

# > The Present Perfect



In this unit you will learn how to speak about things you have done until the present time.



## ● Positive form

We form the present perfect with have / has + the past participle.

I have worked hard this week.	I've worked... .
You have worked hard this week.	You've worked... .
He/She/It has worked hard this week.	He/She/It's worked... .
We have worked hard this week.	We've worked... .
You have worked hard this week.	You've worked... .
They have worked hard this week.	They've worked... .

## General Use 1

• We use the present perfect in sentences with UNFINISHED TIME expressions.

I have drunk too much coffee today.  
(today = unfinished)

She has written a lot of reports this week.  
(this week = unfinished)

• Remember we have to use the past simple with FINISHED TIME expressions.

I drank too much coffee yesterday.  
(yesterday = finished)

She wrote a lot of reports last week.  
(last week = finished)

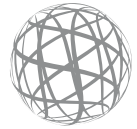
• Compare

I worked hard last week.  
(...last week = finished time expression = Past simple)

I have worked hard this week.  
(...this week = unfinished time = present perfect)

Profits have increased by 6% this year.

Profits increased by 6% last year.



### Activity 1

What are the following - unfinished or finished times?

yesterday	afternoon	today	this week	1998	when I
was a child	this month	until now	so far	this year	
	in my life	last October			

• Careful! We say:

I saw her yesterday ...                      **not** *I have seen her yesterday ...*

...yesterday is a finished time and is only used with the simple past.

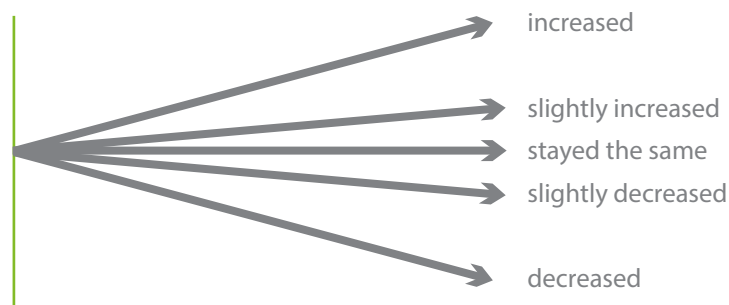


### Activity 2

Now complete the sentences using the present perfect or the simple past.

1. .... when I was a child.
2. .... yesterday.
3. .... this week.
4. .... today.
5. .... last year.
6. .... this month.
7. .... until now.
8. .... two days ago.

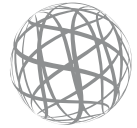
• We often use the present perfect to speak about trends until now. For example when describing a change we can say something has...



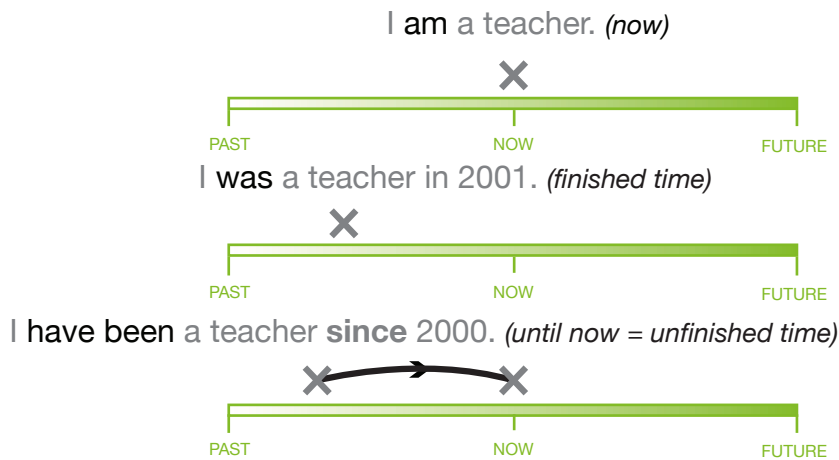
### Activity 3

What has happened to the following in your company this year?  
Tell your colleagues.

<b>profit</b>	<b>number of employees</b>	<b>number of products/services</b>
<b>number of colleagues in your office</b>	<b>your working hours</b>	



- Look at the three time lines and compare the verb to be in the: present simple, past simple and present perfect.



- When something started at a point in the past and is not finished we often use **since**. We only use since with the present perfect.



### Activity 4

Look at the following and write your personal details as in the example above.

#### 1. job

- \_\_\_\_\_ (*now*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (*three years ago*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (*since*)

#### 2. town

- \_\_\_\_\_ (*now*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (*three years ago*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (*since*)

#### 3. a target student

- \_\_\_\_\_ (*now*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (*three years ago*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (*since*)



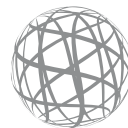
### ● Since / For



- Look at the following sentences. Can you say when we use for and when we use since?

It is now 3 o'clock. I have been here **since 1 o'clock**.

It is now 3 o'clock. I have been here **for two hours**.



- We use **since** with a **point in time** (=Zeitpunkt)

↓  
since

- We use **for** with a **period of time** (=Zeitraum)

f **for** r



### Activity 5

Combine an action with a time below to make a sentence using for or since.

#### Action

1. been in the same office...
2. lived in your town/city...
3. been at work today...
4. spoken English...
5. known your teacher...
6. had a driving license...
7. been in your English lesson...
8. had your flat/house...

#### Time

<i>the year</i>
<i>no. of years</i>
<i>the time</i>
<i>the age</i>
<i>no. of months</i>
<i>no. of years</i>
<i>no. of minutes</i>
<i>the year</i>