

11 Exercises

1 Form (B)

Add a sentence. Use the present perfect.

- I'm tired. (I / walk / miles) *I've walked miles.*
- 1 Emma's computer is working now. (she / repair / it)
 - 2 It's cooler in here now. (I / open / the window)
 - 3 The visitors are here at last, (they / arrive)
 - 4 Mark's car isn't blocking us in now. (he / move / it)
 - 5 We haven't got any new videos, (we / watch / all these)

2 Irregular forms (C)

Look at the pictures and say what the people have done.

Use these verbs: *break, build, catch, see, win*

Use these objects: *a film, a fish, a house, his leg, the gold medal*



► *She's won the gold medal.*

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| 2. | 4 |

3 Review (A-D)

Trevor and Laura are decorating their house. Put in the verbs. Use the present perfect.

Laura: How is the painting going? (►) *Have you finished?* (you / finish)

Trevor: No, I haven't. Painting the ceiling is really difficult, you know.

(1) (I / not / do) very much. And it looks just the same as before. This new paint (2) (not / make) any difference.

Laura: (3) (you / not / put) enough on.

Trevor: (4) (I / hurt) my back. It feels bad.

Laura: Oh, you and your back. You mean (5) (you / have) enough of decorating. Well, I'll do it. Where (6) (you / put) the brush?

Trevor: I don't know. (7) (it / disappear).

(8) (I / look) for it, but I can't find it.

Laura: You're hopeless, aren't you? How much (9) (you / do) in here?

Nothing! (10) (I / paint) two doors.

Trevor: (11) (I / clean) all this old paint around the window.

It looks much better now, doesn't it?

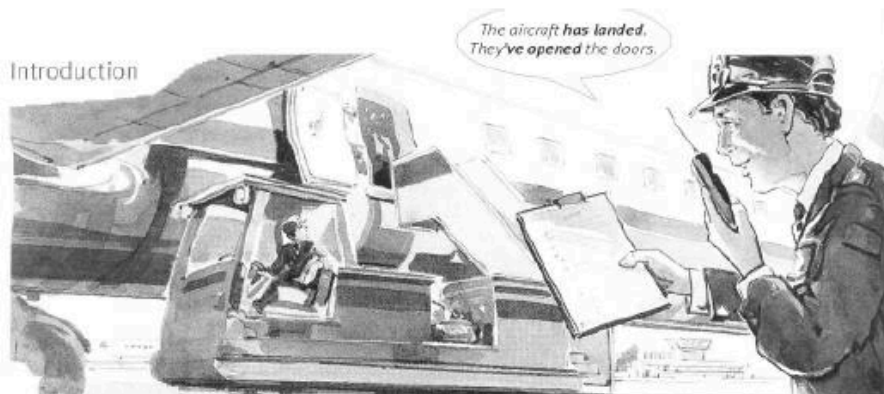
Laura: (12) (we / make) some progress, I suppose.

Now, where (13) (that brush / go)?

Oh, (14) (you / leave) it on the ladder, look.

11 The present perfect (1)

A Introduction



The present perfect tells us about the past and the present.
The aircraft has landed means that the aircraft is on the ground now.

B Form

The present perfect is the present tense of have + a past participle.

I/you/we/they have washed OR *I/you/we/they've washed*
he/she/it has washed OR *he/she/it's washed*

NEGATIVE

I/you/we/they haven't washed
he/she/it hasn't washed

QUESTION

have I/you/we/they washed?
has he/she/it washed?

Regular past participles end in *ed*, e.g. *washed, landed, finished*. *We've washed the dishes.* *Have you opened your letter?* *The aircraft has landed safely.* *How many points has Matthew scored?* *The students haven't finished their exams.*

C Irregular forms

Some participles are irregular.

I've made a shopping list. *We've sold our car.* *I've thought about it a lot.*
Have you written the letter? *She hasn't drunk her coffee.* For

a list of irregular verbs see page 383.

There is a present perfect of *be* and of *have*.

The weather has been awful *I've had a lovely time, thank you.*

D Use

When we use the present perfect, we see things as happening in the past but having a result in the present.

We've washed the dishes. (They're clean now.) *The aircraft has landed.* (It's on the ground now.)
We've eaten all the eggs. (There aren't any left.) *They've learnt the words.* (They know the words.)
You've broken this watch. (It isn't working.)

10 Past continuous or simple?

A Introduction

A reporter is interviewing Mike and Harriet.

Reporter: *Mike and Harriet, tell me what you saw.*

Harriet: *Well, when we were driving home last night, we saw a strange object in the sky.*

Mike: *As we were coming down the hill into town, it just suddenly appeared in front of us.
We stopped the car and got out.*

Harriet: *It was a very clear night. The stars were twinkling.* Mike: *It was a spaceship. It seemed quite big. It had some strange writing on the side.*

And a light was flashing on the top. Harriet: *As we were watching it, it suddenly flew away and disappeared.*

PAST CONTINUOUS

We use the past continuous for an action that we were in the middle of.

We were driving home.

(We were in the middle of our journey.)

A light was flashing.

We do not normally use the past continuous for states. See Unit 7.

NOT ~~*The spaceship was seeming ...*~~

NOT ~~*It was having writing ...*~~

NOT ~~*I wasn't knowing ...*~~

PAST SIMPLE

We use the past simple for a complete action in the past.

We drove home.

(We finished our journey.)

The spaceship flew away.

We also use the past simple (not normally the continuous) for states. See Unit 7.

The spaceship seemed quite big.

It had writing on the side.

I didn't know what it was.

B It happened as I was driving

We often use the past continuous and simple together when one (shorter) action comes in the middle of another (longer) one.

As we were driving down the hill, a strange object appeared in the sky.

While Laura was sitting in the garden, it suddenly began to rain.

You drove right past me when I was waiting for the bus.

The appearance of the strange object comes in the middle of the longer action, the drive down the hill.

Shorter action: *An object appeared.*

In the three sentences above, the past continuous comes after *as*, *while* or *when* (*As we were driving ...*). We can also use *when* before the past simple.

We were driving down the hill when a strange object appeared in the sky.

David was making lunch when the phone rang.

But we use two past simple verbs for one action after another.

When we saw the spaceship, we stopped the car. (= We saw it and then we stopped.)

C The sun was shining

PAST CONTINUOUS

We often use the past continuous to describe the background.

The sun was shining.

The stars were twinkling.

PAST SIMPLE

We use the past simple for actions in a story,

We arrived at the beach.

The aliens landed quietly.

10 Exercises

1 Past continuous or simple? (A-B)

David is always having accidents. His girlfriend Melanie is talking about some of the accidents. Write her sentences from these notes. Each sentence has one verb in the past continuous and one in the past simple.

? when / he / carry / a suitcase / he / drop / it / on his foot

When he was carrying a suitcase, he dropped it on his foot.

? he / break / his leg / when / he / ski

He broke his leg when he was skiing.

1 he / sit down / on a chair / while / I / paint / it

2 as / he / run / for a bus / he / collide / with a lamppost

3 his hair / catch / fire / when / he / cook / chips

4 when / he / hold / a beautiful vase / he / suddenly / drop / it

5 he / sit / in the garden / when / a wasp / sting / him / on the nose

2 Past continuous or simple? (A-B)

Put in the correct form of the verb.

Rita: I hear the lights (►) *went* (go) out in your flats last night.

Emma: Yes, (►) / *was watching* (I / watch) a documentary on TV when suddenly

(1)..... (we / lose) all the power. But

(2)..... (it / come) on again after about ten minutes.

Vicky: Rachel (3)..... (come) down the stairs when the lights

(4)..... (go) out. She almost (5)..... (fall) over.

Daniel: Matthew and I (6)..... (play) table tennis at the time.

Andrew: (7)..... (I / work) on the computer.

(8)..... (I / lose) a whole hour's work. But this morning

(9)..... (I/get) up early and (10)..... (do) it again.

3 Past continuous or simple? (A-C)

Find the second part of each sentence. Put each verb into the correct form.

? Vicky (have) a beautiful dream

when she (touch) the wire.

? When Andrew (see) the question,

when I (find) a £10 note in it.

1 The train (wait)

when the alarm clock (ring).

2 I (read) a library book

the crowd (rush) in.

3 Sarah (have) an electric shock

he (know) the answer immediately.

4 When the doors (open),

they (see) that the sun (shine).

5 When the campers (wake),

when we (arrive) at the station.

? *Vicky was having a beautiful dream when the alarm clock rang.*

? *When Andrew saw the question, he knew the answer immediately.*

1

2

3

4

7 Exercises

1 States and actions (A)

Tom is on the Internet. He's telling people about himself.
Say which verbs express states and which express actions.

- I surf the Net most evenings. *action*
- My flat is in the town centre.....
 - I drive a taxi in the daytime.....
 - I own two cars.
 - I go to lots of parties.
 - I love football.

2 I think/I'm thinking etc (B)

Complete the conversation. Choose the correct form of the verb.

- Emma: Hi, Matthew. What (►) de-you-look/are you looking at?
Matthew: Oh, hi. These are photos of me when I was a child.
Emma: Oh, look at this one. (1) I think/I'm thinking you look lovely, Matthew.
Matthew: (2) I have/I'm having some more photos here.
Emma: Look at this. Why such a big coat?
Matthew: It was my brother's. That's why (3) it didn't fit/it wasn't fitting properly.
Emma: Oh, (4) I see/I'm seeing. And (5) you have/you're having your tea here. And in this one (6) you think/you're thinking about something very serious.
Matthew: This is a photo of the village (7) I come/I'm coming from.
Emma: Oh, that's nice.
Matthew: And I caught this fish, look. (8) It weighed/It was weighing about half a kilo.
Emma: What a nice little boy! And what a sentimental old thing you are now!

3 The verb be (B)

Put in the correct form of *be*.

- ? Daniel is doing some of the work. He *s being* very helpful at the moment.
? I *'m* tired. I want to go home.
1 The children very polite today. They don't usually behave so well.
2 I'm afraid Melanie can't come because she ill.
3 Of course you can understand it. You stupid, that's all.
4 We interested in doing a course here.
5 Vicky very lazy at the moment. She's done no work at all today.

4 I like/I'm liking etc (C)

Write a sentence which follows on. Choose from these sentences.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <i>I think it's going to be perfect for me.</i> | <i>And I've still got a chance to win.</i> |
| <i>I've never wanted to change it.</i> | <i>It uses so much petrol.</i> |
| <i>It's too expensive to buy.</i> | <i>I play it every weekend.</i> |

- I enjoy the game. *I play it every weekend.*
- I'm enjoying the game.
 - The car costs a lot of money.
 - The car is costing a lot of money.
 - I'm liking my new job.....
 - I like my job.....