



ENGLISH GRAMMAR

Lesson 1

WHEN SHOULD WE USE THE PAST SIMPLE?

- This is the basic past tense. We use it whenever we want to talk about the past and we don't have any special situation that means we should use the past perfect, present perfect, past continuous etc.

Past Simple

I went there in 2006.



Finished actions, states or habits in the past.

1: We use it with finished actions, states or habits in the past when we have a finished time word (yesterday, last week, at 2 o'clock, in 2003).

- I went to the cinema yesterday.
- We spent a lot of time Japan in 2007.

2: We use it with finished actions, states or habits in the past when we know from general knowledge that the time period has finished. This includes when the person we are talking about is dead.

- Leonardo painted the Mona Lisa.
- The Vikings invaded Britain.

3: We use it with finished actions, states or habits in the past that we have introduced with the present perfect or another tense. This is sometimes called 'details of news'.

- I've hurt my leg. I fell off a ladder when I was painting my bedroom.
- I've been on holiday. I went to Spain and Portugal.



4: For stories or lists of events, we often use the past simple for the actions in the story and the past continuous for the background.

- He went to a café. People were chatting and music was playing. He sat down and ordered a coffee.

Unreal or imaginary things in the present or future.

5: We use the past simple to talk about things that are not real in the present or future. So we use it with the second conditional and after words like 'wish'.

- If I won the lottery, I would buy a house.
- I wish I had more time!



WHEN SHOULD WE USE THE PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE?

Unfinished Actions

1: We use this tense when we want to talk about unfinished actions or states or habits that started in the past and continue to the present. Usually we use it to say 'how long' and we need 'since' or 'for'. We often use stative verbs.

- I've known Karen since 1994.
- She's lived in London for three years.
- I've worked here for six months.

Present Perfect Simple 2

I have lived here for two years.



'Since' and 'For'

We use 'since' with a fixed time in the past (2004, April 23rd, last year). The fixed time can be another action, which is in the past simple (since I was at school, since I arrived).

- I've known Sam since 1992.
- I've liked chocolate since I was a child.
- She's been here since 2pm.

We use 'for' with a period of time (2 hours, three years, six months).

- I've known Julie for ten years.
- I've been hungry for hours.
- She's had a cold for a week.



Finished Actions

2: Life experience. These are actions or events that happened sometime during a person's life. We don't say when the experience happened, and the person needs to be alive now. We often use the words 'ever' and 'never' here.

- I have been to Tokyo.
- They have visited Paris three times.
- We have never seen that film.

3: With an unfinished time word (this month, this week, today). The period of time is still continuing.

- I haven't seen her this month.
- She's drunk three cups of coffee today.
- I've already moved house twice this year!

We CAN'T use the present perfect with a finished time word.

- ~~I've seen him yesterday.~~



4: A finished action with a result in the present (focus on result). We often use the present perfect to talk about something that happened in the recent past, but that is still true or important now. Sometimes we can use the past simple here, especially in US English.

- I've lost my keys (so I can't get into my house).
- She's hurt her leg (so she can't play tennis today).
- They've missed the bus (so they will be late).

5: We can also use the present perfect to talk about something that happened recently, even if there isn't a clear result in the present. This is common when we want to introduce news and we often use the words 'just / yet / already / recently'. However, the past simple is also correct in these cases, especially in US English.

- The Queen has given a speech.
- I've just seen Lucy.
- The Mayor has announced a new plan for the railways.



Been and Gone

In this tense, we use both 'been' and 'gone' as the past participle of 'go', but in slightly different circumstances.

We use 'been' (often when we talk about life experience) to mean that the person we're talking about visited the place and came back.

- I've been to Paris (in my life, but now I'm in London, where I live).
- She has been to school today (but now she's back at home).
- They have never been to California.

We use 'gone' (often when we are talking about an action with a result in the present) to mean that the person went to the place and is at the place now.

- 'Where's John?' 'He's gone to the shops' (he's at the shops now).
- Julie has gone to Mexico (now she's in Mexico).
- They've gone to Japan for three weeks (now they're in Japan).



What's the difference? Present Perfect and Past Simple

Present Perfect Simple	Past Simple
<p>Unfinished actions that started in the past and continue to the present:</p> <p>I've known Julie for ten years (and I still know her).</p>	<p><u>Finished actions:</u></p> <p>I knew Julie for ten years (but then she moved away and we lost touch).</p>
<p>A finished action in someone's life (when the person is still alive: life experience):</p> <p>My brother has been to Mexico three times.</p>	<p>A finished action in someone's life (when the person is dead):</p> <p>My great-grandmother went to Mexico three times.</p>
<p>A finished action with a result in the present:</p> <p>I've lost my keys! (The result is that I can't get into my house now).</p>	<p>A finished action with no result in the present:</p> <p>I lost my keys yesterday. It was terrible! (Now there is no result. <u>I got new keys yesterday</u>).</p>
<p>With an unfinished time word (this week, this month, today):</p> <p>I've seen John this week.</p>	<p>With a finished time word (last week, last month, yesterday):</p> <p>I saw John last week.</p>



PAST SIMPLE OR PRESENT PERFECT. EXERCISES.

Упражнение 1. Complete the pairs of sentences. Use the Present Perfect in one sentence and the Past Simple in the other.

1. I (know) _____ her for six years.

I (know) _____ him when I was at school.

2. He (live) _____ in Paris from 1997 to 2000.

He (live) _____ in New York since 2001.

3. Where's Pete? I (not see) _____ him for ages.

I (not see) _____ Pete last night.

4. We (be) _____ at primary school from 1993 to 1998.

We (be) _____ in this class since September.

5. I (not watch) _____ this video yet.

I (not watch) _____ a video at the weekend.



Упражнение 2. Put the verbs in brackets in the Past Simple or in the Present Perfect.

1. I _____ (never/ be) to the USA. I _____ (want) to go there last summer but I couldn't.
2. He _____ (live) in this street all his life.
3. His father _____ (come back) to London last Sunday.
4. Yan _____ (write) a letter to Nick two days ago.
5. He _____ (send) his letter yesterday.
6. They _____ (just/ buy) some postcards.

Упражнение 3. Fill in last night, ever, ago, just, yet, always in the right place.

1. Nick's uncle went to Russia 3 years.
2. Mr. Rambler has come back from Belarus.
3. Nick has wanted to visit Belarus.
4. Mr. Rambler saw Yan.
5. They haven't visited this old castle.
6. Have you been to England?



Упражнение 4. Choose the correct option.

1. She has /'s had a moped since she was 15.
2. We took /'ve taken a taxi to town that morning.
3. We played /'ve played volleyball last night
4. I'm really hungry. I didn't eat / haven't eaten since last night.
5. They visited/ 've visited Colorado last summer.

Упражнение 5. Put the verbs in brackets in the Past Simple or in the Present Perfect.

1. Maria (get) _____ some bad news last week. She (be) _____ sad since she (get) _____ the bad news.
2. I (start) _____ school when I was five years old. I (be) _____ at school since I (be) _____ five years old.
3. I (change) _____ my job three times this year.
4. I (change) _____ my job three times last year.
5. The weather was hot and dry for many weeks. But two days ago it (rain) _____.
6. Tom (break) _____ his leg five days ago. He's in hospital. He (be) _____ in hospital since he (break) _____ his leg.
7. Are you going to finish your work before you go to bed? — I (finish) _____ it (already). I (finish) _____ my work two hours ago.



Упражнение 6. Put the verbs in brackets in the Past Simple or in the Present Perfect.

1. I (have, just) _____ a nice pot of coffee. Would you like a cup?
2. I (see, not) _____ Steve this morning yet.
3. Carol and I are old friends. I (know) _____ her since I (be) _____ a freshman in high school.
4. Maria (have) _____ a lot of problems since she (come) _____ to this country.
5. I (go) _____ to Paris in 2003 and 2006.
6. A car came round the corner and I (jump) _____ out of the way.
7. Don't throw the paper away because I (not to read) _____ it yet.
8. Is Jim going to eat lunch with us today? — No. He (eat) _____ (already). He (eat) _____ lunch an hour ago.
9. Since we (start) _____ doing this exercise, we (complete) _____ some sentences.
10. I (be) _____ never to Italy.



Упражнение 7. Put the verbs in brackets in the Past Simple or in the Present Perfect.

1. You (ever work) _____ in a shop?
2. I (work) _____ at my uncle's shop when I was younger.
3. It's the first time I (be) _____ on a ship.
4. Ann is looking for her key. She can't find it. She (lose) _____ her key.
5. How many symphonies Beethoven (compose) _____?
6. Look! Somebody (spill) _____ ink on the notebook.
7. You (have) _____ a holiday this year yet?
8. You (see) _____ any good films recently?
9. He (have, not) _____ any problems since he (come) _____ here.



Упражнение 8. Раскройте скобки, употребляя глаголы в Past Simple или Present Perfect

1. I (cut) _____ some flowers from my garden yesterday. I (cut) _____ lots of flowers from my garden so far this summer.
2. I (not / see) _____ Tom lately.
3. The artist (draw) _____ a picture of sunset yesterday. She (draw) _____ many pictures of sunsets in her lifetime.
4. I (feed) _____ birds at the park yesterday. I (feed) _____ birds at the park every day since I (lose) _____ my job.
5. Ann (wake up) _____ late and (miss) _____ her breakfast on Monday.
6. I (forget) _____ to turn off the stove after dinner. I (forget) _____ to turn off the stove a lot of times in my lifetime.
7. The children (hide) _____ in the basement yesterday. They (hide) _____ in the basement often since they (discover) _____ a secret place there.
8. The baseball player (hit) _____ the ball out of the stadium yesterday. He (hit) _____ a lot of homeruns since he (join) _____ our team.
9. We first (meet) _____ in 2001. So we (know) _____ each other for 8 years.



Упражнение 9. Put the verbs in brackets in the Past Simple or in the Present Perfect.

1. She (change) _____ a lot since she left school.
2. I (see) _____ this film and I don't want to see it again.
3. Jazz (originate) _____ in the United States around 1900.
4. Tom Hanks (win) _____ an Oscar several times already.
5. Long ago, they (build) _____ most houses out of wood.
6. Scientists still (not/find) _____ a cure for cancer.
7. Sean (eat, never) _____ Chinese food before.
8. In my first job, I (be) _____ responsible for marketing.
9. The last job I (apply) _____ for required applicants to speak some Japanese.
10. The first modern Olympics (take) _____ place in Athens more than a hundred years ago.
11. I am writing in connection with the advertisement which (appear) _____ in December.



Упражнение 10. Complete the sentences. Use the Present Perfect or the Past Simple.

My family and I (move) from London to Cardiff last summer, so we (live) in Cardiff for seven months now. I miss my friends in London. My best friend is called Megan. We (meet) at primary school, so I (know) her for nine years. Unfortunately, I (not see) her since last summer.

I go to Greystone Secondary School in Cardiff. I (be) at the school since last September. At first I (not like) it because I (not have) any friends here. But the students in my class are really nice and I'm happy here now.

Упражнение 11. Correct the mistakes in these sentences.

1. Welivedheresince 1997.
2. I've been ill since two days.
3. How long do you know him?
4. Susie has seen a good film last night.
5. We've finished our homework just.
6. I've already wrote three letters.



Упражнение 12. Complete the sentences. Use the Present Perfect or the Past Simple.

Helen: That's a nice tennis racket. Is it new?

Andy: No, (I/have) _____ it for about a year, but (I/not play) _____ with it very much. (I/buy) _____ it in Florida.

Helen: When (you/go) _____ to America?

Andy: (I/go) _____ there with my family in the spring.

Helen: What was it like?

Andy: Great! (I/stay) _____ with my penfriend.

Helen: Is your penfriend American?

Andy: Yes. (I/have) _____ an American penfriend for two years. (he/come) _____ to England last summer.

Helen: (I/not meet) _____ him.

Andy: No, (you/be) _____ on holiday in Turkey.



Упражнение 13. Choose the correct form of the verb.

1. We went / 've been to the seaside last summer.
2. I finished / 've finished my homework. Can I go out now?
3. I was / 've been ill three months ago.
4. Have you been / Did you to the shop? I need some stamps.
5. My hobby is fishing. I've caught / caught a lot of fish.
6. Jenny is in Oxford today, but she was / has been in London yesterday.
7. I played / 've played basketball when I was younger, but I don't play now.
8. I've already seen / already saw 'Shrek'.
9. Julie has been / was ill since Tuesday.
10. I didn't see / haven't seen Josh since 1998.
11. We've stayed / stayed at our grandparents for three days. We arrived home yesterday.
12. The dog went / has gone to sleep an hour ago.
13. I had / 've had a cat for two years. Its name is Willis.
14. I've waited / waited for a bus for twenty minutes. Then I decided to walk.

