

Present Perfect & Present Perfect Continuous

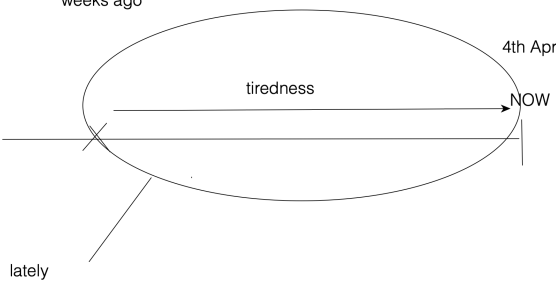
Let's review present perfect:

- 'Perfect' means 'before'
- The present perfect connects **the past** and **the present**.
- Sometimes a **past event/action** can affect **the present**.
- Sometimes a **finished action** is in a time period which has **not finished**.

Exercise 1

Compare the past simple and present perfect sentences. How are they different?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I went to Spain in 2017. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not in Spain now. • Finished holiday. • We know when the action happened.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have visited Spain 5 times. <p>I have been <i>to</i> - I went there and returned</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I moved to Spain in 2019. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have lived in Spain for 10 years. <p>I have been <i>in</i> - I arrived and didn't leave. I am there now.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I lived in Spain for 10 years, from 2001 to 2011. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We don't know specific dates • Sometime between the speaker's birth and now - <i>unfinished time period.</i> • Not in Spain now. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We know when the action happened. • We don't know where I am now. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I live in Spain now. • I moved to Spain in 2012. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I don't live in Spain now. • I know when it happened.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have felt tired lately. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tiredness began possibly up to a month ago - maybe less

<p>I have been feeling tired today/this morning/ in the past couple of hours</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am tired now <p>Approximately 14th March / 3 weeks ago</p> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I felt tired when I woke up yesterday. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We know when. We don't know how I feel now.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> She has been started on painkillers, PRN. She was given painkillers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The medication started in the past. The medication continues. <p>Hospitalisation could be open or closed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immediately after her operation, Mrs Smith <u>was given</u> painkillers. - timestamp <p>Hospitalisation is closed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> During her hospitalisation, she was given painkillers. - time period which is closed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time period is still open There is no timestamp - we don't know exactly when it happened
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> She has been given painkillers during her hospitalisation. 	

Exercise 2

subject + has/have + past participle

Use the prompts to write present perfect sentences:

1. My leg! Help me! (fracture)
2. Scotland (No visits - all life)
3. Italian food (once or twice)
4. (I'm worried) dad/ not quit smoking/heart attack
5. note / warfarin / prescribe
6. Can you go to my house? (not close/window)

Present Perfect Continuous

Grammar	Function	Example
has/have been + verb+ing	an action in progress up to the present	John <u>has been eating</u> cake.
	repeated actions/ temporary ongoing in a period up to now	I <u>have been going</u> to the gym twice a week for 6 months.
		Mrs Smith <u>has been attending</u> our clinic for blood tests once a month for the past two years.

Exercise 3

Use present perfect continuous to write responses to the below questions:

1. Why is your hair wet?
2. Why are you saying those strange words?
3. Why are your feet sore?

Today

When using the following phrases:

- this morning
- this afternoon
- this evening
- tonight

it is important to consider:

- What time is it now?
- Is the time period open?
- Is the action continuing to now?

Some examples of different tenses that can be used with such phrases. Let's use 'work':

Time now: 05:00: This morning I **am going to** stay in bed a bit longer. (*Future - use of going to*)

Time now: 09:00: This morning I **woke up** at 7am. (*Past Simple - timestamp*)

Time now: 11:55: This morning I **have worked** really hard. (*Present Perfect - Time period is not finished*)

Time now: 14:00: This morning I **worked hard**. (*Past Simple - time period is finished*)

Time now: 14:00: Today I **have worked** really hard. (*Present Perfect - time period is not finished*)

The verb you choose is also important. Let's review with 'eat':

- Action: eat 2 sandwiches (07:00 - 09:00)
- Time now: 10:45

Correct: This morning I **ate** 2 sandwiches between 7 and 8. (*Past simple because of timestamp*)

Correct: This morning I have eaten 2 sandwiches. (*Something happened twice in a period which is still open*)

Incorrect: This morning I have been eating 2 sandwiches. (*Sounds like I started eating sandwiches early and carried on up to this point*)

Answers

Exercise 2

1. My leg! Help me! (fracture)

I **have fractured** my leg.

2. Scotland (No visits - all life)

I **have not visited** Scotland.

I **have never been** to Scotland.

3. Italian food (once or twice)

I **have tried** Italian food once or twice.

4. (I'm worried) dad/ not quit smoking/heart attack

I'm worried because my dad **has not quit** smoking since his heart attack.

5. note / warfarin / prescribe

Please note, warfarin **has been prescribed**.

6. Can you go to my house? (not close/window)

I **have not closed** my window.

Exercise 3

1. Why is your hair wet?

- I have been swimming in the lovely, warm, British sea.

2. Why are you saying those strange words?

- I have been drinking wine. (I am drunk)
- I have been learning a new language.
- I have been learning new words because I am trying to improve my vocabulary.
- I am in shock because I have been watching a horror movie!

3. Why are your feet sore?

- I have been walking for an hour with no shoes on.
- I have been walking since this morning.
- I have been suffering from diabetes for ten years.
- I have been standing for three hours.