

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

A

We do not use the present perfect (**I have done**) when we talk about a *finished* time (for example, **yesterday** / **last year** / **ten minutes ago** etc.). We 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

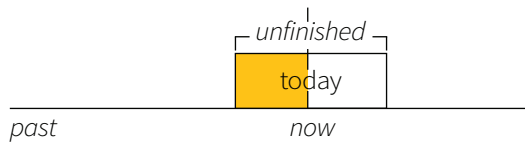
Compare:

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 2010**.



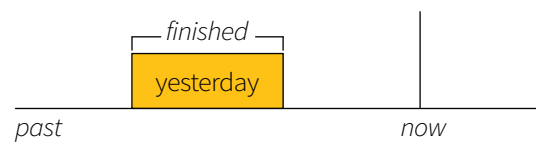
- ☐ It **hasn't** rained **this week**.
- ☐ **Have you seen** Anna **this morning**? (it is still morning now)
- ☐ **Have you seen** Ben **recently**? (in the last few days or weeks)
- ☐ I've **been working** here **since 2010**. (I still work here now)
- ☐ I don't know where Lisa is. I **haven't seen** her. (= I haven't seen her recently)
- ☐ We've **been waiting** for an hour. (we are still waiting now)
- ☐ Jack lives in Los Angeles. He **has lived** there for seven years.
- ☐ I've **never ridden** a horse. (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 2010 to 2014**.



- ☐ It **didn't** rain **last week**.
- ☐ **Did you see** Anna **this morning**? (it is now afternoon or evening)
- ☐ **Did you see** Ben **on Sunday**?
- ☐ I **worked** here **from 2010 to 2014**. (I don't work here now)
- ☐ 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)
- ☐ Jack **lived** in New York for ten years. Now he lives in Los Angeles.
- ☐ I **never rode** a bike **when I was a child**.
- ☐ After you come back from holiday you say: It **was** a really good holiday. I really **enjoyed** it.

Exercises

14.1 Are the underlined parts of these sentences OK? 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 Maria 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 bridge been built?

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 / eat / any fruit yesterday) I
- 5 (I / not / eat / any fruit 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 haven't been (I / not / be) to Canada, but I'd like to go there.
- 2 Paul and Lucy arrived (arrive) about ten minutes ago.
- 3 I'm tired. (I / not / sleep) well last night.
- 4 (There / be) a bus drivers' strike last week, so
..... (there / be) no buses.
- 5 Edward (work) in a bank for 15 years. Then
(he / give) it up. Now he works as a gardener.
- 6 Mary lives in Dublin. (She / live) there all her life.
- 7 My grandfather (die) before I was born.
(I / never / meet) him.
- 8 I don't know Karen's husband. (I / never / meet) him.
- 9 It's nearly lunchtime, and (I / not / see) Martin all morning. I wonder
where he is.
- 10 A: (you / go) to the cinema last night?
B: Yes, but the movie (be) awful.
- 11 A: (It / be) very warm here since we arrived.
B: Yes, (it / be) 35 degrees yesterday.
- 12 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)