

Unspecified time - Life experiences

When the event happened at an unspecified time in the past. For thing we have done in our lives (life experiences) but we don't say WHEN they happened.

- I've met the President.
- She's won many awards.
- We've done this before.
- He's appeared on TV.

Unfinished time periods

We use the Present Perfect to talk about periods of time that have not finished such as today, this week, this month.

- I've been very busy today.
- She's had 5 cups of coffee today.
- We've spent a lot of money this month.

Unspecified time - Life experiences

This an action that happened in the past (often recent past) but has a connection to now or a result in the present.

- I've eaten too much.
- They studied for the test.
- He's lost his keys.
- She's had some bad news.

Completion or Achievement

This activity has (recently) been completed or done. Someone has just achieved something. Used to ask someone if something has been done or finished.

- I have finally finished my homework.
- Has he tidied his room?

Duration of Something - FOR

To say how long something has lasted until the present moment, we use FOR + length of time

- We've known each other *for* many years.
- They've rented our house for two months.
- She's been to London *for* three weeks.
- He's worked with me *for* ten years.

Duration of Something - SINCE

We use SINCE when we give the beginning point (in the past) of the event that continues from then until today.

- I haven't eaten anything since breakfast.
- We have rented this house since 2019.
- She's worked here *since* September.

Repetition - Habitual Actions

When an activity has been repeated many times up until now and is likely to continue to happen. These activities could also be habitual actions in the past.

- I've called him ten times and he still hasn't answered the phone.
- She's seen the movie over a dozen times.

Duration of Something - SINCE

We use the present perfect when we start with:

This/That/In the X time... (for the first-second time...)

- This is the first time I've done it.
- That's the third time he has shouted at us.
- It's the first time it has rained on this trip.

PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

SIMPLE PAST TENSE

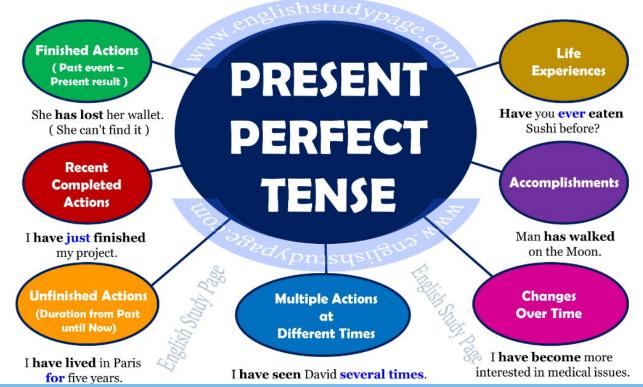
- Unfinished events that started in the past and continue to the present.
- Finished events in someone's life.
- Finished events that happened in the past and the impact of the event is now continuing.
- Unfinished time words (this week, today, this year, etc.)

Finished events.

- Finished events in someone's life.
 Finished events. There is no
 - result in the present.

Finished time words (yesterday, last week, in 2000, etc.)

PRESENT PERFECT TENSE



COMMON ADVERBS IN PRESENT PERFECT TENSE



A very short time ago

Are you hungry? - No, I've just had dinner.

Is Tom here? - No, I'm afraid he's just gone out.



Before now or earlier than you expected

("Already" is possible to put already at the end of a positive sentence. This is more common in American English.)

What time does the film start? - It has already started.

What time does the film start? - It has started already.



Before now/Until now

He hasn't arrived yet.

Have you eaten the apples yet?



Talk about a period or duration of time

He has lived in Paris for a long time.

We're going to New York for the weekend.







ALREADY: (+)

STILL: (-)

YET: (-) & (?)

FOR: length of time

COMMON ADVERBS IN PRESENT PERFECT TENSE



