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GRAMMAR - The Present perfect

- We use the Present Perfect to talk about something that happened in the past, but the exact time it happened is not important. It has relationship with the present.

Example: I have done my homework = I finished my homework in the past. It is not important at what exact time, only that it is now done (result in the present).

Example: I have forgotten my bag = It is not important when exactly I forgot it. The important thing is that I don't have it right now.

<u>Affirmative</u>	<u>Negative</u>
I	} have met them / haven't met them
You	
He	} has met them / hasn't met them
She	
It	
We	} have met them / haven't met them
You	
They	

For regular verbs, the past participle form is the same as the Past Simple form.
open → opened
study → studied

Contractions
've met= have met
haven't met= have not met
's met= has met
hasn't met= has not met

Yes/ no questions

A: Have you met them?

B: Yes, we have. / No, we haven't.

- Remember: we use the Past Simple Tense to talk about a definite or specific time in the past.

Compare:

Present Perfect: indefinite time

Past Simple tense: definite time

Example: I've met Bill twice

Example: I met Bill in 1999 and again in 2004

The Present perfect

El presente perfecto equivale más o menos al pretérito perfecto del español. Veremos las diferencias en la sección sobre usos. En general, es una mezcla entre el presente y el pasado. Lo usamos para acciones en el pasado que tienen importancia en el presente.

Grammatical Rules (Reglas gramaticales)

Form (Forma)

Para formar el presente perfecto, se usa el verbo auxiliar "to have" en el presente y el participio pasado del verbo. Para verbos regulares, el participio pasado es la forma simple del pasado. Ver la lección sobre el pasado simple para más información sobre como formar el pasado.

Sujeto	Verbo auxiliar	Forma Corta	Participio Pasado
I, you, we, they	have	I've, you've, we've, they've	talked, learned, traveled...
he, she, it	has	he's, she's, it's	talked, learned, traveled...

Nota: Ten en cuenta que hay muchos participios pasados irregulares en inglés. A continuación tienes una lista de unos de los participios pasados irregulares más comunes.

Verbo	Pasado Simple	Participio pasado
be	was/were	been
do	did	done
go	went	gone
make	made	made
see	saw	seen

Structure (Estructura)

1. Affirmative Sentences (Frases afirmativas)

Sujeto + verbo auxiliar (to have) + participio pasado...

Ejemplos:

I have [I've] talked to Peter.(He hablado con Peter.)

She has [She's] gone to work.(Ha ido a su trabajo.)

We have [We've] been to London.(Hemos ido a Londres.)

They have [They've] learned English.(Han aprendido inglés.)

2. Negative Sentences (Frases negativas)

Sujeto + verbo auxiliar (to have) + "not" + participio pasado...

Ejemplos:

I haven't talked to Peter.(No he hablado con Peter.)

She hasn't gone to work.(No ha ido a su trabajo.)

We haven't been to London.(No hemos ido a Londres.)

They haven't learned English.(No han aprendido inglés.)

3. Interrogative Sentences (Frases interrogativas)

Verbo auxiliar (to have) + sujeto + participio pasado...?

Ejemplos:

Have you talked to Peter?(¿Has hablado con Peter?)

Has she gone to work?(¿Ha ido a su trabajo?)

Have you been to London?(¿Has ido a Londres?)

Have they learned English?(¿Han aprendido inglés?)

Uses (Usos)

Se usa el presente perfecto para acciones que ocurrieron en un tiempo no concreto antes de ahora. El tiempo específico no es importante. Por lo tanto, no solemos usar expresiones de tiempo específicas ("this morning", "yesterday", "last year"...) con el presente perfecto. Se puede usar el presente perfecto con expresiones de tiempo no concretas ("never", "ever", "many times", "for", "since", "already", "yet"...). Este concepto de tiempo no específico es bastante difícil de comprender, por este motivo, a continuación tienes los usos particulares del presente perfecto.

1. Se usa el presente perfecto para describir una experiencia. No lo usamos para acciones específicas.

Ejemplos:

I have never flown in a plane.(Nunca he volado en un avión.)

He has worked in many different museums.(Ha trabajado en muchos museos diferentes.)

We have been to Río de Janeiro.(Hemos ido a Río de Janeiro.)

2. Se utiliza el presente perfecto para un cambio en el tiempo.

Ejemplos:

I have become more timid in my old age.(Me he vuelto más tímido en mi vejez.)

Their English has improved a lot this year.(Su inglés ha mejorado mucho este año.)

He has learned to be more patient.(Ha aprendido a ser más paciente.)

3. Se usa para los éxitos o logros.

Ejemplos:

Our football team has won the championship three times.(Nuestro equipo de fútbol ha ganado el campeonato tres veces.)

Dan has finished writing his first novel.(Dan ha terminado de escribir su primera novela.)

Scientists have succeeded in curing many illnesses.(Los científicos han tenido éxito en la curación de muchas enfermedades.)

4. Usamos el presente perfecto para acciones que todavía no han sucedido. El uso del presente perfecto en estos casos indica que aún estamos esperando la acción, por eso, frecuentemente usamos los adverbios "yet" y "still".

Ejemplos:

The plane hasn't arrived yet. (El avión no ha llegado todavía.)

Our team still hasn't won a championship. (Nuestro equipo aún no ha ganado un campeonato.)

You haven't finished your homework yet? (¿No has acabado todavía los deberes?)

5. Se utiliza el presente perfecto para hablar sobre acciones en diferentes momentos en el pasado. El uso del presente perfecto en estos casos indica que son posibles más acciones en el futuro.

Ejemplos:

We have spoken several times, but we still can't reach an agreement. (Hemos hablado varias veces, pero todavía no podemos llegar a un acuerdo.)

Our team has played 4 games so far this year. (Nuestro equipo ya ha jugado 4 partidos este año.)

I love New York! I have been there 5 times already and I can't wait to go back. (¡Me encanta Nueva York! Ya he estado allí 5 veces y no puedo esperar para regresar.)

6. En general, usamos el presente perfecto continuo para situaciones que han empezado en el pasado pero siguen en el presente. Pero como hemos visto, hay algunos verbos que no podemos usar en los tiempos continuos. En estos casos, usamos el presente perfecto.

Ejemplos:

How long has Michael been in Barcelona? (¿Cuánto tiempo ha estado Michael en Barcelona?)

I have loved you since the day I met you. (Te he querido desde el día que te conocí.)

IRREGULAR VERBS

base form	Simple past	past participle	base form	simple past	past participle
be	was/were	been	lend	lent	lent
become	became	become	let	let	let
begin	began	begun	lose	lost	lost
bite	bit	bit/ bitten	make	made	made
bleed	bled	bled	mean	meant	meant
break	broke	broken	meet	met	met
bring	brought	brought	pay	paid	paid
build	built	built	put	put	put
burn	burned/burnt	burned / burnt	quit	quit	quit
buy	bought	bought	read / rɪd/	read / rɛd/	read / rɛd/
catch	caught	caught	ride	rode	ridden
choose	chose	chosen	ring	rang	rung
come	came	come	rise	rose	risen
cost	cost	cost	run	ran	run
cut	cut	cut	say	said	said
do	did	done	see	saw	seen
draw	drew	drawn	sell	sold	sold
dream	dreamed/dreamt	dreamed / dreamt	send	sent	sent
drink	drank	drunk	sew	sewed	sewn
drive	drove	driven	shake	shook	shaken
eat	ate	eaten	sing	sang	sung
fall	fell	fallen	sit	sat	sat
feed	fed	fed	sleep	slept	slept
feel	felt	felt	speak	spoke	spoken
fight	fought	fought	spend	spent	spent
find	found	found	spread	spread	spread
fit	fit	fit	stand	stood	stood
flee	fled	fled	steal	stole	stolen
fly	flew	flown	stick	stuck	stuck
forbid	forbade	forbidden	sting	stung	stung
forget	forgot	forgotten	strike	struck	struck
get	got	got / gotten	swim	swam	swum
give	gave	given	take	took	taken
go	went	gone	teach	taught	taught
grow	grew	grown	tell	told	told
have	had	had	think	thought	thought
hear	heard	heard	throw	threw	thrown
hit	hit	hit	understand	understood	understood
hold	held	held	wake	woke	woken
hurt	hurt	hurt	wear	wore	worn
keep	kept	kept	win	won	won
know	knew	known	write	wrote	written
leave	left	left			

Exercise 1. Choose the correct form to complete each sentence.

4. I HAVE EATEN _____ (already/eat).

5. She ____ HAS ARRIVED _____ (just / arrive)

GRAMMAR - The Present Perfect with “already”, “yet”, “ever”, “before” and “never”.

Ever

- The adverb “ever” expresses the idea of an unidentified time before now. It is always placed before the main verb (past participle).

- We use “ever” in questions.

Example: Have you ever been to England?

Example: Has she ever met the Prime Minister?

- We use “ever” in negative questions.

Example: Haven't they ever been to Europe?

Example: Haven't you ever eaten Chinese food?

- We use “ever” in negative statements using the pattern “nothing + ever” or “nobody + ever”.

Example: Nobody has ever said that to me before.

Example: Nothing like this has ever happened to us.

- We use “ever” with “the first time”.

Example: It's the first time that I've ever eaten snails.

Example: It's the first time that I've ever been to England.

Never

- Like “ever”, the adverb “never” expresses the idea of an unidentified time before now. It is always placed before the main verb (past participle). “Never” means “at no time before now”.

Be careful! You can't use “never” with a negative verb.

Example: I haven't never been to Italy. I have never been to Italy.

Example: I have never eaten snails.

Already

- We use “already” to refer to an action that has happened at an unspecified time before now.

“Already” can be placed either before the main verb (past participle) or at the end of the sentence.

Example: I've already drunk three coffees this morning.

Example: Don't write to John, I've already done it!

- We use "already" in questions.

Example: Have you already written to John?

Example: Has she finished her homework already?

Yet

- We use "yet" to say that something has not happened or been done up to the present time. It is usually placed at the end of the sentence.

- We use "yet" in negative statements.

Example: Kevin hasn't registered for class yet.

Example: I haven't finished my breakfast yet.

- We use "yet" in questions.

Example: Have the guests arrived yet?

Example: Have you toured Quito yet?

Before

- We use "before" to talk about a time from the past until now. We can use it with affirmative, negative and questions.

Example: I've seen that woman before but I can't remember where (affirmative).

Example: I haven't cooked this recipe before. I don't know how to do it! (negative).

Example: Have you done this before? (question).

Exercise 4. Use the words to write statements and questions in the Present Perfect.

1. you/ go sightseeing / in London / before. ___ go sightseeing you in London before. _____

2. she / already / try / Guatemalan food. ___she try already Guatemalan food. _____

3. they / ever / be / to Buenos Aires.
___ever they be to Buenos Aires. _____

4. we / not take a tour of Prague.
___we not take a tour of Prague. _____

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 ___FOR_____ 4 o'clock.
2. Sue has only been waiting ___FOR_____ 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 _____SINCE___ Valentine's Day.
6. I haven't been on holiday _____SINCE_____ last July.
7. Mary has been saving her money ___SINCE_____ 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 ___played ___ (play) at the Children's Classic Cinema every Saturday since 2010.
2. Robert ___waited____ (wait) in the ticket holders' line for a pretty long time.
3. People ___worry abouted____ (worry about) violence in movies since the sixties.
4. I' ___talk abouted____ (talk about) that movie for weeks.
5. We' ___comed ___ (come) to this classic movie theatre for two years.

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. PELICULA DE ACCION

2. PELICULA DE TERROR

3. PELICULA DE CIENCIA FICCION

4. PELICULA ANIMADA

5. COMEDIA

6. DRAMA

7. DOCUMENTAL

8. MUSICAL