







The past simple is used to talk about a specific event in the past that has finished whilst the present perfect tense is used to talk about unfinished events or past events with no time.



The past simple tense can be represented like this on a timeline.





The past simple tense has six main uses.

Past Simple Use	Example Sentences
One single past event	I went to Germany in summer
A past duration	I lived in Barcelona for 3 years
A repeated past event	I drove to work every day
A changed state	She was short as a child but now she's tall
A series of past events	I woke up, got dressed, had breakfast then went to school
Stative verbs	I wanted some chocolate yesterday

The present perfect tense can be represented like this on a timeline.





The present perfect tense has six uses.

Present Simple Use	Example Sentences
Life experience (no time)	I have visited France before
Recent past events	We've just arrived home
Change in state	I have improved my English
Past events impact present	I've lost my wallet and I need it now
Unfinished duration of time	I haven't been to the cinema this year
Stative verbs	I have known her for a long time



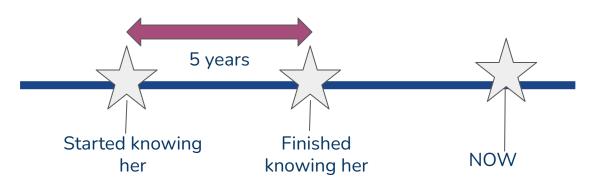
Consider these two examples, what is the difference in meaning?

Past Simple	Present Perfect
I knew her for 5 years	I have known her for 5 years



Past Simple	Present Perfect
I knew her for 5 years	I have known her for 5 years

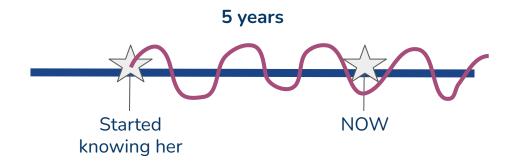
The past simple shows this event started and finished in the past, now you don't know her.





Past Simple	Present Perfect
I knew her for 5 years	I have known her for 5 years

The present perfect shows this event started 5 years ago and you still know her know. This will continue in the future.





Here is an alternative example with the same difference.

Past Simple	Present Perfect
I studied at school for 3 years	I have studied at school for 3 years
3 years Started Finished NOW studying studying	3 years Started NOW studying

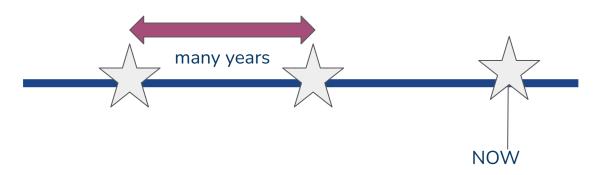
Consider these two examples, what is the difference in meaning?

Past Simple	Present Perfect
She lived there for many years	She has lived there for many years



Past Simple	Present Perfect
She lived there for many years	She has lived there for many years

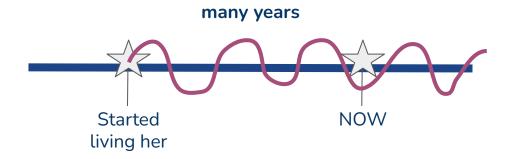
We must remember to use the past simple when somebody has died.





Past Simple	Present Perfect
She lived there for many years	She has lived there for many years

The present perfect expresses this event is continuing to the present (the person is still alive).





Consider these two examples, what is the difference in meaning?

Past Simple	Present Perfect
I lost my wallet!	I've lost my wallet and I need it now



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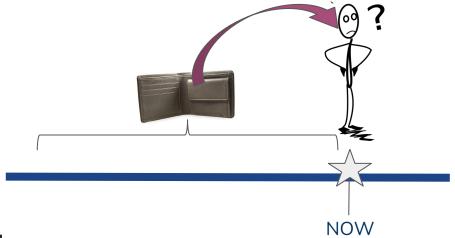
The past simple is used to talk about a simple finished event in the past that has no impact on the present time.





Past Simple	Present Perfect
I lost my wallet!	I've lost my wallet and I need it now.

When a past event impacts the present time, we use the present perfect tense.





Here is an alternative example with the same difference.

Past Simple	Present Perfect
I broke my ankle	I have broken my ankle so I can't play football
Broke NOW ankle	Broke ankle NOW

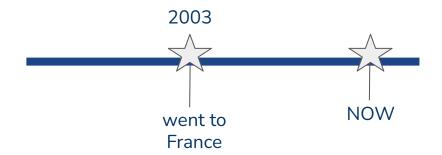
Consider these two examples, what is the difference in meaning?

Past Simple	Present Perfect
I went to France in 2003	I've been to France before



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I went to France in 2003	I've been to France before

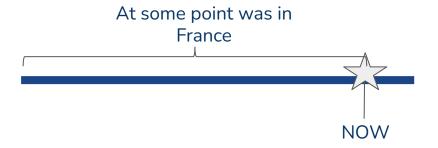
The past simple is used to talk about a simple finished event in the past, with a finished time phrase (in 2003)





Past Simple	Present Perfect
I went to France in 2003	I've been to France before

The present perfect is used to talk about life experience (with no time phrase) or an unfinished time (such as before - possibility of changing in the future).





Here is an alternative example with the same difference.

Past Simple	Present Perfect
I lived in Barcelona last year	I have lived in Barcelona before
last year this year lived in Barcelona	At some unknown point, lived in Barcelona

AFFIRMATIVE

Past Simple	Present Perfect
I walked	I have walked
You walked	You have walked
He walked	He has walked
She walked	She has walked
It walked	It has walked
We walked	We have walked
They walked	They have walked



NEGATIVE

Past Simple	Present Perfect
l didn't walk	I haven't walked
You didn't walk	You haven't walked
He didn't walk	He hasn't walked
She didn't walk	She hasn't walked
It didn't walk	It hasn't walked
We didn't walk	We haven't walked
They didn't walk	They haven't walked



QUESTIONS

Past Simple	Present Perfect
Did I cook?	Have I cooked?
Did you cook?	Have you cooked?
Did he cook?	Has he cooked?
Did she cook?	Has she cooked?
Did it cook?	Has it cooked?
Did we cook?	Have we cooked?
Did they cook?	Have they cooked?



SHORT RESPONSES

Past S	Simple	Present	t Perfect
Yes, I did Yes, you did Yes, he did Yes, she did Yes, it did Yes, we did Yes, they did	No, I didn't No, you didn't No, he didn't No, she didn't No, it didn't No, we didn't No, they didn't	Yes, I have Yes, you have Yes, he has Yes, she has Yes, it has Yes, we have Yes, they have	No, haven't No, you haven't No, he hasn't No, she hasn't No, it hasn't No, we haven't No, they haven't



Past Simple	Present Perfect
Ago Yesterday In + time Once Then This Last	Just Already Never Ever Recently Yet Before So far Up to now Lately In the last few Since For



Look at these typical mistakes and correct them!





I have received the letter on Monday







I received the letter on Monday







When have you read that

book?





Specific time - past simple



When <u>did</u> you read that book?







I worked here since 2001







I have worked here <u>since</u> 2001



Practice 1





Choose the correct answer

Resource: https://bbresources.s3.amazonaws.com/sites/3/Grammar-PastSimplePresentPerfect_2665.pdf



- 1. I'm really hungry. I (haven't eaten / didn't eat) yet.
- 2. They (arrived / have arrived) a week ago.
- 3. We (have worked / worked) here for three years.
- 4. They (didn't recognise / haven't recognised) me at yesterday's meeting.
- 5. Our neighbour (was / has been) in hospital since Friday.
- 6. (Have you travelled / Did you travel) abroad many times?



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Fill the gaps.

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8. I am so excited to have a dog. I (always / want) one.



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- 2. They (buy) a new car last month.
- 3. The teacher (not return) the tests yet.
- 4. How long she (know) about this problem?
- 5.you ever (hear) such an unbelievable story?
- 6. When I was a child, I (live) in England for two years.
- 7. He (buy) me a beautiful gift for my birthday.
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Correct the errors.

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- 1. Have you ever eat Chinese food?
- 2. She has moved to another city last year.
- 3. They have sent out the invitations yet.
- 4. Jack hasn't seen Jill since she has graduated.
- 5. Mr Brown already left the office.
- 6. We haven't been abroad since a year.
- 7. The lesson has started ten minutes ago.
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Fill the gaps

Resource: https://bbresources.s3.amazonaws.com/sites/3/Grammar-PastSimplePresentPerfect_2665.pdf



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that until then, I 4 not realised just how unpleasant the flu could be. I had a
high temperature for nearly a week, and my whole body hurt. I don't think I have
5 felt so miserable. It's taking me ages to get my strength back. It really
bothers me that I haven't had enough energy to play football 6 I got ill. In
fact, I have 7 been to the doctor to ask if it's normal to feel weak for so long.
He says I'll soon feel better. Apparently I'm lucky. For some people, especially the old and
the weak, the flu can be very serious. Doctors have tried 8 years to find a
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developed a vaccine which gives effective protection against the disease. According to my
doctor, most of his elderly patients have 10 received their flu shots.

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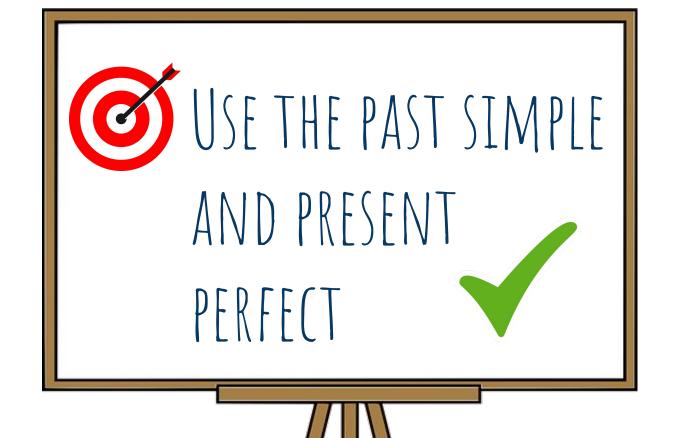






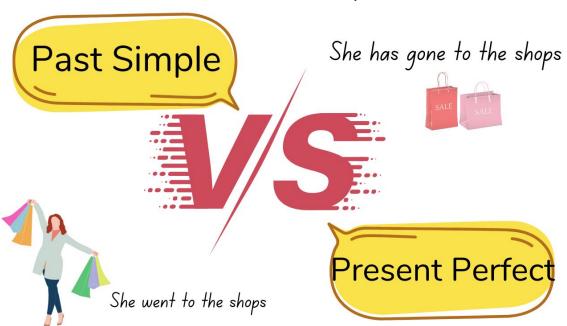








REVIEW



Past Simple v Present Perfect
Course





COMPLETE THE QUIZ

Link:

https://virtually-fluent.com/quizzes/past-sim

ple-v-present-perfect-quiz/



WRITING ASSIGNMENT

Link:

https://virtually-fluent.com/topic/past-simpl

e-v-present-perfect-my-funny-story/