

Present Perfect vs. Past Simple: Exercises

Credit: <http://www.lingvistov.ru/blog/grammar/present-perfect-vs-past-simple-exercises/>

ex. 1 Choose Present Perfect or Past Simple

I _____ (visit) Bob last month.

We _____ (promise) to help them already.

She _____ (never/do) anything bad.

She _____ (go) on holiday three weeks ago.

We _____ (not/do) our work yet.

She _____ (see) the film three times.

They _____ (swim) in the sea last summer.

ex. 2 Choose Present Perfect or Past Simple

1) You _____ (not / to have) enough to eat yet. You _____ (to eat) more yesterday.

2) Why _____ (not / you / to tidy) up your room yet? It _____ (to look) really nice last week.

3) Sarah _____ (to go) for a walk with her dog an hour ago. She _____ (not / to come) back yet.

4) I _____ (not / to see) Jean today, but I _____ (to see) her yesterday.

- 5) Yes, I _____ (to be) to the Lake District before. I _____ (to go) there three years ago.
- 6) _____ (you / to see) Peter? He _____ (to want) to walk home with me.
- 7) _____ (you / to see) that man on the motorbike yesterday? I _____ (never / to see) such a dangerous driver.
- 8) How long do you think we will have to wait? We _____ (to be) here since 2 o'clock.
- 9) _____ (she / not / to know) who you were any more? I _____ (never / to hear) anything like it before.
- 10) I _____ (not / to know) you had a new car. How long _____ (you / to have) it for?

ex. 3 Use these prompts to write Present perfect sentences using the adverbs in brackets.

Example:

a. William / buy / tickets / for / match. (already)

William has already bought the tickets for the match.

b. Sally / not find / job/? (yet)

c. We / be / to Wien / four times (already)

d. I / not buy / new car (yet)

e. David / arrive / from London (yet)

f. Dorothy / see / Star Wars film (never)

ex. 4 Complete these sentences using for or since.

1. Mark has had violin lessons _____ last January.
2. We have known Diane _____ two years.
3. Have you seen Andrew _____ last week?
4. Karen has had long hair _____ she was 13.
5. They have been close friends _____ twenty years.
6. My parents and I lived in the same house _____ 1990.

ex. 5 Put the verbs into the correct tense - Simple Past or Present Perfect.

1. Whose car _____ (he/ drive) yesterday?
2. What _____ (just / happen)?
3. He _____ (hear) a strange noise for a time.
_____ / (the film/ not begin) only ten minutes ago?
4. My mother _____ (do) some gardening last summer.
5. They _____ (not eat) anything since breakfast time.
6. The concert _____ (be) an enormous success for more than 15 years.
7. They _____ (destroy) some animal species recently.
8. Mr Field _____ (telephone) her just a minute ago.

ex. 6 Choose Simple Past or Present Perfect.

1. We met / had met Miriam on the corner of 8th Avenue yesterday.
2. Did you see / Have you seen my sunglasses anywhere? I think I have lost / lost them.
3. Douglas says that he has already seen / already saw this man before.
4. Have you heard / did you hear the news today?
5. I had / have had my present job for a year.
6. We were / have been at home last night.
7. The bus left / have left five minutes ago.
8. When did you get / have you got married?
9. I was / have been a teacher since 1980.
10. Curtis has lived in New York for / since ten years.

ex. 7 Fill in the gaps using SIMPLE PAST or PRESENT PERFECT.

1. I _____ (HAVE) my job for two years.
2. _____ (YOU/GO) to Los Angeles last summer?
3. She _____ (LIVE) in Rome for three years.
4. _____ (YOU/EVER/BE) to China?
5. I _____ (PLAY) tennis yesterday.
6. Tim _____ (BREAK) his leg last year.
7. How long _____ (DAVID/BE) interested in cinema?

8.They _____ (GO) to New York in 1990.

9.She _____ (NOT/PLAY) tennis last Sunday.

10. _____ (YOU/GO) to the cinema last night?

11. _____ (SHE/EVER/BE) to Australia?

12.We _____ (GO) to Canada last summer.

13.She _____ (JUST/TIDY) her room.

14.We _____ (NOT/EAT) yet.

15.Bob _____ (STUDY) French two years ago.