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Basic

English Grammar

for ESL Students

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Present Simple: Be

Positive:

I am	I'm	from Japan.
you / we / they are	you're / we're / they're	from Brazil.
he / she / it is	he's / she's / it's	from India.

Negative:

I am not	I'm not	married.
you / we / they are not	You're not / You aren't We're not / We aren't They're not / They aren't	happy.
he / she / it is not	He isn't / He's not She isn't / She's not It isn't / It's not	a student.

Question:

Am	I	beautiful?
Are	you / we / they	a teacher?
Is	he / she / it	tall?

Present Simple: Be

Name:

- I'm Joanna.
- He's Paulo.
- They're Aki and Yuta.

Country / Nationality:

- I'm from the U.S. I'm American.
- My husband is from Italy. He's Italian.
- She's not Korean, she's Vietnamese.
- Are they from Australia?

Age:

- I'm 27 years old.
- How old are you?
- She's 15.
- My mother is 65 years old.

Emotions:

- I'm sad.
- She's excited.
- You're angry.
- We're happy.

Jobs:

- I'm not a student. I'm a teacher.
- Are you a doctor?
- He's a journalist.
- They're artists.

Quiz: Present Simple: Be

1) We _____ from Canada.

- A. am
- B. isn't
- C. aren't

2) My parents _____ divorced.

- A. am
- B. are
- C. is

3) I _____ tired.

- A. 'm
- B. 're
- C. 's

4) Where _____ you from?

- A. is
- B. am
- C. are

5) _____ your brother tall?

A. Am

B. Are

C. Is

6) Sarah _____ married.

A. 'm not

B. 're not

C. 's not

7) Bob and Tony _____ my cousins.

A. am

B. are

C. is

8) _____ the food at this restaurant good?

A. Am

B. Is

C. Are

9) My apartment _____ very small.

A. is

B. am

C. are

10) Kate: "Are you thirsty?"

Joe: "No, _____."

- A. I aren't
- B. I'm not
- C. you're not

11) He's _____ a good student.

- A. aren't
- B. isn't
- C. not

12) You _____ beautiful.

- A. is
- B. not
- C. `re

13) How old _____ you?

- A. are
- B. is
- C. am

14) She _____ 29 years old.

A. 'm

B. 're

C. 's

15) Jennifer and I _____ students.

A. am not

B. aren't

C. isn't

Answers on the next page

Quiz Answers: Present Simple: BE

- 1) C - aren't
- 2) B - are
- 3) A - 'm
- 4) C - are
- 5) C - is
- 6) C - 's not
- 7) B - are
- 8) B - is
- 9) A - is
- 10) B - I'm not
- 11) C - not
- 12) C - 're
- 13) A - are
- 14) C - 's
- 15) B - aren't

There is / There are

	Singular	Plural
(+)	There's a bed in the room.	There are two pillows on the bed.
(-)	There isn't a mirror in the bathroom.	There aren't any windows in the bedroom.
(?)	Is there a table? Yes, there is. / No, there isn't.	Are there any chairs? Yes, there are. / No, there aren't.



There's a bed in the room.
There are two pillows on the bed.

Is there a window?
No, **there isn't**.



Is there a table?
Yes, there is.

Are there any chairs?
Yes, **there are**.

Are there any plates?
No, **there aren't**.

Possessives

NOUN	POSSESSIVE	EXAMPLE
I	my	My name is Sandra.
you	your	What's your name?
he	his	His name is John.
she	her	Her computer is fast.
it	its	My car is old, so its engine isn't powerful.
we	our	Our apartment is in the city center.
they	their	My parents sold their house.
Mary	Mary's	Mary's phone number is 555-4321.
Joe	Joe's	Joe's favorite color is green.
the boy	the boy's	The boy's clothes are dirty.
friends	friends'	My friends' names are Patrick and Gloria.
cat	cat's	My cat's name is Ginger.
country	country's	My country's flag is red, white, and blue.

Don't confuse its (possessive) with it's (contraction for "it is")!

- ~~The cat ate it's food~~
- **The cat ate its food.**
- ~~Its illegal for a 17-year-old to buy alcohol.~~
- **It's illegal for a 17-year-old to buy alcohol.**

Quiz – Possessives

1) Dan and Benny were late to _____ first high school class.

- A. his
- B. its
- C. their

2) "Do you know what _____ favorite band is?"
"I'm not sure, but I think she likes rock music."

- A. its
- B. Maria's
- C. John's

3) Good news! Brian passed _____ driving test!

- A. his
- B. her
- C. your

4) "Have you been to any of the restaurants on Main Street?"
"No. _____ prices are too high."

- A. my
- B. its
- C. their

5) I can't eat Thai food. _____ too spicy for me.

- A. Is
- B. It's
- C. Its

6) I don't feel well. _____ stomach hurts.

- A. I'm
- B. my
- C. your

7) My friend and I drive to work together because _____ offices are in the same neighborhood.

- A. its
- B. our
- C. their

8) I think you'll love the new television - _____ screen is huge!

- A. its
- B. his
- C. your

9) Mary was _____ mother.

- A. Jesu's
- B. Jesus'
- C. Jesus's

10) My _____ toys are quite expensive.

- A. children's
- B. childrens'
- C. childrens's

11) We had a lot of cold days in January, but _____ weather should be warmer.

- A. Februarys
- B. Februaries
- C. February's

12) My sister lost _____ glasses. Now she can't see anything!

- A. his
- B. her
- C. your

13) These _____ keyboards are broken.

- A. computer's
- B. computers'
- C. computers's

14) Where did you go on _____ last vacation?

- A. you
- B. your
- C. you're

15) My brothers and _____ wives live in Portland.

- A. his
- B. our
- C. their

Answers on the next page

Quiz Answers: Possessives

- 1) C - their
- 2) B - Maria's
- 3) A - his
- 4) C - their
- 5) B - It's
- 6) B - my
- 7) B - our
- 8) A - its
- 9) B - Jesus'
- 10) A - children's
- 11) C - February's
- 12) B - her
- 13) B - computers'
- 14) B - your
- 15) C - their

Articles: A, An, The



I'm going to eat **an** apple.



I'm going to eat **the** green apple.

a / an	general (one of many)	I want to buy a car. He's eating an apple. Do you have a bike? She is an old woman. I'm reading a book.
the	specific (one specific)	Tokyo is the capital of Japan. The new Chinese restaurant is very good. We like the blue car. The girl in the red dress is beautiful. I'm reading the new book by J.K. Rowling.

Articles: A, An, The

Use "an" if the word starts with the sound of a, e, i, o, u:

- **an** apple
- **an** egg
- **an** ice cream shop
- **an** open door
- **an** umbrella
- **an** hour (*the "h" is silent*)

Use "a" if the word starts with the sound of any other sound:

- **a** ball
- **a** jacket
- **a** hat
- **a** tree
- **a** uniform (*the "u" is pronounced like "yu"*)
- **a** water bottle
- **a** yellow shirt

Do not use "the" with countries or cities:

- ~~I live in the China.~~
I live in China.

Do not use "the" with things in general:

- ~~She likes the pizza.~~
She likes pizza.
She likes the pizza from Tony's Restaurant. (specific)

Quiz: A, An, The

Complete the sentences with A, AN, THE, or --- if no article is needed.

1) Leonardo is _____ actor.

- A. a
- B. an
- C. the
- D. ----

2) Jim plays _____ basketball after school.

- A. a
- B. an
- C. the
- D. ---

3) My new office has _____ window.

- A. a
- B. an
- C. the
- D. ---

4) There's _____ problem with the equipment.

- A. a
- B. an
- C. the
- D. ---

5) _____ only light in the classroom isn't working.

- A. a
- B. an
- C. the
- D. ---

6) He has _____ interesting job.

- A. a
- B. an
- C. the
- D. ---

7) We've been to _____ France three times.

- A. a
- B. an
- C. the
- D. ---

8) _____ light blue jeans I bought yesterday are too small.

- A. A
- B. An
- C. The
- D. ---

9) Martha hates _____ vegetables.

- A. a
- B. an
- C. the
- D. ---

10) My friend said it was _____ best movie of the year.

- A. a
- B. an
- C. the
- D. ---

11) I have _____ idea!

- A. a
- B. an

- C. the
- D. ---

12) Bob has _____ great idea for a new product.

- A. a
- B. an
- C. the
- D. ---

13) I have _____ uncle who lives in Florida.

- A. a
- B. an
- C. the
- D. ---

14) Sally is _____ tallest girl in the class.

- A. a
- B. an
- C. the
- D. ---

15) They're going to see _____ show at _____ theater on Main Street.

- A. a / ---
- B. the / a
- C. a / the
- D. the / ---

Answers on the next page

Quiz Answers: A, An, The

- 1) B - an
- 2) D
- 3) A - a
- 4) A - a
- 5) C - the
- 6) B - an
- 7) D
- 8) C - the
- 9) D
- 10) C - the
- 11) B - an
- 12) A - a
- 13) B - an
- 14) C - the
- 15) C - a/the

This, That, These, Those

This	1 thing - near
That	1 thing - far
These	2+ things - near
Those	2+ things - far



This apple is green.



That apple is red.



These books are new.



Those books are old.

Present Simple: Positive

Use the **present simple** for things that happen regularly or things that are generally true.

I / you / we / they	work
he / she / it	works

Examples:

- I **work** in a bank.
- He **works** at the university.
- We **work** every day.
- My sister **works** at the hospital.

Special Case #1

For verbs that end in **consonant + -y**, we remove the -y and add -ies:

- I **study** English at school.
- Dana **studies** English at school.
- ~~Bill studys English at school~~

Other verbs like this include: cry, try, fly, carry

Special Case #2

For verbs that end in -o, -sh, -s, -ss, -ch, -x, we add -es.

- They **go** to English class on Wednesday.
- She **goes** to cooking class on Saturday.
- ~~She gos to cooking class on Saturday.~~

Other verbs like this include: watch, kiss, teach, fix

Quiz: Present Simple Positive

1) My brother _____ to college in New York.

- A. go
- B. goes
- C. gos

2) I _____ to play tennis.

- A. like
- B. likes
- C. like's

3) My friends _____ to school every day.

- A. walk
- B. walks
- C. walkes

4) Peter _____ to the news on the radio.

- A. listen
- B. listens
- C. listen's

5) Clara and Robert _____ English at night.

- A. studies
- B. study
- C. studys

6) The baby _____ when he is hungry.

- A. cries
- B. cry
- C. cryes

7) Their apartment _____ very nice!

- A. look
- B. look's
- C. looks

8) We _____ our house every Sunday.

- A. clean
- B. cleans
- C. cleanes

9) Joe _____ two big black dogs.

- A. has
- B. have
- C. haves

10) Susan _____ lots of TV.

- A. watch
- B. watchs
- C. watches

11) I always _____ tired when I first wake up.

- A. feel
- B. feels
- C. feeles

12) Both Clara and Marina _____ long hair.

- A. has
- B. have
- C. haves

Answers on the next page

Quiz Answers: Present Simple Positive

- 1) B - goes
- 2) A - like
- 3) A - walk
- 4) B - listens
- 5) B - study
- 6) A - cries
- 7) C - looks
- 8) A - clean
- 9) A - has
- 10) C - watches
- 11) A - feel
- 12) B - have

Present Simple: Negative

Use the **present simple negative** for things that are not generally true.

I / you / we / they	don't	like
he / she / it	doesn't	like

Examples:

- I **don't like** coffee.
- John **doesn't like** pizza.
- John and David **don't like** milk.
- My mother **doesn't like** to travel.

Common Errors

1) In the present simple negative, do not add -s:

- ~~Martha doesn't **likes** to dance.~~
- Martha doesn't like to dance.

2) Other common errors:

- ~~Pete **no** like bananas.~~
- ~~Pete **not** like bananas.~~
- Pete **doesn't** like bananas.

Quiz: Present Simple: Negative

1) I _____ this movie.

- A. doesn't understand
- B. don't understand
- C. no understand

2) Jackson _____ how to cook.

- A. doesn't know
- B. don't know
- C. not know

3) My aunt and uncle _____ any children.

- A. don't has
- B. don't have
- C. doesn't have

4) Martin _____ Chinese.

- A. doesn't speak
- B. don't speak
- C. no speaks

5) We _____ in Europe.

- A. doesn't lives
- B. doesn't live
- C. don't live

6) My sister _____ happy.

- A. doesn't be
- B. isn't
- C. not

7) Carla _____ early.

- A. doesn't wake up
- B. don't wake up
- C. doesn't wakes up

8) Bill and Diane _____ to the dentist often.

- A. isn't go
- B. not go
- C. don't go

9) You _____ every day.

- A. does studies
- B. don't studies
- C. don't study

10) My son _____ TV.

- A. doesn't watches
- B. doesn't watch
- C. isn't watch

11) They _____ that's a good idea.

- A. not think
- B. doesn't thinks
- C. don't think

12) My boyfriend and I _____; we take the bus.

- A. doesn't drive
- B. don't drives
- C. don't drive

Answers on the next page

Quiz Answers: Present Simple Negative

- 1) B - don't understand
- 2) A - doesn't know
- 3) B - don't have
- 4) A - doesn't speak
- 5) C - don't live
- 6) B - isn't
- 7) A - doesn't wake up
- 8) C - don't go
- 9) C - don't study
- 10) B - doesn't watch
- 11) C - don't think
- 12) C - don't drive

Present Simple: Questions

Use **present simple questions** to ask about things that happen regularly or things that are generally true.

Do	I / you / we / they	live in a city?
Does	he / she / it	live in a city?

Examples:

- **Do** you **live** in Brazil?
- **Does** Adam **live** in England?
- **Do** they **live** in a big house?
- **Does** she **live** near the beach?

Common Errors

1) In questions, don't use -s:

- ~~Does she **lives** close to the beach?~~
- Does she live close to the beach?

2) Don't forget DO or DOES:

- ~~Clara live in a big city?~~
- **Does** Clara live in a big city?

Quiz: Present Simple Questions

Complete each sentence with **Do** or **Does**.

- 1) _____ you have any brothers and sisters?
- 2) _____ we watch too much TV?
- 3) _____ they do any exercise?
- 4) _____ Larissa play a musical instrument?
- 5) _____ he work in an office?
- 6) _____ your children talk on the phone a lot?
- 7) _____ your mother know how to use a computer?
- 8) _____ she have a car?
- 9) _____ Tom and Larry play baseball?
- 10) _____ she listen to classical music?
- 11) _____ I need to pay for the extra class?
- 12) _____ your friends like to swim?
- 13) _____ Joan watch TV at night?
- 14) _____ your father work on weekends?

Answers on the next page

Quiz Answers: Present Simple Questions

1) Do

2) Do

3) Do

4) Does

5) Does

6) Do

7) Does

8) Does

9) Do

10) Does

11) Do

12) Do

13) Does

14) Does

Present Simple: Answering Yes/No Questions

- Do you have a dog?
Yes, I do. / No, I don't
- Do I look fat in these jeans?
No, you don't!
- Does John speak Italian?
Yes, he does. / No, he doesn't.
- Does she like rock music?
Yes, she does. / No, she doesn't.
- Do we watch too much TV?
Yes, we do. / No, we don't.
- Do they understand English?
Yes, they do. / No, they don't.

Can / Can't / Must / Mustn't Have to / Don't have to

Can	= It's OK
Can't / Mustn't	= It's not OK
Have to / Must	= It's necessary / obligatory
Don't have to Doesn't have to	= It's not necessary / obligatory (it's optional)

(must / mustn't are more formal)



You **can** ride your bike here.



You **can't** smoke here.
You **mustn't** smoke here.



You **have to** stop here.

You **must** stop here.



You **don't have to** pay
for the food.

Prepositions: In, At, On



The cat is **in** the box.



The cat is **on** the table.

	TIME	PLACE
IN	<p>Months</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>In</u> January• <u>In</u> October <p>Seasons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>In</u> the summer• <u>In</u> the spring <p>Years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>In</u> 2004• <u>In</u> 1986 <p>Periods of the day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>In</u> the morning• <u>In</u> the evening <p>(exception: at night)</p>	<p>Cities and countries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>In</u> Tokyo• <u>In</u> Japan <p>Rooms and buildings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>In</u> the kitchen• <u>In</u> the supermarket <p>Closed spaces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>In</u> the car• <u>In</u> a park

	TIME	PLACE
ON	Dates and days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>On</u> Monday • <u>On</u> February 14th 	Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>On</u> the bus • <u>On</u> a bike • <u>On</u> the train (exception: <i>in a car</i>) Surfaces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>On</u> the table • <u>On</u> the wall
	TIME	PLACE
AT	Times <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>At</u> 6:00 • <u>At</u> half past three • <u>At</u> noon 	Contexts / Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>At</u> school • <u>At</u> work • <u>At</u> a party

Quiz: IN, ON, AT

Complete each sentence with **in**, **on**, or **at**.

1. "Are you working right now?"
"No, I'm _____ home."
2. "Where's my hairbrush?"
"It's _____ the bathroom."
3. I like to go skiing _____ the winter.
4. My cousin lives _____ Australia.
5. I'll start my new job _____ March 1st.
6. My sister's arriving _____ the earliest train tomorrow morning.
7. My son is waiting for me to pick him up _____ the bus stop.
8. We're going to a baseball game _____ Saturday.
9. Why are your clothes _____ the floor? Please pick them up and put them away!
10. My mother's birthday is _____ May.
11. I got lost because I got _____ the wrong bus.
12. It's a dangerous area; you shouldn't go there _____ night.
13. Living _____ New York City is very expensive.
14. My boyfriend and I met _____ the gym.
15. Our company was founded _____ 1972.
16. I have two classes _____ the afternoon.
17. The meeting ended _____ 4:45.
18. There's a bowl of fruit _____ the table.
19. We have a big family dinner _____ Christmas Eve.
20. The books are _____ my backpack.

Quiz Answers: In, On, At

1. at

2. in

3. in

4. in

5. on

6. on

7. at

8. on

9. on

10. in

11. on

12. at

13. in

14. at

15. in

16. in

17. at

18. on

19. on

20. in

Past Simple: To Be

Positive:

I / he / she / it	was	born in 1982.
you / we / they	were	born in 1982.

Negative:

I / he / she / it	was not (wasn't)	born in Europe.
you / we / they	were not (weren't)	born in Europe.

Questions:

Was	I / he / she / it	a famous artist?
Were	you / we / they	a famous artist?

Common words used to talk about the past:

- Yesterday
- Last Sunday / last week / last month / last November / last year
- 1 hour ago / 5 days ago / 3 months ago / 10 years ago
- When I was a child... / When we were in college...

Quiz: Past Simple: Be

1) Where _____ you yesterday afternoon?

- A. was
- B. wasn't
- C. were
- D. weren't

2) Where _____ your grandfather born?

- A. was
- B. wasn't
- C. were
- D. weren't

3) Pablo Picasso _____ a writer. He was a painter.

- A. was
- B. wasn't
- C. were
- D. weren't

4) My friends _____ at school yesterday because they were sick.

- A. was
- B. wasn't
- C. were
- D. weren't

5) "Where were you this morning? You _____ at the meeting."
"I _____ at the dentist's."

- A. weren't / was
- B. wasn't / was
- C. weren't / were
- D. were / was

6) Darlene is 27 years old. Ten years ago, she _____ in high school.

- A. was
- B. were
- C. wasn't
- D. weren't

7) "Did you like the movie?"

"The special effects _____ great, but the story _____ very good."

- A. wasn't / was
- B. weren't / were
- C. was / weren't
- D. were / wasn't

8) Barcelona is a beautiful city! We _____ there for a conference last month.

- A. was
- B. wasn't
- C. were
- D. weren't

9) "Were your colleagues happy about the surprise party?"

"David _____, but Janet and Tim _____ - they hate surprises."

- A. were / wasn't
- B. was / weren't
- C. wasn't / were
- D. weren't / was

10) "Were you shy when you were a child?"

"No, I _____. I talked to everyone!"

- A. was
- B. wasn't
- C. were
- D. weren't

Quiz Answers: Past Simple: To Be

- 1) C - were
- 2) A - was
- 3) B - wasn't
- 4) D - weren't
- 5) A - weren't / was
- 6) A - was
- 7) D - were / wasn't
- 8) C - were
- 9) B - was / weren't
- 10) B - wasn't

Past Simple: Regular Verbs

Positive:

I / you / he / she / it / we / they	worked	yesterday
-------------------------------------	---------------	-----------

Negative:

I / you / he / she / it / we / they	didn't work	yesterday
-------------------------------------	--------------------	-----------

Question:

Did	I / you / he / she / it / we / they	work	yesterday?
------------	-------------------------------------	-------------	------------

How to form the past simple for regular verbs:

Verb	Past	Spelling
listen play	listened played	Add -ed
like decide	liked decided	Add -d
stop	stopped	One vowel + one consonant = double the final consonant and add -ed
study try	studied tried	One consonant + y → -ied

Past Simple: Regular Verbs

In past simple negative and questions, do not add -ed:

- ~~Mary didn't **liked** the movie.~~
- Mary didn't **like** the movie.

- ~~Did you **studied** for the test?~~
- Did you **study** for the test?

Examples:

- I **talked** with my mother last night.
- We **enjoyed** the party on Saturday.
- She **finished** the test early.

- He **didn't listen** to the teacher's instructions.
- They **didn't want** to join us for coffee.
- Jill **didn't stay** in a hotel last summer.

- **Did** you **watch** the news yesterday?
- **Did** they **remember** to turn off the lights?
- What time **did** your father **arrive**?

Quiz: Past Simple Regular Verbs

Mark each past simple sentence as **correct** or **incorrect**

1. Did the teacher ask you any questions in class this morning?
2. We tried to talk to the manager, but he was busy.
3. Did you remembered to pay the electric bill?
4. Gabi and Sandy didn't walk to the beach because it was too far.
5. How long you waited for the bus last night?
6. I did start piano lessons last week.
7. What time did the plane land?
8. My brother didn't helped me carry my books.
9. She no called me yesterday.
10. We rented an apartment on our vacation last year.
11. I didn't need to use a calculator for my math homework.
12. Were you want to be a dancer when you were a child?
13. When they arrived at the airport, they checked their bags.
14. Where did you lived when you were a child?
15. "Did you pass the test?"
"No, I didn't."

Answers on the next page

Quiz Answers: Past Simple

1. Correct
2. Incorrect (should be "tried")
3. Incorrect (should be "Did you remember")
4. Correct
5. Incorrect (should be "How long did you wait")
6. Incorrect (should be "I started")
7. Correct
8. Incorrect (should be "didn't help")
9. Incorrect (should be "She didn't call")
10. Correct
11. Correct
12. Incorrect (should be "Did you want")
13. Correct
14. Incorrect (should be "Where did you live")
15. Correct

Past Simple: Irregular Verbs

Infinitive	Positive	Negative
be	was / were	wasn't / weren't
buy	bought	didn't buy
can	could	couldn't
eat	ate	didn't eat
get	got	didn't get
go	went	didn't go
have	had	didn't have
leave	left	didn't leave
make	made	didn't make
meet	met	didn't meet
say	said	didn't say
see	saw	didn't see
take	took	didn't take
think	thought	didn't think
understand	understood	didn't understand
wear	wore	didn't wear
write	wrote	didn't write

Past Simple: Irregular Verbs

Examples:

- Where **were** you last month?
I **was** in France.
- What **did** your sister **buy** at the mall?
She **bought** new shoes.
- What time **did** he **eat** breakfast today?
He **ate** breakfast at 6:00 AM.
- When **did** you **get** married?
We **got** married in July.
- Why **did** she **go** to London?
She **went** to London to study English.
- **Did** you **have** any pets when you were a child?
Yes, I **had** a dog.
- When **did** he **leave** the meeting?
He **left** the meeting an hour before it finished
- What **did** you **make** for dinner?
I **made** some vegetable soup.
- When **did** you **meet** your best friend?
I **met** my best friend 20 years ago.
- What **did** the teacher **say**?
The teacher **said** that she loved our class.
- **Did** you **see** Brad at the football game?
No, but we **saw** Peter and Henry.
- What **did** he **wear** to the wedding?
He **wore** a suit.
- **Did** he **write** a new book last year?
No, he only **wrote** a few magazine articles.

Quiz: Past Simple Irregular Verbs

1) Jimmy and Sean _____ a window while playing baseball inside the house.

- A. bought
- B. broke
- C. built

2) We _____ really late yesterday.

- A. sleeped
- B. slept
- C. slipt

3) Mrs. Johnson _____ us about World War II in history class.

- A. learned
- B. taught
- C. thought

4) My boss _____ me an important e-mail this morning.

- A. said
- B. sent
- C. spent

5) My favorite team _____ the championship last year.

- A. wan
- B. wore
- C. won

6) Everyone _____ cake at Harold's birthday party on Saturday.

- A. ate
- B. eat
- C. eated

7) I _____ the eggs and milk in the refrigerator.

- A. did
- B. put
- C. went

8) We _____ tickets to the show.

- A. didn't get
- B. didn't got
- C. weren't get

9) I _____ understand the movie we watched in English class.

- A. wasn't
- B. didn't can
- C. couldn't

10) Aaron and Barbara _____ out after work yesterday.

- A. didn't go
- B. didn't gone
- C. didn't went

11) I _____ enough time to finish the project.

- A. didn't had
- B. didn't have
- C. hadn't

12) The students _____ their homework.

- A. didn't
- B. didn't did
- C. didn't do

13) When I was young, my parents _____ me drive their car.

- A. didn't let
- B. didn't letted
- C. weren't let

14. What _____ at the store?

- A. did you buy
- B. you bought
- C. you did buy

15) When _____ their house?

- A. was they sell
- B. did they sell
- C. did they sold

16) _____ your father happy when he _____ the news?

- A. Wasn't / did hear
- B. Were / hear
- C. Was / heard

17) How long _____ you to read the book?

- A. did it take
- B. did it told
- C. did it took

18) What _____ your girlfriend for her birthday last year?

- A. gave you
- B. did you give
- C. you gave

19) Where _____ last Saturday night at 10 PM?

- A. was you
- B. were you
- C. did you

20) I _____ the president at a conference in 2007.

- A. did meet
- B. met
- C. was met

Quiz Answers: Past Simple Irregular Verbs

- 1) B - broke
- 2) B - slept
- 3) B - taught
- 4) B - sent
- 5) C - won
- 6) A - ate
- 7) B - put
- 8) A - didn't get
- 9) C - couldn't
- 10) A - didn't go
- 11) B - didn't have
- 12) C - didn't do
- 13) A - didn't let
- 14) A - did you buy
- 15) B - did they sell
- 16) C - Was / heard
- 17) A - did it take
- 18) B - did you give
- 19) B - were you
- 20) B - met

Present Continuous: Positive

Present continuous is for things happening **now, at the moment**.

I	am	watching
you / we / they	are	watching
he / she / it	is	watching

Examples:

- I **am watching TV** right now.
- He **is studying** at the moment.
- It **is raining** today.
- We **are thinking** about you.
- They **are playing** baseball.

It's very common to use contractions:

- **I'm** watching TV right now.
- **He's** studying at the moment.
- **It's** raining today.
- **We're** thinking about you.
- **They're** playing baseball.

Some verbs are never used in the present continuous: *like, want, need, believe.*

- ~~**I'm believing**~~ in God.
I believe in God.
- ~~**She's wanting**~~ a soda.
She wants a soda.

Quiz: Present Continuous Positive

Mark each sentence **correct** or **incorrect**

1. Billy and Mark are driving to the airport at the moment.
2. Clara and Jill is reading the newspaper.
3. He's running to work because he's late.
4. I learning English in school.
5. James is listen to the radio.
6. My children are doing their homework.
7. She wearing a white T-shirt and jeans.
8. Stop opening all the packages - you're making a mess!
9. My friend are talking with the teacher.
10. I'm sitting next to my brother.

Answers on the next page

Quiz Answers: Present Continuous Positive

- 1) Correct
- 2) Incorrect (should be "are reading")
- 3) Correct
- 4) Incorrect (should be "I'm learning")
- 5) Incorrect (should be "is listening")
- 6) Correct
- 7) Incorrect (should be "She's wearing")
- 8) Correct
- 9) Incorrect "should be "is talking")
- 10) Correct

Present Continuous: Negative

I	am not (I'm not)	listening
you / we / they	are not (aren't)	listening
he / she / it	is not (isn't)	listening

Examples:

- I **am not working** at the moment.
- She **is not wearing** a hat today.
- You **are not listening** to the teacher.
- Pete and Jan **are not watching** TV.

There are two ways to use contractions:

- She's **not** wearing a hat today.
She **isn't** wearing a hat today.
- You're **not** listening to the teacher.
You **aren't** listening to the teacher.

Both forms are OK!

Quiz: Present Continuous Negative

Mark each sentence **correct** or **incorrect**:

1. Brian isn't eat anything because he just had lunch.
2. He no making dinner.
3. I not reading any books at the moment.
4. My team isn't playing very well in this game.
5. Paula's not wearing sunglasses.
6. They're at the party, but they're not dancing.
7. Tom and Tiffany isn't playing video games now.
8. We're not drinking wine because we have to drive home soon.
9. You're not listen to me.
10. I'm not feeling well. I think it was something I ate.

Answers on the next page

Quiz Answers: Present Continuous Negative

1. Incorrect (should be "isn't eating")
2. Incorrect (should be "He's not making" or "He isn't making")
3. Incorrect (should be "I'm not reading")
4. Correct
5. Correct
6. Correct
7. Incorrect (should be "aren't playing")
8. Correct
9. Incorrect (should be "not listening")
10. Correct

Present Continuous: Questions

Am	I	working?
Are	you / we / they	working?
Is	he / she / it	working?

Examples:

- **Are** you **writing** a letter?
- **Is** Pedro **sleeping** right now?
- **Are** the children **playing** a game or **reading** a book?
- **Is** the computer **working**?

You can put a question word at the beginning:

- **What** are you doing?
I'm writing an e-mail.
- **Where** is Sarah going?
She's going to the store.
- **Who** are they talking to?
They're talking to the teacher.
- **Why** is he running?
Because he's late for work.

Quiz: Present Continuous Questions

Mark each sentence **correct** or **incorrect**:

1. Are the children sleeping?
2. How are you feeling today?
3. How many T-shirts you are buying?
4. Is it raining now?
5. What are they try to do?
6. What magazine are you reading?
7. Which hotel he is staying at?
8. Who is she wait for?
9. Why is he leaving school early?
10. What you thinking about?

Answers on the next page

Quiz Answers: Present Continuous Questions

1. Correct
2. Correct
3. Incorrect (should be "are you buying")
4. Correct
5. Incorrect (should be "are you trying")
6. Correct
7. Incorrect (should be "is he staying")
8. Incorrect (should be "is she waiting")
9. Correct
10. Incorrect (should be "What are you")

Present Simple or Continuous?

Use **present simple** for things that happen **in general** or **regularly**.
Use **present continuous** for things happening **now, at the moment,**
or **current/temporary projects**.

Present Simple	Present Continuous
I work from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM every day.	I'm currently working on a new project.
Mark studies English every Tuesday night.	Mark is studying the present continuous this week.
We usually go to Europe in the summer.	Right now, we're going to the supermarket.
They always talk to their boss in the morning.	It's 9:00 AM. They're talking to him now.
Does it usually rain in the winter?	No, but it's raining at the moment. Take an umbrella.

Words that are often used with the present simple or continuous:

- **With present simple:** always, usually, often, sometimes, never, every (day/night/Monday/summer/year)
- **With present continuous:** now, right now, at the moment, currently, this week/month/year, today

Quiz: Present Simple or Continuous

Select the correct option:

1. They always **are going / go** to the gym after work.
2. He normally **works / is working** every weekday, but today he **works / isn't working** because it's a holiday.
3. "Where **are you going / do you go**?"
"To my grandmother's house - see you later!"
4. How often **are you cleaning / do you clean** your house?
5. Jane is cold because **she doesn't wear / she's not wearing** a jacket.
6. My colleagues normally **are eating / eat** lunch in the office.
7. How many children **are you having / do you have**?
8. My husband **is playing / plays** tennis three times a week.
9. Please turn down the music; **I try / I'm trying** to study.
10. Watch out! Your son **is running / runs** into the street!
11. "What **does she do / is she doing**?"
"She's baking a cake."
12. Rita **doesn't know / isn't knowing** how to ride a bike.
13. "Where's mom?"
She takes / She's taking a shower."
14. Yes, I can talk now. **I don't drive / I'm not driving**.
15. My cousin never **gives / is giving** me a birthday present.

Answers on the next page

Quiz Answers: Present Simple or Continuous?

1. go
2. works / isn't working
3. are you going
4. do you clean
5. she's not wearing
6. eat
7. do you have
8. plays
9. I'm trying
10. is running
11. is she doing
12. doesn't know
13. She's taking
14. I'm not driving
15. gives

Countable and Uncountable

Countable nouns are things we can count – for example, cats:

- My brother has **a cat**.
- My sister has **two cats**.
- My friend has **three cats**.

Other examples of countable nouns:

- **Things** - book, table, computer, banana, shirt, television, house.
- **People** - man, woman, child, friend, sister, uncle, teacher, boss.

Uncountable nouns are words that we can't count, or can't divide into separate parts:

- **Liquids and some foods** - water, butter, rice, flour, milk
- **Ideas and concepts** - love, fun, work, money, peace, safety
- **Information** - advice, information, news, knowledge
- **Categories** - music, furniture, equipment, jewelry, meat

Countable	Uncountable
dollar / dollars	money
song / songs	music
table / tables	furniture
bottle / bottles	wine, water
report / reports	information
job / jobs	work

Countable and Uncountable

Don't add -s to make uncountable nouns plural:

- ~~I need some **informations** about the course.~~
- I need some **information** about the course.

You can use other words to help quantify uncountable nouns:

- She bought **three bottles of wine** and **five boxes of rice**.
- He gave me **two pieces of advice**: eat less and exercise more.

With **countable nouns**, we use **many**, **few**, and **a lot of**:

- How **many glasses** of water do you drink every day?
- There are too **many people** in the room.
- I have a **few questions** about the lesson.
- I eat **a lot of vegetables**.

With **uncountable nouns**, we use **much**, **little** and **a lot of**:

- How **much water** do you drink every day?
- He put too **much salt** in the soup.
- We have too **little information** to make a decision.
- She has **a lot of experience** in this type of work.

We can use **some**, **any**, and **no** with both uncountable nouns and **plural** countable nouns:

- Can I borrow **some** of your books?
- Would you like to listen to **some** music?
- I don't have **any** ideas.
- I don't have **any** money.
- There are **no** chairs in the living room.
- There's **no** furniture in the living room.

Quiz: Countable / Uncountable Nouns

1) I didn't understand the lesson, so I asked _____.

- A. a lot of questions.
- B. many question.
- C. a little question.

2) _____ think English grammar is difficult.

- A. A lot of person
- B. Many people
- C. Much people

3) _____ of books were delivered to the school yesterday.

- A. A few boxes
- B. Any boxes
- C. Some box

4) Their relationship has _____. They argue almost every day.

- A. a lot of problems
- B. many problem
- C. much problems

5) There are _____ in the classroom.

- A. some desk
- B. so much desks
- C. twenty desks

6) How _____ do you drink?

- A. lots of tea
- B. many tea
- C. much tea

7) He has _____ to do over the weekend.

- A. a lot of works
- B. many work
- C. some work

8) My father's going on _____ next month.

- A. two business trips
- B. two business travels
- C. much business trips

9) I like _____ by Lady Gaga.

- A. a few songs
- B. some musics
- C. many music

10. Don't go to that part of the city at night - there's

_____.

- A. a few violence
- B. a lot of violence
- C. many violences

Answers on the next page

Quiz Answers: Countable & Uncountable Nouns

- 1) A - a lot of questions
- 2) B - Many people
- 3) A - A few boxes
- 4) A - a lot of problems
- 5) C - twenty desks
- 6) C - much tea
- 7) C - some work
- 8) A - two business trips
- 9) A - a few songs
- 10) B - a lot of violence

Future with Going To

Use **going to** to talk about future events, plans and predictions.



She's **going to** have a baby soon.

Positive:

Full Form	Contracted Form	
I am You are He / she / it is We are They are	I'm You're He's / She's / It's We're They're	going to take a test tomorrow.

In fast spoken English, **going to** often sounds like *gonna*:
"We're *gonna* take a test tomorrow."

Future with Going To

Negative:

Full Form	Contracted Form 1	Contracted Form 2	
I am not You are not He / she is not It is not We are not They are not	I'm not You're not He's / She's not It's not We're not They're not	--- You aren't He / she isn't It isn't We aren't They aren't	going to take a test tomorrow.

Question:

Am	I	going to take a test tomorrow?
Are	you	
Is	he / she / it	
Are	we	
Are	they	

Don't forget "am/is/are"!

- ~~I going to buy some new shoes next week.~~
I'm going to buy some new shoes next week.
- ~~She not going to watch TV.~~
She's not going to watch TV.
- ~~They going to get married in June.~~
They're going to get married in June.

Quiz: Future with "Going to"

Mark each sentence as **correct** or **incorrect**:

1. Is you going to start any new projects this year?
2. Barbara and Adrian is going to start studying English next semester.
3. I going to buy flowers for my girlfriend's birthday.
4. Laura's not going to stay in a hotel during her next vacation.
5. Is Martha going make a lot of money in her new job?
6. Marty's going to meet John for lunch at 12:30.
7. My father not going to come home until 9:00.
8. They're not going to win the game.
9. Tim and Janet are going cook dinner on Friday.
10. We're going to visit our friends in Rio de Janeiro in December.
11. What movie are you going to see tonight?
12. I'm not going to eat any dessert after dinner.

Quiz Answers: Future with "Going to"

1. Incorrect (should be "are you")
2. Incorrect (should be "are going")
3. Incorrect (should be "I'm going")
4. Correct
5. Incorrect (should be "going to make")
6. Correct
7. Incorrect (should be "father is not going")
8. Correct
9. Incorrect (should be "going to cook")
- 10) Correct
- 11) Correct
- 12) Correct

Comparative Adjectives

Use comparatives to compare two things:

Phil is 10 years old. Ben is 8 years old.

- Phil is **older than** Ben.
- Ben is **younger than** Phil.

For One-Syllable Words

Add -er

Tall	Taller
Old	Older
Fast	Faster
Long	Longer
New	Newer

- My new car is **faster than** my old car.
- I'm **older than** my brother.
- Traveling by bike takes **longer than** traveling by motorcycle.

For Words that end in a vowel + consonant

Double the last consonant and add -er

Big	Bigger
Hot	Hotter
Thin	Thinner

- An elephant is **bigger** than a cat.
- Brazil is **hotter** than Sweden.
- My sister is **thinner** than me.

For Words that end in consonant + y

Remove -y and add -ier.

Easy	Easier
Happy	Happier
Busy	Busier

- Reading English is **easier than** listening.
- Maria is **happier than** Dave.
- People today are **busier than** in the past.

For Words with 3+ syllables

Add "more" before the adjective:

Expensive	More expensive
Popular	More popular
Interesting	More interesting

- A car is **more expensive than** a computer.
- Michael Jackson's music is **more popular than** country music.
- Watching a movie is **more interesting than** studying grammar.

Adjectives with Irregular Comparatives

Good	Better
Bad	Worse
Far	Farther

- Eating fruit is **better** for your health **than** eating hamburgers.
- Cancer is **worse than** the flu.
- One mile is **farther than** one kilometer.

Quiz: Comparative Adjectives

Mark each sentence **correct** or **incorrect**:

1. A book is longer a magazine.
2. American football is dangerouser than baseball.
3. This restaurant is more better than the one we ate at yesterday.
4. Ashley is prettier than Sandy.
5. Craig is more friendly than Paul.
6. I'm popular than her.
7. Listening to English is harder than reading English.
8. The couch is more comfortable than the chair.
9. An elephant is bigger of a mouse.
10. The new movie is more bad than the original movie.
11. The sun is hoter than the moon.
12. The weather in London is wetter than the weather in Cairo.
13. This test was easier than the last one.
14. Vegetables are better for your health than candy.
15. The movie was much more interesting than the book.

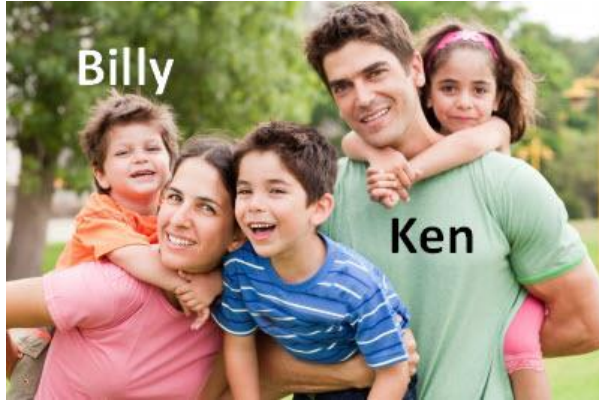
Answers on the next page

Quiz Answers: Comparative Adjectives

1. Incorrect (should be "longer than a magazine")
2. Incorrect (should be "more dangerous")
3. Incorrect (should be "is better than")
4. Correct
5. Incorrect (should be "friendlier")
6. Incorrect (should be "more popular than")
7. Correct
8. Correct
9. Incorrect (should be "bigger than")
10. Incorrect (should be "worse")
11. Incorrect (should be "hotter")
12. Correct
13. Correct
14. Correct
15. Correct

Superlative Adjectives

Use superlatives to compare three or more things:



Ken is **the oldest** person in the family.

Billy is **the youngest** person in the family.

Adjective	Superlative
Old	the oldest
Big	the biggest
Easy	the easiest
Friendly	the friendliest
Beautiful	the most beautiful
Expensive	the most expensive
Good	the best
Bad	the worst
Far	the farthest

Examples:

- My grandmother is **the oldest** person in my family.
- Russia is **the biggest** country in the world.
- This is **the easiest** test I've ever taken.
- Barry is **the friendliest** guy in the class.
- Donna is **the most beautiful** woman I've ever seen.
- **The most expensive** shoes in the world cost 1.5 million dollars.
- I like all sports, but I like soccer **the best**.
- Picking up garbage was **the worst** job I've ever had.
- Australia is **the farthest** I've ever traveled.

Don't forget "the"!

- ~~I read newest lesson from Espresso English.~~
- I read **the newest** lesson from Espresso English.

Superlatives are often used with the **present perfect + ever:**

- This is the best sushi **I've ever eaten**.
- What's the most expensive car **you've ever driven?**
- The longest book **I've ever read** was 500 pages.
- Jan is the friendliest person **I've ever met**.

Quiz: Superlative Adjectives

1) That's _____ movie I've ever seen!

- A. funniest
- B. the funnier
- C. the funniest

2) English is _____ subject for me, and math is _____.

- A. the easiest / the most difficult
- B. easiest / difficultest
- C. the most easy / the most difficult

3) Alaska is _____ place I've ever been to.

- A. coldest
- B. the coldest
- C. the most cold

4) War and Peace is _____ book I've ever read.

- A. the more long
- B. the most long
- C. the longest

5) That restaurant has _____ food I've ever eaten. I'll never go back there again.

- A. the baddest
- B. the worse
- C. the worst

6) Paris is considered one of _____ cities in the world.

- A. romanticest
- B. more romantic
- C. the most romantic

- 7) _____ **class at the school starts at 7:00 AM.**
- A. The earlier
 - B. The earliest
 - C. The most early
- 8) _____ **flight costs \$400.**
- A. The expensivest
 - B. The worst expensive
 - C. The least expensive
- 9) **Jaina is _____ student in the class.**
- A. the better
 - B. the best
 - C. the most good
- 10) **The world's _____ train has a top speed of 581 kilometers per hour.**
- A. fastest
 - B. most fast
 - C. faster

Answers on the next page

Quiz Answers: Superlative Adjectives

- 1) C - the funniest
- 2) A - the easiest / the most difficult
- 3) B - the coldest
- 4) C - the longest
- 5) C - the worst
- 6) C - the most romantic
- 7) B - The earliest
- 8) C - The least expensive
- 9) B - the best
- 10) A - fastest

Adverbs

Use **adjectives** to describe nouns (things or people).

Use **adverbs** to describe verbs (**how** a person does something):

- That was a **terrible** game. (adjective – describes “game”)
- The team played **terribly**. (adverb – describes “played”)

Common adverbs:

Adjective	Adverb
slow	slowly
quiet	quietly
bad	badly
beautiful	beautifully
dangerous	dangerously
careful	carefully
easy	easily
healthy	healthily
good	well
fast	fast
hard	hard

Examples:

- My grandfather drives **slowly**, but I drive **fast**.
- The teacher spoke so **quietly** that I couldn't hear her.
- I can read English **well**, but I speak **badly**.
- Evan lives **dangerously**. He loves radical sports.
- We wrote the letter **carefully** so as not to make a mistake.
- I opened the jar **easily**.
- Soccer players need to eat **healthily** to stay in good shape.
- Janet works very **hard**. She arrives at work early and leaves late.

Adjectives often go **before** the noun or after a form of the verb **be**.
Adverbs usually go **after** the verb:

- Ruth is a **quiet** person. ("quiet" describes "person")
- The machine is **quiet**. ("quiet" describes "machine")
- Ruth speaks **quietly**. ("quietly" describes "speaks")

Quiz: Adjective or Adverb?

Choose the correct word to complete each sentence:

1. George gives **generous / generously** of his time to help poor children succeed in school.
2. Helen wears very **stylish / stylishly** clothes.
3. I got a **perfect / perfectly** score of 100% on my grammar test.
4. My husband learned to cook really **good / well** after taking a culinary course.
5. Peter thinks that buying a motorcycle is a **bad / badly** idea.
6. The music is too **loud / loudly**; I can't hear you.
7. Should I stay in my home country or live abroad? It's a **hard / hardly** decision.
8. That part of the city isn't very **safe / safely**.
9. Wanda dances **beautiful / beautifully**. I'm sure she'll be a professional ballerina someday.
10. Please carry that box **careful / carefully**. It has fragile electronic equipment inside.

Answers on the next page

Quiz Answers: Adjective or Adverb?

1. generously

2. stylish

3. perfect

4. well

5. bad

6. loud

7. hard

8. safe

9. beautifully

10. carefully

Present Perfect: Verb *be*

Use the **present perfect** in two situations:

- 1) **To talk about experiences in the past, when we don't know or don't say exactly when the experience happened.**

Examples:

- **Have you been** to Italy?
Yes, **I've been** there three times.
- **Have you been** to Rio de Janeiro?
No, **I haven't.** I don't like hot weather.
- **Has Diana been** to a rock concert?
Yes, many times!
- **Has your brother been** to a big sports event?
No, he hasn't. He hates sports.

- 2) **To talk about an action or state that started in the past and continues to the present.**

Examples:

- How long **have you been** married?
I've been married for five years.
- How long **has John been** a teacher?
He's been a teacher since last January.

Present Perfect: Verb *be*

Positive

Full Form	Short Form	
I have You have We have They have	I've You've We've They've	been to Paris.
He / she / it has	He's / she's / it's	been to Paris.

Negative

Full Form	Short Form	
I have not You have not We have not They have not	I haven't You haven't We haven't They haven't	been to Paris.
He / she / it has not	He / she / it hasn't	been to Paris.

Question

Auxiliary Verb	Subject	
Have	I / you / we / they	been to Paris?
Has	he / she / it	been to Paris?

Present Perfect: Other Verbs

Regular verbs

Verb	Past Participle	Example
travel	traveled	I've traveled to 15 countries in my life.
watch	watched	She hasn't watched the movie yet.
pass	passed	We've passed our English test.
try	tried	Have you tried restarting the computer?
stop	stopped	They've recently stopped smoking.

Irregular verbs

Verb	Past	Past Participle
break	broke	broken
buy	bought	bought
do	did	done
eat	ate	eaten
get	got	gotten
give	gave	given
go	went	gone
know	knew	known
leave	left	left
make	made	made
meet	met	met
see	saw	seen
take	took	taken
tell	told	told
think	thought	thought
write	wrote	written

Present Perfect: Other Verbs

Examples:

- I can't find my car keys. **Have** you **seen** them?
No, I **haven't**. Sorry.
- We've **written** more than 100 e-mails in the past week.
- My cousin **has met** a lot of famous people in her life.
- **Have** you ever **broken** a bone?
Yes, I **have**.
- **Has** she ever **eaten** Vietnamese food?
No, she **hasn't**.
- **Have** you ever **thought** about moving to another country?
We've **thought** about it, but we **haven't told** our kids.
- The teacher **hasn't given** us any homework yet.
- Camilo **has made** a lot of mistakes in his life.
- **Have** you ever **gotten** lost while driving?
No, I **haven't** – but my mother **has**!
- Kristin **has** never **taken** singing classes.

Quiz: Present Perfect

Mark each sentence **correct** or **incorrect**:

1. Have you ever driven a Ferrari?
2. Gary is known Darla for a long time.
3. Has he ever eaten Brazilian food?
4. She's recently wrote a book.
5. Have you heard the new song by Adele?
6. He hasn't woken up yet.
7. Help, police! That man's just stolen my wallet!
8. I haven't take the test yet.
9. I've lived in Orlando for three years.
10. Laura have sold her car.
11. No, they hasn't eaten lunch yet.
12. She's been to Berlin twice.
13. They already given me the money.
14. Has you ever met my brother?
15. I haven't read the newspaper in the past week.

Answers on the next page

Quiz Answers: Present Perfect

1. Incorrect (should be "driven")
2. Incorrect (should be "has known")
3. Correct
4. Incorrect (should be "written")
5. Correct
6. Correct
7. Correct
8. Incorrect (should be "taken")
9. Correct
10. Incorrect (should be "has sold")
11. Incorrect (should be "haven't eaten")
12. Correct
13. Incorrect (should be "They've already given")
14. Incorrect (should be "Have you met")
15. Correct

Present Perfect or Past Simple

Use the **present perfect** to talk about a general experience in the past. Use the **past simple** to talk about a specific moment in the past.

"**Have** you **seen** the new *Mission Impossible* film?"

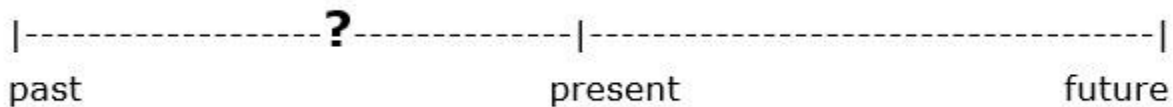
"Yes, I **have**."

"When **did** you **see** it?"

"I **saw** it last week."

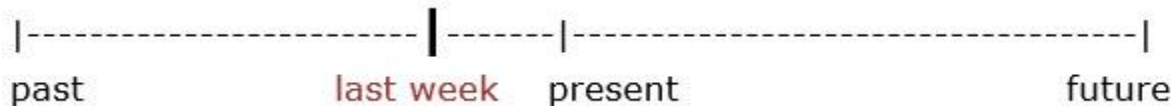
Use the **present perfect** for "unspecified" time:

I've seen the new Mission Impossible film.



Use the **past simple** for "specified" time:

I saw the new Mission Impossible film **last week**.

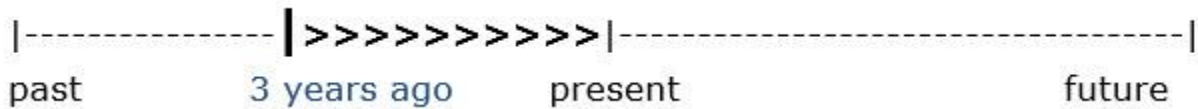


Present Perfect or Past Simple

Use the **present perfect** to talk about an action that started in the past and continues to the present. Use the **past simple** to talk about an action that started and finished in the past.

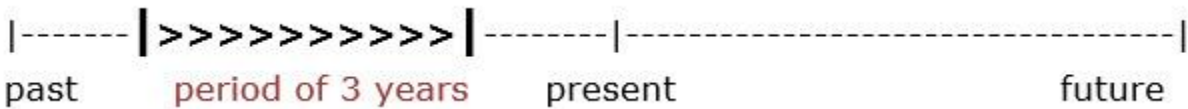
Use the **present perfect** for “unfinished” time:

“**I’ve lived** in Brazil for three years.” (and I live in Brazil now)



Use the **past simple** for “finished” time:

“**I lived** in Brazil for three years.” (and I don’t live in Brazil now)



Quiz: Present Perfect or Past Simple?

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence:

1. I **didn't see / haven't seen** you at the meeting last Monday.
2. Joel **had / has had** a lot of interesting jobs in his life.
(Joel is still alive)
3. He **knew / 's known** his best friend since 1990.
4. Dana **called / 's called** me an hour ago.
5. I **'ve never gone / never went** skiing.
6. My parents **have lived / lived** in the same house for 30 years.
(and they still live there)
7. **Did / Have** you **like / liked** the movie we saw yesterday?
8. The first man **has walked / walked** on the moon in 1969.
9. Richard **didn't meet / hasn't met** the new teacher yet.
10. They **didn't visit / haven't visited** Martha when they visited Los Angeles last summer.
11. My brother and I **didn't speak / haven't spoken** to each other since January.
12. **Did / Have** you ever **fall / fallen** asleep in class?
13. You're late. The meeting **has started / started** fifteen minutes ago
14. What airline **did you fly / have you flown** with on your last vacation?
15. **Did / Has** Laurie ever **ridden / ride** a motorcycle?
16. She **had / has had** her first child when she was 21.

Quiz Answers: Present Perfect or Past Simple?

1. didn't see
2. has had
3. 's known
4. called
5. 've never gone
6. have lived
7. Did / like
8. walked
9. hasn't met
10. didn't see
11. haven't spoken
12. Have / fallen
13. started
14. did you fly
15. Has / ridden
16. had

Thanks for reading!

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