

First year S2

Teacher: Ms M Boughedda

Unit 7: **Health**

Lecture 2: Grammar (the present and past perfect)

1. Form of the Present Perfect

The **present perfect** is formed using:

Subject + have / has + past participle

Examples:

- I **have finished** my homework.
- She **has visited** London.
- They **have eaten** lunch.

Remember:

- **Have** → I, You, We, They
- **Has** → He, She, It

2. Negative Form

Structure:

Subject + have/has + not + past participle

Short form:

- have not → haven't
- has not → hasn't

Examples:

- I **haven't finished** my homework.
- She **hasn't visited** London.
- They **haven't eaten** yet.

3. Yes / No Questions

Structure:

Have / Has + subject + past participle?

Examples:

- **Have** you **finished** your homework?
- **Has** she **visited** London?
- **Have** they **eaten** lunch?

Short Answers:

- Yes, I **have**.
- No, I **haven't**.
- Yes, she **has**.
- No, she **hasn't**.

4. Wh- Questions

Structure:

Wh-word + have/has + subject + past participle?

Examples:

- **Where** have you **been**?
- **What** has she **done**?
- **Why** have they **left**?
- **How long** have you **studied** English?

5. Uses of the Present Perfect

Use 1: Experience (Life Experience)

Used to talk about experiences at an unspecified time in the past.

Time is **not important**.

Often used with:

- ever
- never

Examples:

- I **have visited** Paris.
- She **has never eaten** sushi.
- Have you **ever seen** snow?

Use 2: Unfinished Actions (Still True Now)

Used for actions that started in the past and continue now.

Often used with:

- since
- for

Examples:

- I **have lived** here **for** five years. (after *for* we use a time period)
- She **has worked** here **since** 2020. (after *since* we use the starting time/month/year of the period)

Key idea: **Action started in the past** → **continues now**

Use 3: Recent Actions

Used for actions that happened recently. Often used with:

- just (The action happened very recently)
- already (The action happened earlier than the expected time)
- yet (The action has not happened until now)

Examples:

- I **have just finished** my work.
- She **has already left**.
- Have you finished **yet**?

Note: not + yet.

She hasn't come yet?

Use 4: Result in the Present

Used when a past action has a visible result now.

Examples:

- I **have lost** my keys. (I don't have them now.)
- She **has broken** her arm. (It is broken now.)
- They **have cleaned** the room. (The room is clean now.)

Focus is on the **result**, not the time.

6. Present Perfect vs Past Simple

Present Perfect

No specific time

Connected to present

Past Simple

Specific past time

Finished in the past

Examples:

✓ I **have visited** London.

(time not important)

✓ I **visited** London **last year**.

(specific time)

- The present perfect asks the question *how long?*
How long have you been friends? We've been friends since primary school.
The past simple asks the question *when?*
- When did you become friends? In 2006.

7. Time Expressions with Present Perfect

Common Expressions:

- ever
- never
- just
- already
- yet
- since
- for
- recently
- lately
- so far

Examples:

- I have **already finished**.
- She hasn't arrived **yet**.
- We have lived here **for** ten years.

- He has worked here **since** 2019.

Past Perfect

1. Form of the Past Perfect

The **past perfect** is formed using:

Subject + had + past participle

A. Positive Form

Structure:

Subject + had + past participle

Examples:

- I **had finished** my homework before dinner.
- She **had left** the house before I arrived.
- They **had eaten** lunch earlier.
- We **had studied** before the test.

B. Negative Form

Structure:

Subject + had not + past participle

Short form:

had not = hadn't

Examples:

- I **hadn't finished** my homework.
- She **hadn't arrived** yet.
- They **hadn't seen** the movie before.

C. Yes / No Questions

Structure:

Had + subject + past participle?

Examples:

- **Had** you **finished** your homework?
- **Had** she **left** before you arrived?

- **Had** they **seen** the film?

Short Answers:

- Yes, I **had**.
- No, I **hadn't**.

D. Wh- Questions

Structure:

Wh-word + had + subject + past participle?

Examples:

- **Where had** she **gone**?
- **Why had** they **left** early?
- **What had** he **done**?

2. Uses of the Past Perfect

A finished action before a second point in the past.

- When we arrived, the film had started (= first the film started, then we arrived).

Past Perfect = action BEFORE another past action

Past perfect before past simple.

Past simple after past perfect.

Practice

Past Simple, Present Perfect, and Past Perfect

Task One: Choose the present perfect or past simple.

1. I _____ (see) three police cars this morning (it's still morning).
2. After he _____ (arrive) home, he _____ (unpack) and _____ (go) to bed early.
3. A: What's wrong?
B: I _____ (break) a glass!
4. My grandparents only _____ (know) each other for a few months before they _____ (get) married.
5. I _____ (be) in London for three years. I love it here.
6. We _____ (see) Julie last night.
7. He _____ (be) a teacher before he _____ (become) a musician.
8. When the boss _____ (walk) into the room, we _____ (know) someone was going to get fired.
9. The children _____ (break) a window in the school last week.
10. He _____ (see) that film last year.
11. Lucy _____ (break) her leg, so she can't come skiing.
12. Julie _____ (arrive)! Come and say hello!
13. They _____ (be) cold when they _____ (arrive) home.
14. Jack _____ (break) his arm when he _____ (fall) off a horse in 2005.

15. I _____ (know) about the problem for months, but I _____ (not / find) a solution yet.
16. A: When _____ (you / arrive)?
B: At 10pm last night.

17. She _____ (be) a teacher for ten years, and she still enjoys it.

18. How long _____ (you / know) Jill? You get on well with her.

19. I _____ (see) the sea before.

20. A: Hello

B: Hi Mum, it's me. I just wanted to say I _____ (arrive) safely and everything is fine.

Task Two: Choose the past perfect or the past simple.

1. We had already eaten when John _____ (come) home.

2. Last year Juan _____ (pass) all his exams.

3. When I _____ (get) to the airport, I discovered I had forgotten my passport.

4. I went to the library, then I _____ (buy) some milk and went home.

5. I opened my handbag to find that I _____ (forgot) my credit card.

6. When we _____ (arrive) at the station, the train had already left.

7. We got home to find that someone _____ (break) into the house.

8. I opened the fridge to find someone _____ (eat) all my chocolate.

9. Julie was very pleased to see that John _____ (clean) the kitchen.

10. It _____ (not / rain) all summer, so the grass was completely dead.

11. When he _____ (arrive) at the party, Julie had just left.

12. After arriving home, I realised I _____ (not / buy) any milk.

13. The laundry was wet. It _____ (rain) while I was out.

14. William felt ill last night because he _____ (eat) too many cakes.

15. Keiko _____ (meet) Jane last September.

16. First, I tidied the flat, then I _____ (sit) down and had a cup of coffee.

17. John _____ (play) the piano when he was a child, but he doesn't play now.

18. When I opened the curtains, the sun was shining but the ground was white. It _____ (snow) during the night.

19. When Julie got home from her holiday, her flat was a mess. John _____ (have) a party.

Answers:

Task One: Choose the present perfect or past simple.

1. I've seen three police cars this morning.
2. After he arrived home, he unpacked and went to bed early.
3. A: What's wrong?
B: I've broken a glass!
4. My grandparents only knew each other for a few months before they got married.
5. I've been in London for three years. I love it here.
6. We saw Julie last night.
7. He was a teacher before he became a musician.
8. When the boss walked into the room, we knew someone was going to get fired.
9. The children broke a window in the school last week.
10. He saw that film last year.
11. Lucy has broken her leg, so she can't come skiing.
12. Julie's arrived! Come and say hello!
13. They were cold when they arrived home.
14. Jack broke his arm when he fell off a horse in 2005.
15. I've known about the problem for months, but I haven't found a solution yet.
16. A: When did you arrive?
B: At 10pm last night.
17. She's been a teacher for ten years, and she still enjoys it.
18. How long have you known Jill? I know you see her often.
19. I have never seen the sea before.
20. A: Hello
B: Hi Mum, it's me. I just wanted to say I've arrived safely and everything is fine.

Task Two: Choose the past perfect or the past simple.

1. We had already eaten when John came home.
2. Last year Juan passed all his exams.
3. When I got to the airport, I discovered I had forgotten my passport.
4. I went to the library, then I bought some milk and went home.
5. I opened my handbag to find that I had forgotten my credit card.
6. When we arrived at the station, the train had already left.
7. We got home to find that someone had broken into the house.
8. I opened the fridge to find someone had eaten all my chocolate.
9. Julie was very pleased to see that John had cleaned the kitchen.
10. It hadn't rained all summer, so the grass was completely dead.
11. When he arrived at the party, Julie had just left.
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18. When I opened the curtains, the sun was shining but the ground was white. It had snowed during the night.
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