

## GRAMMAR SUPPLEMENT

### THE PRESENT PERFECT

#### 1.1 FORM

The present perfect is formed using **have / has + the past participle of the verb**. With most verbs, the past participle is formed by **adding -ed** to the base form (infinitive):

<i>called</i>	<i>wanted</i>	<i>worked</i>	<i>liked</i>	<i>studied</i>	<i>played</i>	<i>stopped</i>
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But there are a lot of **irregular past participle** forms in English. Here are the most common irregular past participles (the third column), with the past tense forms for comparison:

Base Form	Past (Affirmative) Form	Past Participle
be	was / were	been
begin	began	begun
break	broke	broken
bring	brought	brought
buy	bought	bought
build	built	built
choose	chose	chosen
come	came	come
cost	cost	cost
cut	cut	cut
do	do	done
draw	drew	drawn
drink	drank	drunk
drive	drove	driven
eat	ate	eaten
feel	felt	felt
find	found	found
get	got	got / gotten
give	gave	given
go	went	gone
have	had	had
hear	heard	heard
hold	held	held
keep	kept	kept
know	knew	known
leave	left	left
let	let	let
lose	lost	lost

Base Form	Past (Affirmative) Form	Past Participle
make	made	made
meet	met	met
pay	paid	paid
put	put	put
read	read	read
run	ran	run
say	said	said
sell	sold	sold
send	sent	sent
sit	sat	sat
speak	spoke	spoken
spend	spent	spent
stand	stood	stood
steal	stole	stolen
take	took	taken
teach	taught	taught
tell	told	told
think	thought	thought
understand	understood	understood
wear	wore	worn
win	won	won
write	wrote	written

Some past participles end in -n, some are the same as the base (present) form, some are the same as the past form.

## 1.2 USE

a) We use the present perfect to talk about something that **started in the past and continues in the present**:

- They **have worked** here for 10 years.
- She **has lived** in Santiago all her life.
- We **have** always **been** fans of swimming.

b) We use the present perfect to talk about our **experiences** up to the present:

- I've **seen** that film before.
- Tom **has ridden** a motorcycle.
- I've never **appeared** in a movie.

- c) We use the present perfect with the adverb **ever** to talk about our **experiences** up to the present:
- That was the best pizza I've **ever** had.
  - **Have** you **ever** met a celebrity?
- d) We use the present perfect with the adverb **never** to talk about **no experience** up to the present:
- My aunt **has never played** a video game.
  - I've **never eaten** spinach salad.
  - I **have never been** a member of that club.
- e) We use the present perfect to talk about something that **happened in the past that is relevant or important in the present**:
- I can't get into the house because I've **lost** my keys.
  - Tess isn't at home. She's **gone** to the gym.
  - I was extremely hungry, so I've **eaten** three large pizzas with extra cheese.
- f) We use the present perfect with certain **time adverbs connected to the present**: *just, today, recently, already / yet, for, since, this week / month / year...*
- I've **just** heard the news.
  - The weather **has recently been** very good.
  - The study **has already been** completed, but the data **hasn't been** analyzed **yet**.
  - Lisa **has been** a teacher **for 10 years**. She's **worked** here **since** she graduated.
  - We **haven't had** any tests this month.
  - I've **had** four cups of coffee **today**.

### 1.3 QUESTIONS AND NEGATIVE FORMS

- a) We use inversion of *have* and the subject to make **questions** with the present perfect:
- **Have you** heard the news?
  - **Have we** covered Unit 5 in the course?
  - **Has it** rained?
- b) We use *haven't (have not)* to make **negatives** with the present perfect:
- I **haven't finished** the assignment.
  - The teacher **hasn't uploaded** the instructions.
  - The room is still occupied. The presentation **hasn't finished**.

## 1.4 HAVE BEEN & HAVE GONE

We use *have been* when someone *has gone* to a place and returned:

- A: Where **have you been**?  
B: I **'ve been** to administration center.
- A: **Have you ever been** to Rio de Janeiro?  
B: No, I **haven't**, but I **'ve been** to Sao Paulo.
- A: Where is Cathy?  
B: She's gone to Talca. She'll be back on Friday.

## 1.5 Practice Exercise A

Complete the sentences with the present perfect of the verbs in parentheses ( ).

1. Ana and I ..... (know) each other since our school days.
2. I ..... (play) tennis since I was eight years old.
3. Arnold ..... (be) in the hospital twice this year.
4. My uncle ..... (arrive) from Korea with Korean Airlines.
5. You ..... (have) that yellow jacket for years. It's time to get a new one.
6. Since my brother graduated from college, he ..... (work) in three different countries.
7. I ..... (never study) the history of Iran, but it would be interesting.
8. The children ..... (already receive) their lunch.
9. We ..... (see) three movies this week.
10. What's the most interesting city you ..... (ever visit)?

## 1.6 Practice Exercise B

Complete the sentences with one of the verbs in the menu. Remember to use the present perfect. Be careful, the sentences could be affirmative or negative.

see	learn	have	be	sleep
find	lose	take	rain	send

1. I ..... four cups of coffee, so I'm very energetic.
2. I'm very upset because I ..... my class notes.
3. I ..... their new post yet, but I will when I get home.
4. She ..... much because the baby is crying so much.
5. The students in the class ..... already ..... level 1.
6. This is the most interesting thing we ..... ever .....
7. The investigators ..... just ..... some convincing evidence.
8. I ..... the email yet. I will do it later.
9. It ..... for five days without a break!
10. Luis ..... in his room all day. He's studying very intensely.

### 1.7 Practice Exercise C

*Can you remember the words from Practice Exercise A? Complete the blank spaces with the missing words.*

1. Ana and I ..... each other ..... our school days.
2. I ..... tennis ..... I was eight years old.
3. Arnold ..... in the hospital twice ..... year.
4. My uncle ..... from Korea with Korean Airlines.
5. You ..... that yellow jacket ..... years. It's time to get a new one.
6. .... my brother graduated from college, he ..... in three different countries.
7. I ..... the history of Iran, but it would be interesting.
8. The children ..... their lunch.
9. We ..... three movies ..... week.
10. What's the most interesting city you .....

### 1.8 Practice Exercise D

Complete the spaces with one of the verbs in the menu. Remember to use the present perfect form.

<b>finish</b>	<b>be</b>	<b>have</b>	<b>meet</b>	<b>steal</b>	<b>break</b>
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1. A: Why isn't Nico at work?

B: He's in the hospital because he ..... his arm.

2. A: Can I borrow that book? It looks really interesting.

B: Sure. I ..... reading it.

3. A: Do you know Ana Cornejo in the R&D department?

B: I know the name, but I ..... never ..... her.

4. A: Would you like some more cake?

B: No thanks. I ..... enough. I'm full.

5. A: Are you OK? You look upset.

B: I think someone ..... my debit card!

6. A: You look really relaxed.

B: I ..... on vacation for two weeks.

### 1.9 Practice Exercise E

Use the correct time adverbs from the menu to complete the spaces in the sentences.

<b>today</b>	<b>recently</b>	<b>ever</b>	<b>since</b>
<b>yet</b>	<b>already</b>	<b>for</b>	<b>just</b>

1. We've lived in the same house ..... 15 years.

2. Flying cars have not become common .....

3. The grades for the last test have been published .....

4. I've ..... started learning French.

5. Oh no! The model has ..... fallen on the floor! It's ruined.

6. I haven't laughed so much ..... our last meeting.
7. I've ..... done all the work, so he should be very happy.
8. Have you ..... seen a puma in the wild?

### 1.10 Practice Exercise F

*Complete the email with the present perfect form of the verbs below.*

<b>be</b>	<b>buy</b>	<b>go</b>	<b>not go</b>
<b>be</b>	<b>not rain</b>	<b>take</b>	<b>visit</b>

Dear Andrea,

We ..... in Punta Cana for two weeks. The weather ..... fantastic —it ..... even once! We ..... two special places —Samaná Island and Santa Catarina Island. Now we're on the beach. We ..... shopping, and I ..... some t-shirts. I ..... lots of photos, which I will upload soon. We ..... to Santo Domingo yet, but we're going there tomorrow. I'm really looking forward to it!

Your friend,

Amapola

### 1.11 Answer Key

#### Practice exercises A & C

1. Ana and I have known each other since our school days.
2. I have played tennis since I was eight years old.
3. Arnold has been in the hospital twice this year.
4. My uncle has arrived from Korea with Korean Airlines.
5. You have had that yellow jacket for years. It's time to get a new one.
6. Since my brother graduated from college, he has worked in three different countries.
7. I have never studied the history of Iran, but it would be interesting.
8. The children have already received their lunch.
9. We have seen three movies this week.
10. What's the most interesting city you have ever visited?

#### Practice exercise B.

1. I have had four cups of coffee, so I'm very energetic.
2. I'm very upset because I have lost my class notes.
3. I haven't seen their new post yet, but I will when I get home.
4. She hasn't slept much because the baby is crying so much.
5. The students in the class have already taken level 1.
6. This is the most interesting thing we have ever learned!
7. The investigators have just found some convincing evidence.
8. I haven't sent the email yet. I will do it later.
9. It has rained for five days without a break!
10. Luís has been in his room all day. He's studying very intensely.

#### Practice exercise D.

1. He's in the hospital because he has broken his arm.
2. Sure. I have finished reading it.
3. I know the name, but I have never met her.
4. No thanks. I have had enough. I'm full.
5. I think someone has stolen my debit card!
6. I have been on vacation for two weeks.

#### Practice exercise E.

1. We've lived in the same house for 15 years.
2. Flying cars have not become common yet.
3. The grades for the last test have been published today.
4. I've recently started learning French.
5. Oh no! The model has just fallen on the floor! It's ruined.
6. I haven't laughed so much since our last meeting.
7. I've already done all the work, so he should be very happy.
8. Have you ever seen a puma in the wild?

#### Practice exercise F.

Dear Andrea,

We have been in Punta Cana for two weeks. The weather has been fantastic —it hasn't rained even once! We have visited two special places —Samaná Island and Santa Catarina Island. Now we're on the beach. We have gone shopping, and I have bought some t-shirts. I have taken lots of photos, which I will upload soon. We haven't gone to Santo Domingo yet, but we're going there tomorrow. I'm really looking forward to it!

Your friend, Amapola