

# Present Perfect vs. Past Simple

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Session: 1401/08/21

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# Present Perfect

Subj + have/has + P.P

She has travelled to 120 countries since she was 18.

Subj + have/has + not + P.P

I haven't seen her around my office since yesterday

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# Present Perfect for ...

1

We talk about a **period continues from past until now**

= the **time** we are talking about is **not finished yet** (since/for)

**I haven't eaten anything since morning**

2

Giving **news** about an event, specially when **we don't know exact time**

**I've cut my finger**

3

For **experiences** and **accomplishments** :

**Action in the past has a result now**

**Hassan Yazdani has won a gold medal.**

**We have been in Paris.**

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Tom is looking for his key. He can't find it.  
He **has lost** his key. (*present perfect*)  
This means that he doesn't have his key *now*.

Ten minutes later:



Now Tom **has found** his key. He has it now.  
Has he **lost** his key? No, he **has found** it.  
Did he **lose** his key? Yes, he **did**.  
He **lost** his key (*past simple*)  
but now he **has found** it. (*present perfect*)

# Past Simple for ...

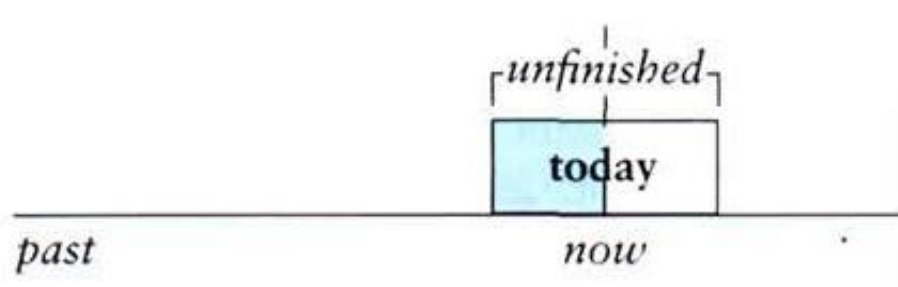
- 1 I slept in my bedroom last night.  
→ Specific occasion in the past(**FINISHED**)



- 2 I've been in Italy. **I was a student there.**  
→ Specific information about experiences

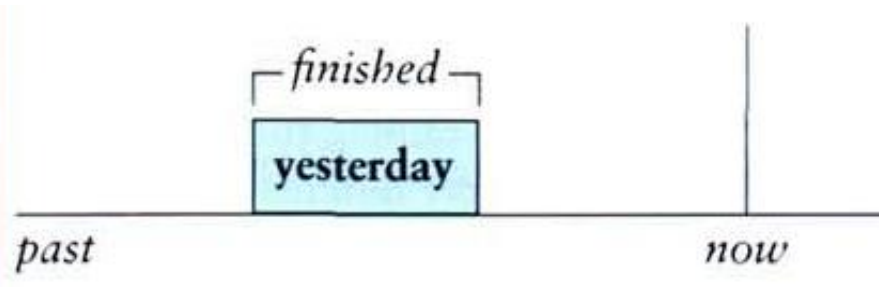
# Present Perfect Vs. Past Simple

## Present Perfect



Unfinished time  
recent activity, with an effect or result **NOW**

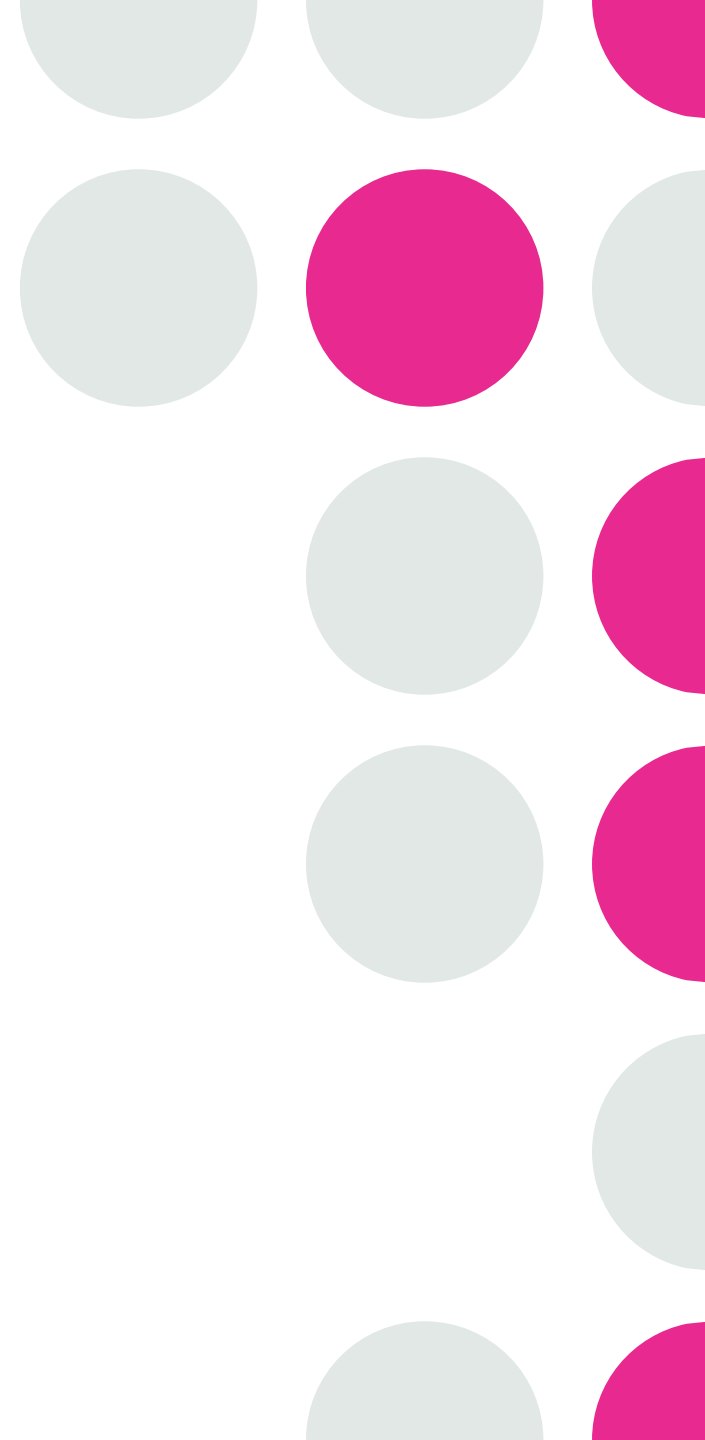
## Past Simple



Finished time  
action completed in past

- It **hasn't** rained **this week**.
- **Have** you seen Anna **this morning**?  
(it is still morning)
- **Have** you seen Tim **recently**?
- I don't know where Lisa is. I **haven't** seen her. (= I haven't seen her recently)
- We've **been waiting** for an hour. (we are still waiting now)
- Ian lives in London. He **has lived** there for seven years.
- I **have never** played golf. (in my life)
- *It's the last day of your holiday. You say:* It's **been** a really good holiday. I've really enjoyed it.

- It **didn't** rain **last week**.
- **Did** you see Anna **this morning**?  
(it is now afternoon or evening)
- **Did** you see Tim **on Sunday**?
- A: **Was** Lisa at the party **on Sunday**?  
B: I don't think so. I **didn't** see her.
- We **waited** (*or were waiting*) for an hour. (we are no longer waiting)
- Ian **lived** in Scotland for ten years. Now he lives in London.
- I **didn't** play golf **last summer**.
- *After you come back from holiday you say:* It **was** a really good holiday. I really enjoyed it.





# Adverbs of time...

read the text again!

Present Perfect	Past Simple
almost fifty years	A year later
already	
since 1968	A few years ago
ever	

Unfinished time phrase

Finished time phrase



- 1 I don't know where Lisa is. Have you seen (you / see) her?
- 2 When I got (get) home last night, I was (be) very tired and I went (go) straight to bed.
- 3 A: Have you finished (you / finish) painting the bedroom?  
B: Not yet. I'll finish it tomorrow.
- 4 George Wasn't (not / be) very well last week.
- 5 Mr Clark worked (work) in a bank for 15 years. Then he gave it up.
- 6 Molly lives in Dublin. She Has lived (live) there all her life.
- 7 A: Did you go (you / go) to the cinema last night?  
B: Yes, but it was (be) a mistake. The film was (be) awful.
- 8 My grandfather died (die) before I was born. I I've never meet (never / meet) him.