The Present Perfect Tense

Form and use





The plane has landed safely.



They have graduated. Congratulations!



Federer has lost the semifinal match in Melbourne.



Nole has won the Australian Open for the second time.

Introduction

The present perfect tells us about the past and the present.



Form

have/has + past participle

- *POSITIVE
- I/you/we/they have gone. OR I/you/we/they've gone.
- He/she/it has gone. OR He/she/it's gone.
- **❖**NEGATIVE
- I/you/we/they haven't gone.
- He/she/it hasn't gone.

Form

- **❖** INTERROGATIVE
- *Have* I/you/we/they *gone?*
- Has he/she/it gone?
- *SHORT ANSWERS
- Yes, I have. OR No, I haven't.
- Yes, he has. OR No, he hasn't.

*When we use the present perfect, we see things as happening in the past but having a result in the present.



*We use the present perfect with today and phrases with this, e.g. this morning, this week, this year.



We've done quite a good job today.

*When we ask / talk about our experience





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• With lately and recently meaning "in the last few days/weeks"

Have I told you lately that I love you?



*With just to express the action finished a short time ago



We've just come back from our holiday.

*With already meaning "sooner than expected"



*With **yet** in negative sentences and questions when we expect something to happen

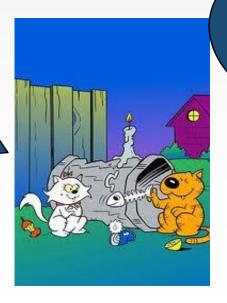
Sorry, Nick. I haven't finished the homework yet.



We can use the present perfect with **for** and **since**.

We use **for** to say how long this period is (for three days). We use **since** to say when the period began (since Friday).

Thanks, darling. I haven't eaten anything for three days.



Me, too. I haven't grabbed a bite since Friday.

Practice

■ Trevor and Laura are decorating their house. Put in the verbs. Use the present perfect. ■ Laura: How is the painting going? (►) Have you finished? (you / finish) not / do) very much. And it looks just the same as before. This new paint (2)..... (not / make) any difference. ■ Laura: (3)..... (you / not / put) enough on. ■ Trevor: (4)...... (I / hurt) my back. It feels bad. ■ Laura: Oh, you and your back. You mean (5)..... (you / have) enough of decorating. Well, I'll do it. Where (6)..... (you / put) the brush?

■ *Trevor:* I don't know. (7)...... (i t / disappear).

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8) (I / look) for it, but I can't find it.
Laura: You're hopeless, aren't you? How much (9) (you / do) in here?
Nothing! (10) (I / paint) two doors.
Trevor: (11) (I / clean) all this old paint around the window. It looks much better now, doesn't it?
Laura: (12) (we / make) some progress, I suppose.
Now, where (13) (that brush /go)? Oh, (14) (you / leave) it on the ladder, look.

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