

Unit 7

7.1 Present Perfect

Form

have/has + -ed (past participle)

The past participle of regular verbs ends in -ed. There are many common irregular verbs. See the list on p143.

Positive and negative

I We/You/They	've (have) haven't	worked in a factory.
He/She/It	's (has) hasn't	

Question

Have	I we/you/they	been to the United States?
Has	he/she/it	

Short answer

Have you been to Egypt?	Yes, I have./No, I haven't.
Has she ever written poetry?	Yes, she has./No, she hasn't.

Note

We cannot use *I've, they've, he's, etc.* in short answers.

Yes, I have. NOT ~~Yes, I've.~~

Yes, we have. NOT ~~Yes, we've.~~

Use

- The Present Perfect looks back from the present into the past, and expresses what has happened before now. The action happened at an indefinite time in the past.

I've met a lot of famous people. (before now)

She has won awards. (in her life)

She's written twenty books. (up to now)

The action can continue to the present, and probably into the future.

She's lived here for twenty years. (she still lives here)

- The Present Perfect expresses an experience as part of someone's life.

I've travelled a lot in Africa.

They've lived all over the world.

Ever and *never* are common with this use.

Have you ever been in a car crash?

My mother has never flown in a plane.

- The Present Perfect expresses an action or state which began in the past and continues to the present.

I've known Alice for six years.

How long have you worked as a teacher?

Note that the time expressions *for* and *since* are common with this use. We use *for* with a period of time, and *since* with a point in time.

We've lived here for two years. (a period of time)

I've had a beard since I left the army. (a point in time)

Note

In many languages, this use is expressed by a present tense. But in English, we say:

Peter has been a teacher for ten years.

NOT ~~Peter is a teacher for ten years.~~

- The Present Perfect expresses a past action with results in the present. It is often a recent past action.

I've lost my wallet. (I haven't got it now.)

The taxi's arrived. (It's outside the door now.)

Has the postman been? (Are there any letters for me?)

The adverbs *just, already, and yet* are common with this use. *Yet* is used in questions and negatives.

She's just had some good news.

I've already had breakfast.

Has the postman been yet?

It's 11.00 and she hasn't got up yet.

7.2 Present Perfect and Past Simple

- Compare the Past Simple and Present Perfect.

Past Simple

- The Past Simple refers to an action that happened at a definite time in the past.

He died in 1882.

She got married when she was 22.

The action is finished.

I lived in Paris for a year (but not now).

- Time expressions + the Past Simple

in 1999.

last week.

I did it two months ago.

on March 22.

for two years.

Present Perfect

- The Present Perfect refers to an action that happened at an indefinite time in the past.

She has won awards.

She's written twenty books.

The action can continue to the present.

She's lived there for twenty years (and she still does.)

- Time expressions + the Present Perfect

for twenty years.

I've worked here since 1995.

since I left school.

We've never been to America.

- Compare these sentences.

X	I've broken my leg last year.
✓	I broke my leg last year.
X	He works as a musician all his life.
✓	He has worked as a musician all his life.
X	When have you been to Greece?
✓	When did you go to Greece?
X	How long do you have your car?
✓	How long have you had your car?

PRACTICE

Discussing grammar

1 Choose the correct verb form.

- 1 Have you ever been / *Did you ever go* to a pop concert?
- 2 I saw / *have seen* The Flash last week.
- 3 I love music. I *like* / have liked it all my life.
- 4 The Flash's concert was / *has been* fantastic.
- 5 I have bought / *bought* all their records since then.
- 6 The Flash have been / *are* together for over fifteen years.

for and since

4 Complete the time expressions with *for* or *since*.

- 1 for a year 4 since nine o'clock 7 for months
 2 for half an hour 5 since I was a student 8 since 1999
 3 since August 6 for a couple of days

5 Match a line in **A** and **B** and a sentence in **C**. There is more than one answer.

A	B	C
1 I've known my best friend	5 from 1988 to 1996.	4 It's not bad. I quite like it.
2 I last went to the cinema	6 for an hour.	7 I went camping with some friends.
3 I've had this watch	2 two weeks ago.	We met when we were 10.
4 We've used this book	8 since 1985.	6 I really need a cup of coffee.
5 We lived in our old flat	4 since the beginning of term.	3 My dad gave it to me for my birthday.
6 We haven't had a break	for years.	5 We moved because we needed somewhere bigger.
7 I last had a holiday	3 for three years.	2 The film was rubbish.
8 This building has been a school	7 in 1999.	8 Before that it was an office.

T 7.4 Listen and check. Make similar sentences about you.

Asking questions

6 Complete the conversation.
 What tenses are the three questions?

A Where do you live, Olga?

B In a flat near the park lived

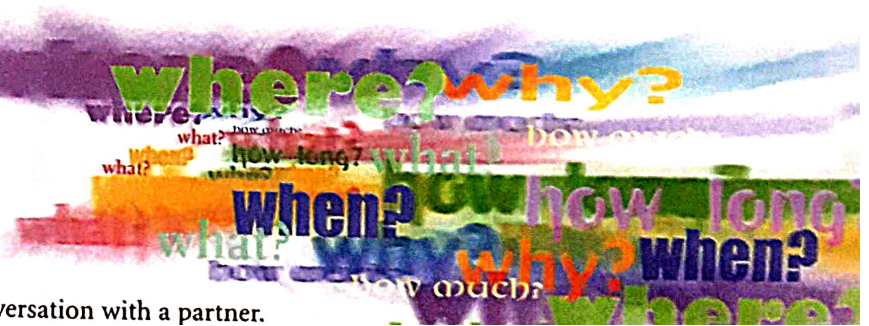
A How long have you there?

B For three years.

A And why did move?

B We wanted to live in a nicer area.

T 7.5 Listen and check. Practise the conversation with a partner.



VOCABULARY

Adverbs

1 Many adverbs end in *-ly*.

slowly carefully usually

Find some more examples in the text on p58-9.

2 There are also many adverbs that don't end in *-ly*. Find these examples in the text.

together hard still just of course

3 Complete the sentences with one of these adverbs.

still
nearly
only
of course
together



- 1 Bill and I work together. We've been in the same office for four years.
- 2 I called Tom at 10.00 in the morning, but he was still in bed.
- 3 'Do you like children?' 'of course I do. I adore them.'
- 4 Kate is very fussy about food. She only eats pasta and crisps.
- 5 She was very ill and nearly died, but fortunately, she got better.

4 Complete the sentences with one of these adverbs.

at last exactly too especially just

- 1 I like all Russian novelists, especially Tolstoy.
- 2 'I hate ironing.' 'Me, too. It's so boring.'
- 3 'Are you telling me that we have no money?' 'exactly. Not a penny.'
- 4 I met her on December 30, just before New Year.
- 5 At last I have finished this exercise. Thank goodness! It was so boring.

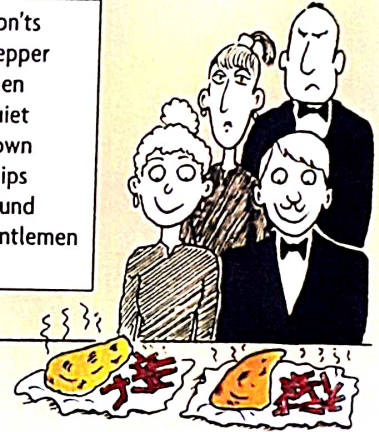
Word pairs

1 There are many idiomatic expressions which consist of two words joined by *and*. Here is an example from the text on p59.

'Of course you have to be prepared to give *and* take in any relationship.'

2 Match the words.

1	ladies	5	don'ts
2	fish	9	pepper
3	now	3	then
4	yes	7	quiet
5	do's	6	down
6	up	2	chips
7	peace	8	sound
8	safe	1	gentlemen
9	salt	4	no



3 Complete the sentences with one of the expressions.

- 1 'Do you still play tennis?' 'Not regularly. Just now and then when I have time.'
- 2 This is a pretty relaxed place to work. There aren't many ups and downs.
- 3 Here you are at last! I've been so worried! Thank goodness you've arrived safe and sound.
- 4 'Do you like your new job?' 'yes and no'. The money's OK, but I don't like the people.'
- 5 Sometimes there are too many people in the house. I go into the garden for a bit of peace and quiet.
- 6 Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. It gives me great pleasure to talk to you all tonight.
- 7 'How's your Gran?' 'salt and pepper'. There are good days, and then not such good days. fish and chips
- 8 'Here's supper. Careful! It's hot.' '! Yummy!'

T 7.7 Close your books. Listen to the beginnings of the conversations and complete them.