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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	have met them / haven't met them
They	have met them / haven't met them

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
be	was/were	been
become	became	become
begin	began	begun
bite	bit	bit/ bitten
bleed	bled	bled
break	broke	broken
bring	brought	brought
build	built	built
burn	burned/burnt	burned / burnt
buy	bought	bought
catch	caught	caught
choose	chose	chosen
come	came	come
cost	cost	cost
cut	cut	cut
do	did	done
draw	drew	drawn
dream	dreamed/dreamt	dreamed / dreamt
drink	drank	drunk
drive	drove	driven
eat	ate	eaten
fall	fell	fallen
feed	fed	fed
feel	felt	felt
fight	fought	fought
find	found	found
fit	fit	fit
flee	fled	fled
fly	flew	flown
forbid	forbade	forbidden
forget	forgot	forgotten
get	got	got / gotten
give	gave	given
go	went	gone
grow	grew	grown
have	had	had
hear	heard	heard
hit	hit	hit
hold	held	held
hurt	hurt	hurt
keep	kept	kept
know	knew	known
leave	left	left

base form	simple past	past participle
lend	lent	lent
let	let	let
lose	lost	lost
make	made	made
mean	meant	meant
meet	met	met
pay	paid	paid
put	put	put
quit	quit	quit
read / rid/	read / red/	read / red/
ride	rode	ridden
ring	rang	rung
rise	rose	risen
run	ran	run
say	said	said
see	saw	seen
sell	sold	sold
send	sent	sent
sew	sewed	sewn
shake	shook	shaken
sing	sang	sung
sit	sat	sat
sleep	slept	slept
speak	spoke	spoken
spend	spent	spent
spread	spread	spread
stand	stood	stood
steal	stole	stolen
stick	stuck	stuck
sting	stung	stung
strike	struck	struck
swim	swam	swum
take	took	taken
teach	taught	taught
tell	told	told
think	thought	thought
throw	threw	thrown
understand	understood	understood
wake	woke	woken
wear	wore	worn
win	won	won
write	wrote	written

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

1. We've taken the 2:00 express train many times.
a. take b. took c. taken
2. I had breakfast at 9:00, but I haven't had lunch.
a. have b. had c. having
3. Allison has gone to the mall.
a. went b. gone c. go
4. My younger brother has come home from work.
a. come b. came c. comes
5. They posted some messages yesterday, but they haven't written anything about their trip.
a. written b. write c. wrote

Exercise 2. Put the verbs into the correct form of the Present Perfect Simple.

1. I (not / work) haven't worked today.
2. We (buy) have bought a new lamp.
3. We (not / plan) haven't planned our holiday yet.
4. Where (be / you) have you been?
5. He (write) has written five letters.
6. She (not / see) hasn't seen him for a long time.
7. (be / you) Have You been at school?
8. School (not / start) hasn't started yet.
9. (speak / he) Has he spoken to his boss?
10. No, he (have / not) hasn't had the time yet.

Exercise 3. Complete the sentences using present perfect simple:

1. Have you seen (see) Paul today?
2. She has gone (go) outside.
3. Have you ever visited (visit) Paris?
4. I have already eaten (already/eat).
5. She has just 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.

Have you gone sightseeing before in London?

2. she / already / try / Guatemalan food.

Has she already tried Guatemala food?

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

Have they ever been to Buenos Aires?

4. we / not take a tour of Prague.

Have we not taken 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 since 4 o'clock.
2. Sue has only been waiting for 20 minutes.
3. Tim and Tina have been learning English for 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 for many years.
8. I haven't eaten anything since breakfast.
9. You have been watching TV for hours.
10. We have been living here for 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 has been playing (play) at the Children's Classic Cinema every Saturday since 2010.
2. Robert has been waiting (wait) in the ticket holders' line for a pretty long time.
3. People have worried about (worry about) violence in movies since the sixties.
4. I've talked about (talk about) that movie for weeks.
5. We've come (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. Una película de acción

2. Una película de terror
3. Una película de ciencia ficción
4. Una película animada
5. Una comedia
6. Un drama
7. Un documental
8. Un musical