

Present Perfect

There is always some kind of connection between the past and the present. It's not always obvious but it is always there.

Remember: Perfect = before in grammatical terms.


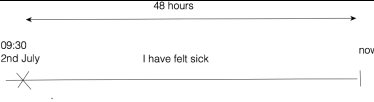
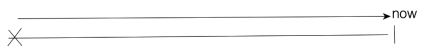

Past simple: I did a complicated operation yesterday.

Present simple: I often do complicated operations.

Present Perfect simple: I have done three complicated operations in the past 4 days.

I have worked hard today.

Present Perfect: subject + has/have + past participle = I have done / She has visited

has/have + past participle	
1) a finished action that happens in the past with no timestamp	<p>1) an action in the past without a time I have visited Spain 10 times. 1979  now</p> <p>time period - my life: still open</p>
2) a finished action/ repeated finished actions in a time period which is still open	<p>2) an action in a time period that is still open I have felt a bit sick over the last 48 hours. 09:30 2nd July  now</p> <p>time period - 48 hours: still open</p>
3) An action which starts in the past and continues to now	<p>3. An action which starts in the past and continues to the present I have lived in France for 10 years.  now</p> <p>In 2012 I moved to France.</p>
4) an action in the recent past which affects the present	<p>4. An action in the past which clearly affects the present I have lost my keys.  now</p>

for and since

for	I lived in France for 10 years. I have been feeling sick for 48 hours. My party will last for six hours. I usually work out for 30 minutes a day.
since	I <u>have been feeling</u> sick since we spoke on the phone. I <u>have lived</u> in France since 2012.
the last year / month / five days	Past simple: Last year I <u>visited</u> Canada. Present Perfect: In the last year I <u>have done</u> 16 job interviews! Present Perfect: In the past five days I <u>have eaten</u> Italian food twice.

Exercise 1

Which sentences are ok?

1. I had three husbands in my life.
2. I have lost my phone. Can I borrow yours?
3. Mr Smith made good progress. He is being discharged tomorrow.
4. I had 4 cups of tea today. Time for another!
5. Your friend can stay for dinner. I made enough.
6. I have only visited my parents twice since their move to New Zealand.
7. I have fractured my tibia last week.
8. She has crashed her car twice in the last 4 months.

Answers

1. I **have had** three husbands in my life.
2. I have lost my phone. Can I borrow yours?
3. Mr Smith **has made** good progress. He is being discharged tomorrow.
4. I **have had** 4 cups of tea today. Time for another!
5. Your friend can stay for dinner. I **have made** enough.
6. I **have only visited** my parents twice since their move to New Zealand.
7. I **fractured** my tibia last week.
8. She **has crashed** her car twice in the last 4 months.