

## Present perfect and past simple: time expressions

*ever, just, yet, already, since, for, ago*

### Present perfect

We use the present perfect with:

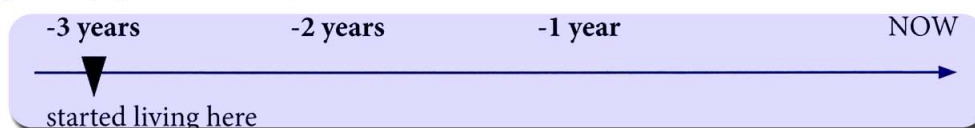
- *ever, never* (any time / not any time)  
*Have you ever seen a lion? I've never seen a lion.*
- *just* (a short time ago)  
*Is Peter here? No, he's just gone out. There he is!*
- *yet* (not finished – with negatives and questions)  
*Have you finished your homework yet? No, I'm still doing it.*
- *already* (finished – with statements)  
*Have a sandwich! No thanks, I've already eaten. I had lunch at 12.00.*
- *since* (a point in time)



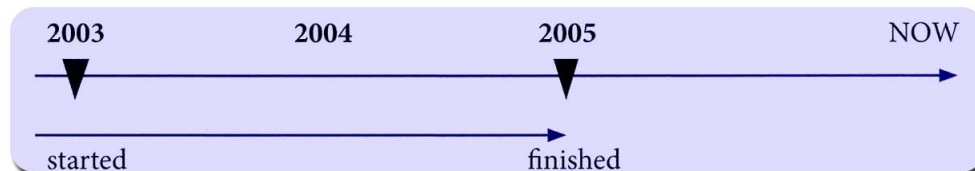
*I've lived in this town since 2008. (I live here now.)*

### Present perfect or past simple

- *for* (a period of time)



*I've lived in this town for three years. (I live here now.)*



*I lived in that flat for two years, but I don't live there now.*

### Past simple

- *ago*  
*I started learning English a year ago.*

## GRAMMAR 18 PRESENT PERFECT AND PAST SIMPLE: TIME EXPRESSIONS

### 1 Match each sentence (1–7) with an explanation (a–g).

- 1 Jim has just written a book. ....*d*.....
- 2 Has Jim written a book yet? .....
- 3 Jim has already written a book. ....
- 4 Jim wrote a book a year ago. ....
- 5 Jim has never written a book. ....
- 6 Has Jim ever written a book? .....
- 7 Jim has written two books since 2006. ....

- a) This is not his first book.
- b) Does Jim write books?
- c) He finished his book last year.
- d) He finished a few days ago.
- e) Jim started writing in 2006 and has written two books between then and now.
- f) Jim doesn't write books.
- g) Has he finished a book?

### 2 Underline the correct word in each sentence.

- 1 Have you ever / *yet* visited Slovenia?
- 2 Tom has *for* / just come back from the USA.
- 3 I'm not hungry. I've *already* / since eaten.
- 4 Jane lived in Greece *since* / for fifteen years.
- 5 Brian and Claire got married *ten years ago* / since ten years.
- 6 I can't come out. I haven't done my homework *already* / yet.
- 7 Mark has worked in Turkey *ago* / since 2008.

### 3 Complete each sentence with a time word from the box.

already	ever	<del>for</del>	just	never	since	yet
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- 1 Sue has been on the beach .....*for*..... an hour, but she hasn't had a swim yet.
- 2 I don't want to see this film. I've ..... seen it.
- 3 Have you ..... been to the Greek islands?
- 4 Can you wait a moment? I haven't finished .....
- 5 Ouch! An insect has ..... bitten me!
- 6 George has ..... eaten Chinese food, so this is the first time for him!
- 7 Rick has lived in Japan ..... 2008.