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English division

Group 4

The present perfect

Examples:

David: Have you travelled a lot, Jane?

Jane: Yes, I have been to lots of places.

Dave: Really! Have you ever been to China?

Jane: yes, I have been to China twice.

Dave: what about India?

Jane: No, I haven’t been to India.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |   |
| Jane's life (a period until now ) |   |
|   |   |   |   |
| past  |  |  until now  |

We use the present perfect (I, you, we, they have travelled; he, she, it has travelled) to talk about a period of time that continues from the past until now.

Have you ever eaten caviar in your life? (Interrogative form)

We have never / we’ve never had a car. (Negative form)

He has never driven a bus. (Negative form)

Have you read Hamlet? Has he finished his thesis?( Interrogative form)

Have you heard from George recently?

I’ve met a lot of people in the last few days.

*I am hungry. I haven’t eaten since breakfast.*

*We use the present perfect with today, this morning, when these periods are not finished at the time of speaking.*

*I have not seen (haven’t seen) Tom since this morning.*

*Ron has not (hasn’t) worked very hard this term*

 *We use the present perfect when there is a connection with now; the action in the past has a result now.*

*I can’t find my bag. Have you seen it? (Do you know where it is now?)*

*Is Sally here? No, she’s gone out. (She’s out now)*

*The road is closed. (There has been an accident)*

*We often use the present perfect to give new information, or to announce a recent happening.*

*Ow! I’ve cut my finger. The police have arrested two men in connection with the robbery.*

*The present perfect is used with the following time words that express past-to present time.*

*Since or for, so far, up to now, up to the present, It can also be used with frequency words (always, never, ever, often, sometimes, occasionally etc., just, already, (negative yet), finally, recently, lately.*

*Exercises:*

1. *Complete the email with the present simple form of the verbs.*

*Hi. Flora*

*As you can see, I’ve arrived safely. Paul and I have already done) lots of things even though I have only been in New York for twenty -four hours, I have not (haven’t) slept for two days! (I have taken hundreds of photos already. Paul has shown) me lots of landmarks and I have eaten a real American breakfast. I have ridden in a yellow cab and I have travelled on the subway too. I have not (haven’t) spent any money yet because Paul has paid for everything so far. I’ll email you again tomorrow when I have had) some sleep.*

*Love, Theresa*

*2- Complete the sentences – use the present perfect simple.*

*1.*

* 1. *Is it raining at the moment?*
	2. *No, (it / just stop). No, it has just stopped.*

*2. I can’t find my keys. (You / see) them? Have you seen them?*

*3.*

* 1. *Let’s go and see ^^ Lions of Africa ^^ at the cannon cinema.*
	2. *(I / already see) it. I have already seen it.*

*4.*

* 1. *Please can I have my book back?*
	2. *Oh, dear, (I / finish not / it). I have not (haven’t) finished it.*

 *5. John looks thinner. He / lose / weight? Has he lost weight?*

 *6. Mary, you’re very late. I was worried about you. (Where / you be)? Where have you been?*

 *7.*

* 1. *How many times (you take) you driving test? Have you taken your driving test?*
	2. *Twice, my third one is next week*

 *8. This music is new to me. I’m sure (I not / hear/ it) before. I have not ‘haven’t) heard it before.*

*Make questions from the words in brackets.*

1. *(ever/ ride/ horse). Have you ever ridden a horse?*
2. *( ever/ be/ California). Have you ever been to California?*
3. *(ever/run/marathon).Have you ever run a marathon?*
4. *(ever/speak/famous person).Have you ever spoken to a famous person?*
5. *(always/live/in this town).Have you always lived in this town?*
6. *(most beautiful place/ever/visited). What most beautiful place have you ever visited?*

*The present perfect continuous*

*Ex: I, we, they, you have (I’ve, you’ve, they’ve, we’ve) been working all day.*

 *HE, she, it has (he’s, it’s, she’s) been working all day.*

*We use the present perfect continuous for an activity that has recently stopped or just*

*stopped. There is a connection with now.*

*Paul is very tired. He has been working very hard. (He’s tired now.)*

*Why are your clothes so dirty? What have you been doing?*

*It is raining. It began raining two hours ago and it is still raining.*

*How long has it been raining?*

*It has been raining for two hours.*

 *We often use the present perfect continuous in this way, especially with how long, for and since. This activity is still happening (as in this example above) or has just stopped.*

*It can be used for actions repeated over a period of time.*

*Debbie is a very good tennis player. She’s been playing tennis since she was eight.*

*The following verbs are not normally used in continuous tenses (here in the present perfect): like, love, hate, want, need, prefer, know, realize, suppose, mean, understand, believe, remember, belong, contain, consist, depend and seem.*

*Exercises*

*Read the situations and complete the sentences.*

*The rain started two hours ago.It’still raining now. It has been raining for two hours*

*We started waiting for the bus twenty minutes ago. We are still waiting now.*

*We have been waiting for twenty minutes.*

*I started learning English in December. I am still learning English*

*I have been learning English since December.*

*Ann began looking for a job a few months ago. She’ still looking now.*

*Ann has been looking for a job for sixth months.*

*Mary started working in London on 18 January. She’s still working there.*

*Mary has been working in London since January 18.*

*Years ago you started writing to a penfriend.You still write to each other regularly now. We have been writing to each other for years for years.*

*Write a question for each situation.*

1. *John looks sunburnt. You ask (you/ sit in the sun?) Have you been sitting in the sun?*
2. *You have just arrived to meet a friend who is waiting for you. You ask: Have you been waiting long?*
3. *You meet a friend in the street. His face and hands are very dirty. You ask: What have you been doing?*
4. *A friend of yours is now living in Baker Street. You want to know. “How long…? You ask: (How/long/you/live/ in Baker Street. How long have you been leaving in Baker Street?*
5. *A friend tells you about his job.-he sells computers. You want to know” how long ……..?You ask: (how long/you/sell /computers. How long have you been selling computers?*

*Exercises*

*Underline the sentences which are correct. In some pairs, one sentence is correct, in other pairs, both sentences are correct.*

* *She’s had a headache all day. She’s been having a headache all day.*
* *I’ve wanted a cat for a long time. I’ve been wanting a cat for a long time.*
* *They have eaten lunch. They have been eating lunch.*
* *I’ve known her for two years. I’ve been knowing her for two years.*
* *He’s been very helpful. He’s been being very helpful.*
* *He’s tasted the soup. He’s been tasting the soup.*
* *They have seen this movie before. They have been seeing this movie before.*
* *I have seen a throat specialist. I have been seeing a throat specialist.*
* *We have realized where we are now. We have been realizing where we are now.*
* *It’s belonged to us for many years. It’s been belonging to us for many years.*
* *He’s explained the plan to us. He’s been explaining the plan to us.*