Present perfect

The present perfect tense is a verb form used to talk about actions or events that began in the past and have a connection to the present.
It is formed by using the auxiliary verb "have" (or "has" for the third person singular) followed by the past participle of the main verb. The structure of the present perfect tense is as follows:

- **Positive:** Subject + have/has + past participle
- **Negative:** Subject + have/has + not + past participle
- **Question:** Have/Has + subject + past participle

For example:
- Positive: "**I have finished** my homework."
- Negative: "**She has not/hasn't seen** that movie yet."
- Question: "**Have you ever been** to Paris?"

Key points about the present perfect tense:

- **Time Frame:** The present perfect tense focuses on the period between the past and the present. It does not specify exactly when the action happened but emphasises its relevance to the current moment.
- **Completed Actions:** The present perfect is often used to describe actions that have been completed at some unspecified time before now. For example, "He has already eaten breakfast."
- **Unfinished Time:** The present perfect can also be used with expressions of unfinished time, such as "today," "this week," or "so far." For example, "I have read two books this week."
- **Experience:** The present perfect is commonly used to talk about life experiences or accomplishments. For example, "She has visited several countries."
- **Multiple Events:** The present perfect can be used to describe multiple actions or events that happened in the past and have relevance to the present. For example, "We have seen three movies this week."
- **Use of "For" and "Since":** The present perfect is often used with "for" to indicate the duration of an action or event that started in the past and is still continuing. It is used with "since" to indicate the starting point of an action or event that continues up to the present.

For example:
- "He has lived in this city **for** five years." (Duration)
- "She has worked here **since** 2010." (Starting point)

Note:
The present perfect tense is a versatile form that allows us to talk about past actions or experiences in a way that connects them to the present moment.



Present perfect exercise 1:

Choose the correct answer.

1. ___ you ever ____ to Japan?
a) Have / been
b) Has / been
c) Have / went

2. ____ they ____ their dinner yet?
a) Have / finish
b) Has / finish
c) Have / finished

3. I ____ my keys. Can you help me find them?
a) has lost
b) have lost
c) have lose

4. ___ they ____ the news?
a) Have / heard
b) Has / heard
c) Have / hear

5. ____ you ____ the new restaurant downtown?
a) Have / try
b) Has / tried
c) Have / tried

6. We ____ our friends for a picnic tomorrow.
a) has invited
b) have invited
c) have invite

7. He _____ in this city for five years.
a) has lived
b) have lived
c) has living

8. She _____ in the same town since she was a child.
a) has lived
b) has live
c) have lived

9. She has been working here _____ a few weeks.
a) for
b) during
c) since

10. He hasn't watched TV _____ this morning.
a) during
b) since
c) for

Present perfect exercise 2:

Complete the sentences/questions with the correct form of the present perfect.

1. They _____ **(visit)** Paris twice.

2. I _____ **(not see)** him since last week.

3. He _____ **(work)** at the company for five years.

4.We _____ **(live)** in this city since 2010.

5. Mary _____ **(not finish)** her homework yet.

6. I _____ **(never eat)** sushi before.

7. Sarah _____ **(paint)** a beautiful picture.

8. _____ you _____ **(see)** the new movie?

9. I _____ **(already have)** lunch.

10. We _____ **(know)** each other since we were toddlers.



Present perfect: answer key

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Where two or more answers are given, any of them is correct.

Exercise 1

1. a) Have / been
2. c) Have / finished
3. b) have lost
4. a) Have / heard
5. c) Have / tried
6. b) have invited
7. a) has lived
8. a) has lived
9. a) for
10. b) since

Exercise 2

1. have visited / 've visited
2. have not seen / haven't seen
3. has worked / 's worked
4. have lived / 've lived
5. has not finished / hasn't finished
6. have never eaten / 've never eaten
7. has painted / 's painted
8. Have … seen
9. have already had / 've already had
10. have known / 've known