

Present perfect 1 (I have done)

A Study this example situation:



Tom can't find his key.
He's **lost** his key. (= He **has lost** ...)

he **has lost** his key =
he lost it and he doesn't have it now

have lost / **has lost** is the *present perfect simple*:

I/we/they/you	have (= I've etc.)	finished lost done been etc.
he/she/it	has (= he's etc.)	

The present perfect simple is **have/has** + *past participle*. The past participle often ends in **-ed** (finished**ed**/decided**ed** etc.), but many verbs are *irregular* (**lost**/**done**/**written** etc.).

For a list of irregular verbs, see Appendix 1.

B When we say 'something **has happened**', this is usually new information:

- ☐ Ow! I've **cut** my finger.
- ☐ The road is closed. There's **been** an accident. (= There **has been** ...)
- ☐ Police **have arrested** two men in connection with the robbery.

When we use the present perfect, there is a connection with *now*. The action in the past has a result *now*:

- ☐ Tom **has lost** his key. (= he doesn't have it *now*)
- ☐ He told me his name, but I've **forgotten** it. (= I can't remember it *now*)
- ☐ Sally is still here. She **hasn't gone** out. (= she is here *now*)
- ☐ I can't find my bag. **Have** you **seen** it? (= do you know where it is *now*?)

Compare **gone (to)** and **been (to)**:

- ☐ James is on holiday. He **has gone to** Italy. (= he is there now or on his way there)
- ☐ Amy is back home now. She **has been to** Italy. (= she has now come back)

C You can use the present perfect with **just**, **already** and **yet**.

Just = a short time ago:

- ☐ 'Are you hungry?' 'No, I've **just had** lunch.'
- ☐ Hello. **Have** you **just arrived**?

Already = sooner than expected:

- ☐ 'Don't forget to pay the bill.' 'I've **already paid** it.'
- ☐ 'What time is Mark leaving?' 'He's **already left**.'

Yet = until now. We use **yet** to show that we are expecting something to happen.

We use **yet** in questions and negative sentences:

- ☐ **Has** it **stopped** raining **yet**?
- ☐ I've written the email, but I **haven't sent** it **yet**.

D You can also use the past simple (**did**, **went**, **had** etc.) in the examples on this page. So you can say:

- ☐ Ben isn't here. He's **gone** out. or He **went** out.
- ☐ 'Are you hungry?' 'No, I've **just had** lunch.' or 'No, I **just had** lunch.'

Exercises

7.1 Read the situations and complete the sentences using the present perfect. Choose from these verbs:

break disappear go up grow improve ~~lose~~ shrink stop

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Tom is looking for his key. He can't find it. | Tom <u>has lost his key.</u> |
| 2 Maria's English wasn't very good. Now it is better. | Her English |
| 3 My bag was here, but it isn't here any more. | My bag |
| 4 Lisa can't walk and her leg is in plaster. | Lisa |
| 5 Last week the bus fare was £1.80. Now it is £2. | The bus fare |
| 6 Dan didn't have a beard before. Now he has a beard. | Dan |
| 7 It was raining ten minutes ago. It isn't raining now. | It |
| 8 I washed my sweater, and now it's too small for me. | My sweater |

7.2 Put in **been** or **gone**.

- My parents are on holiday. They've gone to Italy.
- Hello! I've just to the shops. I've bought lots of things.
- Tom has just out. He'll be back in about an hour.
- Alice isn't here at the moment. I don't know where she's
- You're very late. Where have you

7.3 Complete the sentences using the present perfect.

- Sally is still here. She hasn't gone (she / not / go) out.
- I can't find my bag. (you / see / it) anywhere?
- I can't log on to the website. (I / forget) my password.
- I sent Joe an email this morning, but (he / not / reply).
- Is the meeting still going on, or (it / finish)?
- (the weather / change). It's colder now.
- (you / not / sign) the form. Could you sign it now, please?
- Are your friends still here, or (they / go) home?
- Paul doesn't know what he's going to do.
(he / not / decide / yet).
- 'Do you know where Julia is?' 'Yes, (I / just / see / her).'
- 'When is David going away?' '..... (he / already / go).'
- A: (your course / start / yet)?
B: Not yet. It starts next week.

7.4 Read the situations and write sentences with **just**, **already** or **yet**.

- After lunch you go to see a friend at her house. She says, 'Would you like something to eat?'
You say: No thank you. I've just had lunch. (have lunch)
- Joe goes out. Five minutes later, the phone rings and the caller says, 'Can I speak to Joe?'
You say: I'm afraid (go out)
- You are eating in a restaurant. The waiter thinks you have finished and starts to take your plate away.
You say: Wait a minute! (not / finish)
- You plan to eat at a restaurant tonight. You phone to reserve a table. Later your friend says,
'Shall I phone to reserve a table?' You say: No, (do it)
- You know that Lisa is looking for a place to live. Perhaps she has been successful.
You ask her: ? (find)
- You are still thinking about where to go for your holiday. A friend asks, 'Where are you going
for your holiday?' You say: (not / decide)
- Laura went out, but a few minutes ago she returned. Somebody asks, 'Is Laura still out?'
You say: No, (come back)