

Tense review: The present perfect 1

Lesson code: LG9D-A87B-D9VN-9

INTERMEDIATE

1 Presentation

The **present perfect** is used to talk about past actions or situations that have a connection with the present. It is formed from the verb **have** + **past participle**, e.g. I've (= I have) never **met** him before.

For a list of irregular verb forms, go to <http://linguahouse.com/r/1> or use your mobile device to read the code below:



1) We often use the **present perfect** to give 'new' information, for example when we want to report an event that happened a short time ago:

Ouch! I've hurt my leg. Has Michael arrived yet? Spain have won the World Cup!

2) We use the **present perfect** to talk about a repeated past event that may happen again in the future:

Brazil have won the World Cup five times. The doctor has saved many lives.

When there is no possibility that the event will happen again in the future, we use the **past simple**:

The English King Henry VIII got married six times.

3) We often use the **present perfect** to talk about a situation that began in the past and continues up to the present or future. It is often used with time expressions such as *since*, *for*, *never*, etc.:

I've been married for nearly ten years. John hasn't lived alone since 2001.

4) We often use the **present perfect** to talk about a past event that has a connection with the present:

Look! Masa has had a hair cut! (*His hair is different now.*)

I've forgotten my dictionary at home. Can I borrow yours? (*My dictionary is at home at the moment.*)

NOTE: If we say *when* something happened in the past, we cannot use the **present perfect**. We use the **past simple**: Yesterday, I forgot my dictionary at home, so I borrowed one from a classmate.

Dialogue

A: You look different. **Have you been** on holiday again ?

B: Yes, I've just **got** back from Italy.

A: Really? But you've **been** on holiday five times this year!



2 Practice 1 - 'New' or 'old' information?

Cross out the wrong answers to complete the following sentences:

1. My aunt has just arrived/just arrived at the airport. I have to go and pick her up.
2. My cousin is staying with me at the moment. He has arrived/arrived yesterday.
3. Guess what? I've got/I got a new job!
4. Have you heard/Did you hear the news? Juliette has passed/passed all her exams.
5. Spain have won/won the last World Cup.
6. I'm not hungry. I've already eaten/I already ate .

3 Practice 2 - Experiences and repeated events

Read the following common facts about Marilyn Monroe and Nicole Kidman. Which actress does each sentence refer to? Put 'MM' (Marilyn Monroe), 'NK' (Nicole Kidman) or 'both'.

1. She was married more than once. _____
2. She has been married more than once. _____
3. She was born in the USA. _____
4. She has starred in many successful films. _____
5. She received awards for her performances. _____
6. She has worked with many famous actors. _____
7. She began her film career in her twenties. _____
8. She has won several awards for her performances. _____

4 Practice 3 - Changes from past to present

The picture on the left shows Paul when he was younger. What has happened to him?



become

change

grow

lose

put on

stop

1. His lifestyle _____ a lot.
2. He _____ running completely.
3. He _____ some weight.
4. He _____ lazy and unfit.
5. He _____ his enthusiasm for running.
6. He _____ a moustache.



5 Practice 4 - Present perfect v. Past simple

Put the verbs in brackets in the correct form, present perfect or past simple:

1. The film we _____ (see) at the cinema last night was awful.
2. It _____ (not/rain) so far this week.
3. I _____ (graduate) from university in 2001.
4. Martin _____ (not/earn) much money last year.
5. Daniel's English _____ (improve) a lot since last month.
6. I _____ (learn) Spanish about 10 years ago, but I _____ (forget) most of it.
7. I _____ (send) you an email last night. _____ (you/read) it yet?
8. Help! Somebody _____ (steal) my mobile.
9. I _____ (never/go) to Brazil, but I _____ (go) to Peru last year on holiday.
10. _____ (you/see) my new iphone? I _____ (buy) it yesterday.
11. _____ (you/see) the match last night? It _____ (be) a fantastic game.
12. Akihiro _____ (just/leave). He _____ (be) here earlier.
13. I _____ (never/meet) my grandmother. She _____ (die) when I _____ (be) still a baby.
14. I _____ (attend) my first job interview 10 years ago. Since then, I _____ (work) for several multinational companies.



2 Practice 1 - 'New' or 'old' information?

1. has just arrived
2. arrived
3. I've got
4. Have you heard; has passed
5. won
6. I've already eaten

3 Practice 2 - Experiences and repeated events

1. MM 2. NK 3. both 4. NK 5. MM 6. NK 7. both 8. NK

4 Practice 3 - Changes from past to present

1. has changed
2. has stopped
3. has put on
4. has become
5. has lost
6. has grown

5 Practice 4 - Present perfect v. Past simple

Note: the past participle of 'go' is 'been' or 'gone'. If the meaning is 'visit', we use 'been', e.g. 'I've been to Tokyo five times this year.' If the meaning is 'leave', we use 'gone', e.g. 'Mark is not here now. He has gone home.'

1. saw
2. hasn't rained
3. graduated
4. didn't earn
5. has improved
6. learnt; 've forgotten
7. sent; have you read
8. has stolen
9. 've never been; went
10. Have you seen; bought
11. Did you see; was
12. has just left; was
13. never met; died; was
14. attended; 've worked

