have you \_\_\_\_\_ told a lie to your mum?
- 19) He has \_\_\_\_\_ found his pen.
- 20) Jane has seen the doctor \_\_\_\_\_.