

Present Perfect Simple

1. When we use the present perfect, there is a connection with “now.” This means that although an action started sometime in the past it has a result or a connection with the present.

Examples:

- Chris **has been** a teacher since 1985. He **has worked** at the same school for 25 years!
- I **have studied** English and French for years and now I am studying German.

As you can notice from the examples above the present perfect is formed with **HAVE/HAS** + the **PAST PARTICIPLE** form of verbs.

I, we, they, you **HAVE**

He, she, it **HAS**

Some verbs are regular which means that their participles are formed by adding ‘-ed’ to the base form of the verbs: finish**ed**, decid**ed**, happen**ed**, visit**ed**, work**ed**, stud**ied**.

Many important verbs are irregular though and their participles stay the same, change a bit or change completely from their base form.

Some verbs that stay the same in the participle are:

Base form	Past Participle
Cut	<i>cut</i>
Read	<i>read</i>
Set	<i>set</i>

Some examples of verbs that change a bit from their base form are:

Base form	Past Participle
hear	<i>heard</i>
learn	<i>learnt</i>
sing	<i>sung</i>

Some examples of verbs that change completely from their base form are:

Base form	Past Participle
Teach	<i>taught</i>
Fly	<i>flown</i>
Forget	<i>forgotten</i>

2. We also use the present perfect to talk about new information, things that have recently happened.

- I have bought a car
- You have cut your finger, you should put a band-aid on

3. Words like **'just'**, **'already'**, **'yet'** are usually found in the present perfect.

Just: It is used to say that something happened a short time ago as in the following example:

A: Would you like to join me for lunch?

B: I'd love to, but I have just eaten a sandwich.

Already: This word is used to say that something happened sooner than expected.

A: Don't forget to clean your bedroom

B: I have already cleaned it

Yet: It means **'until now'**. It shows that the speaker is expecting something to happen. The word **yet** is only used in questions and negative sentences.

A: Have you finished writing your English essay yet?

B: I have finished studying but I haven't finished writing it yet.

4. When we want to ask questions about someone's experiences in life we often use the expression **"Have you ever...?"**

Examples:

- Have you ever eaten caviar?
- Have you ever driven a bus?
- Have you ever met someone famous?
- Have you ever been to another country?