

2A

present perfect simple and continuous

present perfect simple: *have / has + past participle*

- 1 **Have** you **ever written** a blog? (1 37))
- 2 We've **landed**, but we **haven't gotten off** the plane yet. I've already **told** you three times.
- 3 It's the best book I've **ever read**.
- 4 I've **known** Keiko since I was a child. My sister **has had** the flu for ten days now.
- 5 How many Patricia Cornwell novels **have** you **read**? **They've seen** each other twice this week.

We use the present perfect simple:

- 1 to talk about past experiences when you don't say when something happened.
- 2 with *yet* and *already*.
- 3 with superlatives and *the first, second, last time*, etc.
- 4 with nonaction verbs (= verbs not usually used in the continuous form, e.g., *be, have, know, like*, etc.) to say that something started in the past and is still true now.
 - This use is common with time expressions like *How long...?*, *for* or *since*, *all day / evening*, etc.
 - Don't use the simple present or continuous in this situation: NOT ~~*I know Keiko since I was a child.*~~
- 5 when we say or ask *how much / many* we have done or *how often* we have done something up to now.

present perfect continuous: *have / has + been + verb + -ing*

- 1 How long **have** you **been feeling** sick? (1 38))
He's **been chatting** online all evening.
- 2 I **haven't been sleeping** well. It's **been raining** all day.
- 3 I've **been shopping** all morning. I'm exhausted.
A Take your shoes off. They're filthy.
B Yes, I know. I've **been working** in the yard.

We use the present perfect continuous:

- 1 with action verbs, to say that an action started in the past and is still happening now.
 - This use is common with time expressions like *How long...?*, *for* or *since*, *all day / evening*, etc.
 - Don't use the simple present or continuous in this situation. NOT ~~*I know Keiko since I was a child.*~~
- 2 for repeated actions, especially with a time expression, e.g., *all day, recently*.
- 3 for continuous actions that have just finished (but that have present results).

- 1 I've **been learning** French for the last three years. He's **liked** classical music since he was a teenager. (1 39))
- 2 She's **been having** a good time at school. They've **had** that car for at least ten years.
- 3 We've **lived** in this town since 1980. We've **been living** in a rented house for the last two months.
- 4 I've **ainted** the kitchen. I've **been painting** the kitchen.

- 1 To talk about an unfinished action we usually use the present perfect continuous with action verbs and the present perfect simple with nonaction verbs.
- 2 Some verbs can be action or nonaction depending on their meaning, e.g., *have a good time* = action, *have a car* = nonaction.
- 3 With the verbs *live* or *work* you can often use the present perfect simple or continuous. However, we usually use the present perfect continuous for shorter, more temporary actions.
- 4 The present perfect simple emphasizes the completion of an action (= the kitchen has been painted). The present perfect continuous emphasizes the duration of an action, that may or may not be finished (= the painting of the kitchen may not be finished yet).

a Circle the correct form of the verb. Check (✓) if both are possible.

Have you ever (tried) *been trying* caviar?

- 1 She's *worked* / *been working* here since July.
- 2 Your mother has *called* / *been calling* three times this morning!
- 3 The kids are exhausted because they've *run* / *been running* around all day.
- 4 Tim and Lucy haven't *seen* / *been seeing* our new house.
- 5 I've never *met* / *been meeting* her boyfriend. Have you?
- 6 It's *rained* / *been raining* all morning.
- 7 We've *already had* / *We've already been having* lunch.
- 8 My sister has *lived* / *been living* alone since her divorce.

b Complete the sentence with the best form of the verb in parentheses, present perfect simple or continuous.

I've bought a new car. Do you like it? (buy)

- 1 We _____ Jack and Ann for years. (know)
- 2 You look really hot. _____ at the gym? (you / work out)
- 3 Emily _____ her homework yet, so she can't go out. (not do)
- 4 They don't live in Miami. They _____. (move)
- 5 I _____ time to cook anything. (not have)
- 6 We _____ for hours. Is this the right way? (walk)
- 7 _____ you _____ my diary again? (read)
- 8 Oh, no! I _____ my finger on this knife. (cut)