

The Present Perfect Tenses

Put the following verbs into the correct tense – either the present perfect simple or the present perfect progressive, but **use the progressive form wherever possible**. Use any other information given, and select **for** or **since** where necessary. Note the importance of certain keywords.

1. They (just, arrive) from New York.
2. We (already, eat).
3. I (now, study) your ideas, and I regret to say I cannot accept them.
4. They (live) there (for/since) December.
5. I (read) four books (since/for) I arrived here.
6. We (wait) (for/since) three o'clock.
7. I (already, write) to him, but he (not yet, reply).
8. It's eleven o'clock and Helen (make) cakes all morning, but I (not, make) any.
9. He (not, work) there (for/since) the last year.
10. I (read) magazines all evening; so far I (read) seven.
11. How long (you, drive)?
12. She (not, do) a single thing all morning.
13. They (build) that house (for/since) more than a year and they (still, not, finish) it.
14. It's May 30th and I (not, receive) a letter from him this month.
15. Come quickly! Your father (break) his arm.
16. I am awfully sorry, but I (drop) your clock. I hope it (not, break).
17. "Is John in?" – "No, I'm afraid he (be/go) to Margate."
18. (you, stand) in the rain (for/since) all that time?
19. (you, not, ever, be/go) to San Francisco?
20. (Jim, fall) off his bike again? Oh, no!
21. I (never, see) a flying saucer (*fliegende Untertasse*) when I've been sober.
22. My sister (never, be/go) to Italy.
23. "Mr Mortimer (fish) all morning. So far he (catch) fifteen, but he (let) each one go free." – "Perhaps he (catch) the same one fifteen times."
24. She (just, lose) all her money.
25. This company (lose) money (for/since) ages.
26. Roger (just, break) his new watch.
27. I (already, say) this several times, but now I shall say it again.
28. I (often, hear) strange noises in the night.
29. Mrs Kensington (recently, notice) that her chauffeur prefers rock music to Brahms.
30. The next door neighbour's dog (just, bite) the postman. It's the third time that it (bite) him.
31. You (come) too late, Doctor. The poor girl (just, die).
32. He (always, detest) travelling by bus, and he (never, like) travelling by car either.
33. Jane (see) the Loch Ness Monster five times.
34. A bee (sting) me!
35. The workers (now, finish) building that supermarket. Apparently it (take) them a lot longer to build it than they thought it would.
36. That nice Dr Lindsay? No, officer, I (not, see) him or his vivacious wife (for/since) ages.
37. She (only, know) Charles (for/since) she was sixteen, but they (live) in the same town (for/since) they were born.
38. Old Mr Green (bring) me my newspapers (for/since) over fifteen years.
39. They (write) to me fourteen times (since/for) the beginning of the month.
40. She (work) on her book (for/since) last year, and she hopes to complete it by Christmas.

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Put the following verbs into the correct tense – either the present perfect simple or the present perfect progressive, but **use the progressive form wherever possible**. Use any other information given, and select **for** or **since** where necessary. Note the importance of certain keywords.

1. They **have just arrived** from New York.
2. We **have already eaten**.
3. I **have now studied** your ideas, and I regret to say I cannot accept them.
4. They **have been living** there **since** December.
5. I **have read** four books **since** I arrived here.
6. We **have been waiting since** three o'clock.
7. I **have already written** to him, but he **hasn't replied yet**.
8. It's eleven o'clock and Helen **has been making** cakes all morning, but I **haven't made** any.
9. He **hasn't worked** there **for** the last year.
10. I **have been reading** magazines all evening; so far I **have read** seven.
11. How long **have you been driving**?
12. She **hasn't done** a single thing all morning.
13. They **have been building** that house **for** more than a year and they **still haven't finished** it.
14. It's May 30th and I **haven't received** a letter from him this month.
15. Come quickly! Your father **has broken** his arm.
16. I am awfully sorry, but I **have dropped** your clock. I hope it **hasn't broken**.
17. "Is John in?" – "No, I'm afraid he **has gone** to Margate."
18. **Have you been standing** in the rain **for** all that time?
19. **Haven't you ever been** to San Francisco?
20. **Has Jim fallen** off his bike again? Oh, no!
21. I **have never seen** a flying saucer (*fliegende Untertasse*) when I've been sober.
22. My sister **has never been** to Italy.
23. "Mr Mortimer **has been fishing** all morning. So far he **has caught** fifteen, but he **has let** each one go free." – "Perhaps he **has caught** the same one fifteen times."
24. She **has just lost** all her money.
25. This company **has been losing** money **for** ages.
26. Roger **has just broken** his new watch.
27. I **have already said** this several times, but now I shall say it again.
28. I **have often heard** strange noises in the night.
29. Mrs Kensington **has recently noticed** that her chauffeur prefers rock music to Brahms.
30. The next door neighbour's dog **has just bitten** the postman. It's the third time that it **has bitten** him.
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37. She **has only known** Charles **since** she was sixteen, but they **have been living** in the same town **since** they were born.
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40. She has **been working** on her book **since** last year, and she hopes to complete it by Christmas.