

# HOW PERFECT IS YOUR PRESENT PERFECT TENSE ?

## Present perfect (I have done)

### Study this example conversation:

**dave:** Have you travelled a lot, Jane?  
**jane:** Yes, I've been to lots of places. Jane's life  
**dave:** Really? Have you ever been to China? (a period until now )  
**jane:** Yes, I've been to China twice.  
**dave:** What about India?  
**jane:** No, I haven't been to India. past now

When we talk about a period of time that continues from the past until now, we use the present perfect (have been / have travelled etc.). Here, Dave and Jane are talking about the places Jane has visited in her life, which is a period that continues until now.

## Some more examples:

Have you ever eaten caviar?  
We've never had a car.  
  
'Have you read Hamlet?'  
  
'No, I haven't read any of Shakespeare's plays.' Susan really loves that film. She's seen it eight times!  
  
What a boring film! It's the most boring film I've ever seen.  
Been (to) = visited:  
  
I've never been to China. Have you been there?

In the following examples too, the speakers are talking about a period that continues until now (recently / in the last few days / so far / since breakfast etc.):

- Have you heard anything from Brian recently? (recently)
- I've met a lot of people in the last few days. (in the last few days)
- Everything is going well. We haven't had any problems so far. (since breakfast)
- I'm hungry. I haven't eaten anything since breakfast. (= from breakfast until now) past now
- It's good to see you again. We haven't seen each other for a long time.

In the same way we use the present perfect with today / this evening / this year etc. when these periods are not finished at the time of speaking:

I've drunk four cups of coffee today.  
Have you had a holiday this year?  
Today I haven't seen Tom this morning. Have you?  
Rob hasn't worked very hard this term.

## We say: It's the (first) time something has happened.

### For example:

Don is having a driving lesson. It's his first one. It's the first time he has driven a car. (not drives) He has never driven a car before.  
This is the first time I've driven a car.

or

Sarah has lost her passport again. This is the second time this has happened, (not happens)  
Bill is phoning his friend again. That's the third time he's phoned her this evening.



## EXERCISE

### 1 You ask people about things they have done. Write questions with ever.

1. (ride / horse?) Have you ever ridden a horse?
2. (be / California?) Have .....
3. (run / marathon?) .....
4. (speak / famous person?) .....
5. (most beautiful place / visit?) What's.....?

### 3 Read the situations and write sentences as shown in the example.

1. Jack is driving a car, but he's very nervous and not sure what to do.  
You ask: .... Have you driven a car before? .....  
He says: . No, this is the first time I've driven a car.....
2. Ben is playing tennis. He's not good at it and he doesn't know the rules.  
You ask: Have .....  
He says: No, this is the first.....
3. Sue is riding a horse. She doesn't look very confident or comfortable.  
You ask: .....  
She says: .....
4. Maria is in Japan. She has just arrived and it's very new for her.  
You ask: .....  
She says: .....

### 4 Write a question for each situation. ( ORAL PRACTICE ) NO KEY PROVIDED

1. You meet Paul as he is leaving the swimming pool.  
You ask: (you / swim?) Have you been swimming?.....
2. You have just arrived to meet a friend who is waiting for you.  
You ask: (you / wait / long?).....
3. You meet a friend in the street. His face and hands are very dirty.  
You ask: (what / you / do?).....
4. A friend of yours is now working in a shop. You want to know how long.  
You ask: (how long / you / work / there?).....
5. A friend tells you about his job - he sells mobile phones. You want to know how long.  
You ask: (how Long / you / sell / mobile phones?).....

### 5 Read the situations and complete the sentences.

1. It's raining. The rain started two hours ago. It's been raining for two hours.
2. We are waiting for the bus. We started waiting 20 minutes ago.  
We..... for 20 minutes.
3. I'm learning Spanish. I started classes in December.  
I..... since December.
4. Jessica is working in a supermarket. She started working there on 18 January.  
since 18 January.
5. Our friends always spend their holidays in Italy. They started going there years ago.  
.....for years.

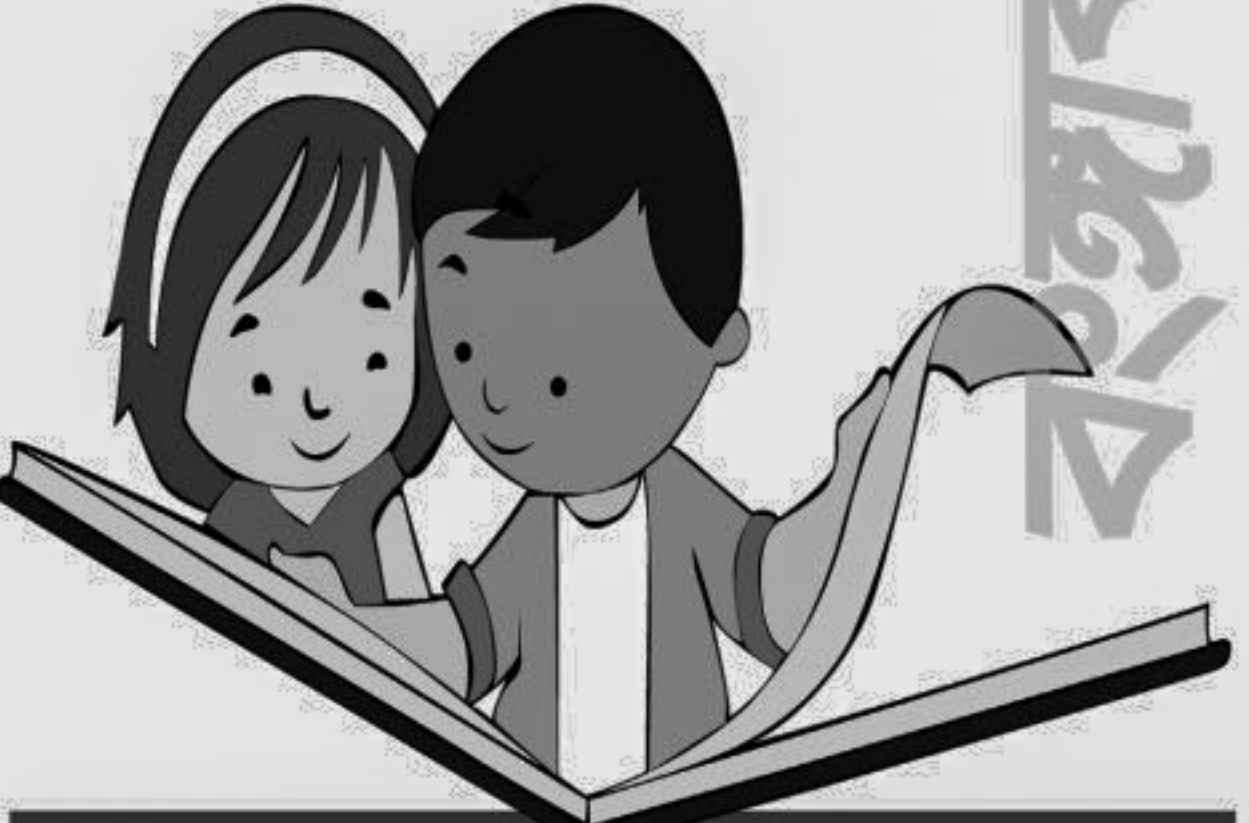
### 2 Write four sentences about yourself. Use I haven't and choose from the boxes.

- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| used a computer  | been to the cinema |
| travelled by bus | read a book        |
| eaten any fruit  | lost anything      |

1. I haven't used a computer today.
2. ....
3. ....
4. ....
5. ....

### 6 Put the verb into the present continuous (I am -ing) or present perfect continuous (I have been -ing).

1. has been Learning (Maria / learn) English for two years.
2. Hello, Tom. (!/ look) for you. Where have you been?
3. Why..... (you / look) at me like that? Stop it!
4. Linda is a teacher..... (she/ teach) for ten years.
5. (I / think) about what you said and I've decided to take your advice.
6. 'Is Paul on holiday this week?'  
'No,.....(he/work).'
7. Sarah is very tired.  
(she / work) very hard recently.



Find the answers in next MONDAY issue

### ANSWER KEY TO THE LAST EIS PAGE ACTIVITIES (DATED APRIL 08, 2019)

- Do you remember Proper and Common Nouns ?**  
1. Sir Galahad , Holy Grail ( proper noun ) 2. Cotton ( common noun ) , Egypt ( proper noun )  
3. Balboa , Pacific Ocean ( proper noun ) 4. Walter Scott ( proper noun ) , writer ( common noun )  
5. Florida , Alligator State ( proper noun ) 6. "Grada-tim" , Josiah Holland ( proper noun )  
7. Africa ( proper noun ) 8. Greenland ( proper noun ) , American jeeps ( common noun )  
9. Carmen Salvino , George ( proper noun ) 10. moon , sunlight ( common noun )
- Do you remember collective Nouns ?**  
1. The cast 2. a herd of reindeer 3. a pack of wolves 4. A group of happy swimmers 5. Dewey's fleet 6. A troop of children 7. a flock of sheep 8. A covey of partridges 9. bevy of quails 10. Our family
- Do you remember Pronoun ?**  
1. Bring them to me. 2. He is taller than she. 3. Is the book for him or me ? 4. They have gone for a walk. 5. We hiked across the field to meet you. 6. Did he see me wave to you ? 7. We are all going to the circus. 8. The captain appointed me. 9. Ask and it shall be given to you. 10. We have received no word either from him or from her.
- Select either the past simple or the past perfect form of the verbs in the brackets.**  
1. felt, had eaten 5. threw, had read 2. had examined, had 6. had spent, asked 3. called, had gone 7. gave, had corrected 4. finished, had come 8. rose, had started
- Use the present perfect, present perfect continuous, past perfect or the past perfect continuous tense of the verbs given in the brackets.**  
1. has been studying 2. had left 3. has been 4. had prepared 5. have known 6. had been working 7. has made 8. has been writing
- Write the form of the verb specified in brackets.**  
1. had bought 2. had forgotten 3. will have driven 4. had won 5. have measured 6. had learned 7. will have spent 8. has taken 9. will have built 10. has inspired
- Choose the right answer.**  
1. haven't had 2. didn't go 3. is wearing 4. has grown 5. haven't decided 7. wasn't reading 8. didn't have 9. is beginning 10. found 11. wasn't 12. you've been 13. I've been doing 14. did she go 15. I've been playing 16. do you come 17. since I saw her 18. for 20. years
- Use correct future tense of the verbs in brackets.**  
1. will have finished 2. arrives 3. will be living 4. will leave played 5. will have studied / will have been 6. will buy / is going to buy 7. will come 8. will have been playing / will have
- Studying**  
1. buys 2. was looking 3. broke 4. was thinking 5. thought 6. bought 7. are / are being 8. have seen 9. will you be staying 10. have arrived
- Don't get Angry:**  
1. b 2. c 3. c 4. d 5. b 6. a
- Are you Idiomatic ?**  
1. c 2. d 3. b 4. d 5. c 6. c 7. d 8. c 9. b 10. b  
1. a 2. b 3. a 4. b 5. d 6. a 7. c 8. d 9. a 10. c