

Present perfect and past 2 (I have done and I did)

A

Do not use the present perfect (**I have done**) when you talk about a *finished* time (for example, yesterday / ten minutes ago / in 1999 / when I was a child). Use a past tense:

- It was very cold yesterday. (*not has been*)
- Paul and Lucy arrived ten minutes ago. (*not have arrived*)
- Did you eat a lot of sweets when you were a child? (*not have you eaten*)
- I got home late last night. I was very tired and went straight to bed.

Use the past to ask **When ... ?** or **What time ... ?**:

- When did your friends arrive? (*not have ... arrived*)
- What time did you finish work?

Compare:

Present perfect

- Tom has lost his key. He can't get into the house.
- Is Carla here or has she left?

Past simple

- Tom lost his key yesterday. He couldn't get into the house.
- When did Carla leave?

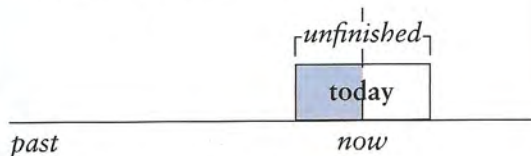
B

Compare:

Present perfect (have done)

- I've done a lot of work today.

We use the present perfect for a period of time that continues *until now*. For example: today / this week / since 1985.

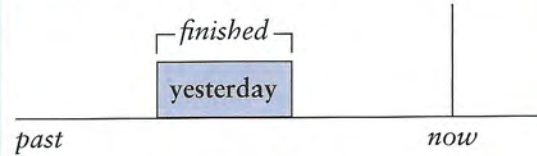


- It hasn't rained this week.
- Have you seen Anna this morning? (it is still morning)
- Have you seen Tim recently?
- I don't know where Lisa is. I haven't seen her. (= I haven't seen her recently)
- We've been waiting for an hour. (we are still waiting now)
- Ian lives in London. He has lived there for seven years.
- I have never played golf. (in my life)
- It's the last day of your holiday. You say: It's been a really good holiday. I've really enjoyed it.

Past simple (did)

- I did a lot of work yesterday.

We use the past simple for a *finished* time in the past. For example: yesterday / last week / from 1995 to 2001.



- It didn't rain last week.
- Did you see Anna this morning? (it is now afternoon or evening)
- Did you see Tim on Sunday?
- A: Was Lisa at the party on Sunday?
B: I don't think so. I didn't see her.
- We waited (or were waiting) for an hour. (we are no longer waiting)
- Ian lived in Scotland for ten years. Now he lives in London.
- I didn't play golf last summer.
- After you come back from holiday you say: It was a really good holiday. I really enjoyed it.

14.1 Are the underlined parts of these sentences right or wrong? Correct them where necessary.

- 1 I've lost my key. I can't find it anywhere. OK
- 2 Have you eaten a lot of sweets when you were a child? Did you eat
- 3 I've bought a new car. You must come and see it.
- 4 I've bought a new car last week.
- 5 Where have you been yesterday evening?
- 6 Lucy has left school in 1999.
- 7 I'm looking for Mike. Have you seen him?
- 8 'Have you been to Paris?' 'Yes, many times.'
- 9 I'm very hungry. I haven't eaten much today.
- 10 When has this book been published?

14.2 Make sentences from the words in brackets. Use the present perfect or past simple.

- 1 (it / not / rain / this week) It hasn't rained this week.
- 2 (the weather / be / cold / recently) The weather
- 3 (it / cold / last week) It
- 4 (I / not / read / a newspaper yesterday) I
- 5 (I / not / read / a newspaper today)
- 6 (Emily / earn / a lot of money / this year)
- 7 (she / not / earn / so much / last year)
- 8 (you / have / a holiday recently?)

14.3 Put the verb into the correct form, present perfect or past simple.

- 1 I don't know where Lisa is. Have you seen (you / see) her?
- 2 When I (get) home last night, I (be) very tired and I (go) straight to bed.
- 3 A: (you / finish) painting the bedroom?
B: Not yet. I'll finish it tomorrow.
- 4 George (not / be) very well last week.
- 5 Mr Clark (work) in a bank for 15 years. Then he gave it up.
- 6 Molly lives in Dublin. She (live) there all her life.
- 7 A: (you / go) to the cinema last night?
B: Yes, but it (be) a mistake. The film (be) awful.
- 8 My grandfather (die) before I was born. I (never / meet) him.
- 9 I don't know Carol's husband. I (never / meet) him.
- 10 A: Is Martin here? B: No, he (go) out.
A: When exactly (he / go) out? B: About ten minutes ago.
- 11 A: Where do you live? B: In Boston.
A: How long (you / live) there? B: Five years.
A: Where (you / live) before that? B: In Chicago.
A: And how long (you / live) in Chicago? B: Two years.

14.4 Write sentences about yourself using the ideas in brackets.

- 1 (something you haven't done today) I haven't eaten any fruit today.
- 2 (something you haven't done today)
- 3 (something you didn't do yesterday)
- 4 (something you did yesterday evening)
- 5 (something you haven't done recently)
- 6 (something you've done a lot recently)