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GRAMMAR - The Present Perfect with “for” and “since” and other uses.

Use “for” and “since” to describe periods of time that began in the past.

For

We use “for” to describe a length of time.

Example: How long have you been there? I've been here for ten minutes.

Example: How long have you been there? I've been here for many years.

Since

We use “since” with a specific time or date in the past.

Example: How long have you been here? I've been here since eight o'clock.

Example: How long have you been here? I've been here since August.

Other uses

- With “always”.

Example: I've always wanted to see Car Planet.

- With ordinals and superlatives.

Example: This is the third time I've seen Ping Pong. It's the best movie I've ever seen.

- With “lately”, “recently” or “just”.

Example: Have you seen a good movie recently/ lately? I've just seen The Beach- what a great movie!

- With “still” or “so far”.

Example: You still haven't seen Tomato Babies? I've seen it three times so far!

Exercise 1. Choose the correct words to complete the paragraph.

I've been a big fan of Penélope Cruz (1 for/ since) more than twenty years. I've followed her career (2 since / so far) I was in high school. That means I've watched every movie she's made (3 for / since) 1993, except for Vicky Cristina Barcelona. I (4 yet/ still) haven't seen that one, but I plan to see it soon. I've (5 still / always) loved Penélope's work. I've (6 since / always) been the first person in line at the theatre when her movies open. Of the movies Penélope has made (7 lately / always), the most interesting ones to me are To Rome with Love and I'm so excited. I think they're the (8 best / just) movies she's made (9 so far / still). I've (10 always / already) seen them twice.

Exercise 2. Complete with “for” or “since”.

1. I have been waiting _____ **SINCE** _____ 4 o'clock.
2. Sue has only been waiting _____ **SINCE** _____ 20 minutes.
3. Tim and Tina have been learning English _____ **SINCE** _____ six years.
4. Fred and Frida have been learning French _____ **SINCE** _____ 1998.
5. Joe and Josephine have been going out together _____ **FOR** _____ Valentine's Day.
6. I haven't been on holiday _____ **FOR** _____ last July.
7. Mary has been saving her money _____ **FOR** _____ many years.
8. I haven't eaten anything _____ **FOR** _____ breakfast.
9. You have been watching TV _____ **FOR** _____ hours.
10. We have been living here _____ **SINCE** _____ 2 months.

GRAMMAR - The Present Perfect Continuous.

- The Present Perfect Continuous shows that an action started in the past and is continuing at the present time or has finished recently.

- It is formed using the construction has/have been + the present participle (base form + -ing).

Example: I have been reading War and Peace for a month now.

In this sentence, using the Present Perfect Continuous conveys that reading War and Peace is an activity that began sometime in the past and is not yet finished in the present.

- “Recently” and “lately” are words that we often find with verbs in the Present Perfect Continuous.

Example: Mia has been competing in flute competitions recently. (And she will continue to do so.)

Example: I haven't been feeling well lately. (And I am still sick now.)

- The Present Perfect Continuous can be used with “for” and “since”.

Example: “I've lived here for five years” (emphasis is on the five year period. I still live here, so the action continues).

Example: “ I've been living here since 2001”.

“ I've lived here since 2001” (is also correct but the Present Perfect Continuous emphasizes

the continuing time.)

- Not all verbs are compatible with a continuous action. Some examples of such verbs are to "be", to "arrive", and to "own".

Example: ~~I have been owning my Mazda since 2007.~~

I have owned my Mazda since 2007. (Present Perfect Simple)

Example: ~~Gus has been being late for work recently.~~

Gus has been late for work recently. (Present Perfect Simple)

Exercise 3. Complete each statement with the Present Perfect Continuous.

1. Rio _____ **HAVE PLAYING** _____ (play) at the Children's Classic Cinema every Saturday since 2010.
2. Robert _____ **HAVE WAITING** _____ (wait) in the ticket holders' line for a pretty long time.
3. People _____ **HAS WORRYNG ABOUT** _____ (worry about) violence in movies since the sixties.
4. I' _____ **VE TALKING ABOUT** _____ (talk about) that movie for weeks.
5. We' _____ **VE COMING** (come) to this classic movie theatre for two years.

Exercise 4. Put the verbs into the correct form of the Present Perfect Continuous.

1. He (work) _____ **HAS WORKING** _____ in this company since 1985.
2. I (wait) _____ **HAVE WAITING** _____ for you since two o'clock.
3. Mary (live) _____ **HAS LIVING** _____ in Germany since 1992.
4. Why is he so tired? He (play) _____ **HAS PLAYING** _____ tennis for five hours.
5. How long (learn / you) _____ **HAVE YOU LEARNING** _____ English?
6. We (look for) _____ **HAVE LOOKING FOR** _____ the motorway for more than an hour.
7. I (live) _____ **HAVE LIVING** _____ without electricity for two weeks.
8. The film (run / not) _____ **HASN'T RUNING** _____ for ten minutes yet, but there's a commercial break already.
9. How long (work / she) _____ **HAS SHE WORKING** _____ in the garden?
10. She (not / be) _____ **HASN'T BEEN** _____ in the garden for more than an hour.

VOCABULARY



an action film



a horror film



a science-fiction film



an animated film



a comedy



a drama



a documentary



a musical

Exercise 4. Translate to Spanish the vocabulary above.

1. una película de acción
2. cine de terror
3. cine de ciencia ficción
4. película animada
5. comedia
6. drama
7. documental
8. musical

GRAMMAR - “Would like”, “would rather”, “would rather not”.

Would like

- We use “would like” + an infinitive to politely express or ask about wants.

Example: Would you like to go to the movies? Yes, I would.

Example: Would she like to see The Dancer? No, she wouldn't.

Would rather

- We use "would rather" + a base form to express or ask about a preference between two or more activities.

Example: Would your children rather see an animated film or an action film?

Example: What would you rather do: go to a movie or a play? I'd rather go to the movie.

Example: She'd rather see a less violent film than Gangs of New York.

Would rather not

- We use "would rather not" + a base form to express a negative preference.

Example: We'd rather not watch TV tonight.

Yes/ no questions

Example: Would you like to see a documentary?

Would they rather stay at home?

Short answers

Yes, I would. / No, I wouldn't.

Yes, they would. / No, they wouldn't OR

No, they'd rather not.

Exercise 5. Write sentences and questions using these words and phrases.

1. They / would like / see / the Woody Allen film.

2. What time / you / would rather / meet?

3. Who / would like / order / eggs for breakfast?

4. they / rather / Would / watch TV or go out?

5. Jason / would like / have / a large container of popcorn.

6. I'd rather / rent / a sci-fi film tonight.

7. Her parents / rather / not / watch / anything too violent.

8. Who'd rather / not / see / that silly animated film?

VOCABULARY - Adjectives to describe movies

Funny= something that makes you laugh

Hilarious= very, very funny

Silly = not serious, almost stupid

Boring= not interesting

Weird= very strange or unusual, in a negative way

Unforgettable= something you are going to remember

Romantic= about love

Thought= provoking= something that makes you think

Violent= bloody, with a lot of fighting and killing

Exercise 6. Write 9 sentences using the vocabulary above.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.