

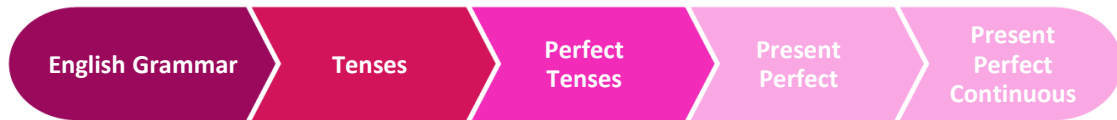


# Perfect Tenses

## Inglés

## LEARNING PATHWAY

- With this worksheet, you will put into practice and consolidate your knowledge on **perfect tenses**.
- This topic is part of the unit related to tenses, as illustrated in the following figure.



## INDEX

### INTRODUCTION

### CONTENTS

The Present Perfect Simple

How to form it

Common past participle verbs

Uses

Present perfect vs Past simple

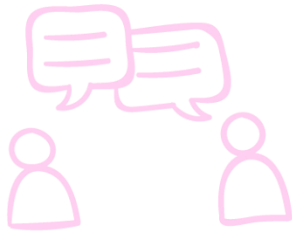
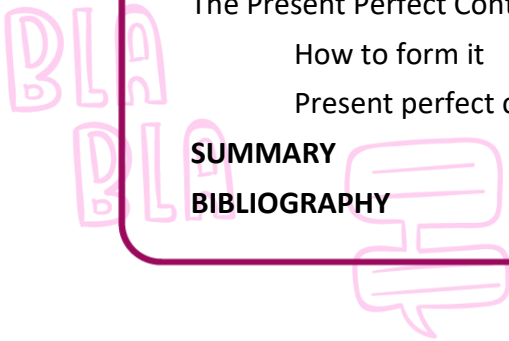
The Present Perfect Continuous

How to form it

Present perfect continuous vs Present perfect simple

### SUMMARY

### BIBLIOGRAPHY



## INTRODUCTION

Up to now, we have worked with the three main tenses in English: **past**, **present**, and **future**. However, we have not worked yet with their **perfect tenses**. This time, we will be reviewing past, present and future in their perfect form, their uses and variations. This tense is formed by adding one of the following auxiliary verbs: **have**, **has** or **had**. In this worksheet, you will learn how to correctly use them **in the present**.

## CONTENTS

### The Present Perfect Simple

According to Alexander (1991), there are two basic uses of the simple present perfect tense. We use it to describe actions **beginning in the past** and **continuing up to the present** moment or, in other words, to talk about events in the recent past that **still have an effect on the present** moment (Hall & Barduhn, 2016), as well as for actions which happened at an **unspecified time** in the past.

The present perfect is formed as follows:

Affirmative (+)

subject + "have" or "has" + verb (past participle) +  
rest of the sentence

Examples:

*I **have arrived** at Santiago's airport.*  
*She **has arrived** at Santiago's airport.*

It is also possible to use **contractions** with perfect tenses. Look at the following examples:

*I've arrived at Santiago's Airport*  
*She's arrived at Santiago's Airport*

## Negative (-)

subject + "have" or "has" + not + verb (past participle) + rest of the sentence

Examples:

*I **have not done** my homework yet.*

*She **has not replied** to my email.*

**Contractions** are also possible with the negative form:

*I **haven't** done my homework yet.*

*She **hasn't** replied to my email.*

## Interrogative (?)

"have" or "has" + subject + verb (past participle) + rest of the sentence + ?

Examples:

***Have you passed** your driving test?*

***Has she replied** to your email?*



### Important

Note that "have" will be used with the pronouns: I, you, we, they. However, "has" is used for "she", "he", and "it."

As you can see, you will need **past participle verbs** in order to form this tense. Here you will find a list of the **most common** past participle verbs:

Regular Past Participle	Irregular Past Participle
ask > asked	be > been
call > called	buy > bought
help > helped	come > come
need > needed	do > done
play > played	have > had
talk > talked	give > given
walk > walked	go > gone
want > wanted	make > made
watch > watched	say > said
work > worked	see > seen

From "English for Everyone", by Hall & Barduhn (2016).

As stated by Hall & Barduhn (2016), we can use the present perfect to talk about the past in multiple ways:

To give **new information** or **news**:

*I think she has arrived in Santiago. Her plane landed ten or fifteen minutes ago.*

To talk about **a repeated action** that **continues to happen** over a period of time:

*They have visited the same restaurant since they started dating.*

To talk about an event that **started** in the past and is **still happening now**:

*Eduardo has gone on a trip to Argentina.*

Often, you will find present perfect structures used **with** or **without time references**. Look at the following examples provided by Alexander (1991):

With time references such as **before, ever, never ... before, up till now, so far**:

*I have never tasted papaya (before).*

With **since/for**:

*I've lived here **since** 2010.*

*I've live here **for** 20 years.*

Also, we will find this tense with actions which happened at an **unspecified time** in the past:

With **no time reference at all**:

*Have you passed your driving test?* (this could mean "very recently" or "at any time up to now".)

With references to recent time, like **just, recently, already, still, yet**:

*I've just eaten.*

With **repeated actions**:

*I've watched him on TV **several times** or I've **often** met her.*

## Present perfect simple vs Past simple

According to Hall & Barduhn (2016), the difference between both tenses can be shown in the following figure:

Present Perfect	Past Simple
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The present perfect is used when a <b>particular time is not specified</b>.</li></ul> <p><i>e.g. I have visited France <b>many times</b>.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The past simple is used to talk about something that <b>happened at a definite time</b>.</li></ul> <p><i>e.g. I visited France <b>in 2010</b>.</i></p>

## The Present Perfect Continuous

As stated by Hall & Barduhn (2016), the present perfect continuous is used to talk about a **continuing activity in the past that still has an effect on the present moment**. It usually refers to the recent past. The activity might **just have stopped** or might **still be happening**.

Additionally, Alexander (1991) says that we use the present perfect instead of the present perfect simple when we want to **emphasize** that something **has been in progress throughout a period**:

*I've been typing **all day**.*

Depending on the context, this might mean *I'm still typing* or *I've just recently stopped*.

The present perfect is formed as follows:

Affirmative (+)

subject + "have" or "has" + been + -ing verb + rest of the sentence

Examples:

*I **have been waiting** for you for two hours!*

*She **has been painting** the house.*

As well as for present perfect simple, the use of the auxiliary verbs "have" or "has" depends on the subject.

Negative (-)

subject + "have" or "has" + not + been + -ing verb + rest of the sentence

Examples:

*I **haven't been playing** this game for three hours!*

*She **hasn't been singing** anything since yesterday.*

## Interrogative (?)

“have” or “has” + subject + been + -ing verb + rest of the sentence

Examples:

*Have you been informing the news to your classmates?*

*Has your dog been running around this area?*



### Important

Note that the use of contractions is also possible with the present perfect continuous in its affirmative and negative form: **I've** (I **have**), **he's** (he **has**), You **haven't** (you **have not**), It **hasn't** (it **has not**), etc.

## Present perfect continuous vs Present perfect simple

The difference between both tenses can be shown in the following figure (Hall & Barduhn, 2016):

Present Perfect Continuous	Present Perfect Simple
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The present perfect continuous is used to show that <b>an activity in the past was in progress</b>. It is possible that the activity is still taking place.</li></ul> <p><b>e.g.</b> <i>I've been fixing my car. I'm covered in oil!</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The present perfect simple is used to show that <b>an activity in the past is finished</b>.</li></ul> <p><b>e.g.</b> <i>I've fixed my car. Now I can drive to work again.</i></p>



## SUMMARY

To summarize, we will be using present perfect and present perfect continuous to talk about events in the **recent past** that **still have an effect on the present** moment (Hall & Barduhn, 2016), as well as for **actions which happened at an unspecified time in the past** (Alexander, 1991). In the case of the present perfect continuous, remember that the activity may just **have stopped or might still be happening**. The use of the auxiliary verbs “**have**” and “**has**” is crucial for both cases. However, the use of “**been**” is exclusive to the continuous form. Another difference between both structures is that **past participle verbs** will be accompanying the **present perfect simple**; however, we will use **–ing verbs** for **present perfect continuous**. As a reminder, you can also use **contractions** with their affirmative and negative forms.



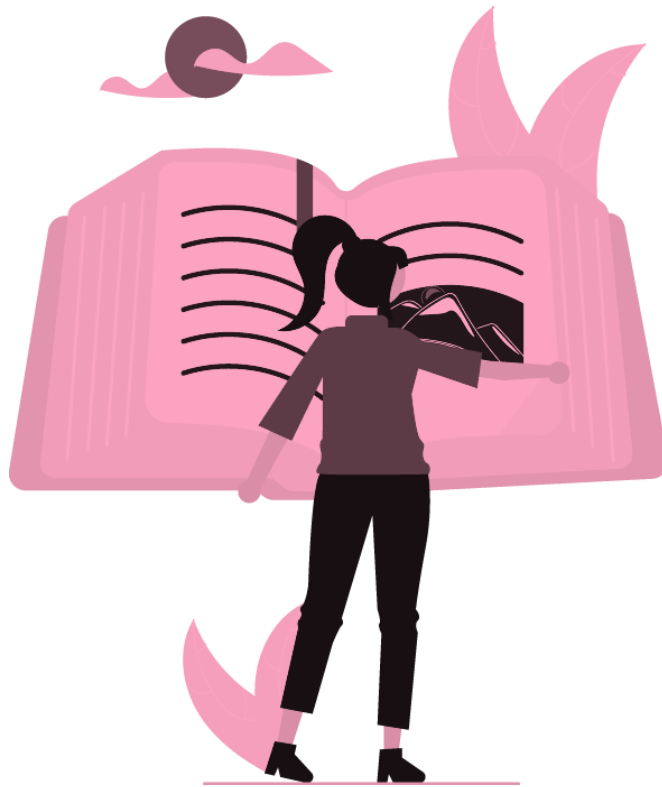
### Key words

Grammar; Tenses; Perfect Tenses; Present Perfect Simple, Present Perfect Continuous.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Alexander L. G. (1991). *Longman english grammar practice: for intermediate students* (4. impr). Longman.

Hall, D., & Barduhn, S. (2016). *English for everyone: A comprehensive visual reference*. DK, Dorling Kindersley, USA.



# ¿Quieres recibir orientación para optimizar tu estudio en la universidad?

CONTAMOS CON PROFESIONALES EXPERTOS EN EL APRENDIZAJE QUE TE PUEDEN ORIENTAR

**SOLICITA NUESTRO APOYO**



Sitio Web de CIMA



Ver más fichas



Solicita más información