2A

present perfect simple and continuous

present perfect simple: *have / has* + past participle

1 37

1 **Have** you **ever written** a blog?
2 We**'ve** just **landed** but we **haven't got off** the plane yet.
I**'ve** already **told** you three times.
3 It's the best book I**'ve** ever **read**.
4 My computer**'s crashed**! Look, it**'s started** snowing.
5 I**'ve known** Miriam since I was a child.
My sister **has had** flu for ten days now.
6 How many Agatha Christie novels **have** you **read**?
They've seen each other twice this week.

We use the present perfect simple:

1 to talk about past experiences when you don't say when something happened.
2 with *just*, *yet*, and *already*.
3 with superlatives and *the first*, *second*, *last time*, etc.
4 for finished actions (when no time is specified) which have present results.
5 with non-action verbs (= verbs not usually used in the continuous form, e.g. *be*, *have*, *know*, *like*, etc.) to say that something started in the past and is still true now.
   - This use is common with time expressions like *How long…?*, *for* or *since*, *all day* / *evening*, etc.
   - Don't use the present simple or continuous in this situation: NOT ~~*I know Miriam since I was a child*~~.
6 when we say or ask *how much* / *many* we have done or *how often* we have done something up to now.

present perfect continuous: *have / has* + *been* + verb + *-ing*

1 38

1 How long **have** you **been feeling** ill?
He**'s been chatting** online all evening.
2 I **haven't been sleeping** well. It**'s been raining** all day.
3 I**'ve been shopping** all morning. I'm exhausted.
A Take your shoes off. They're filthy.
B Yes, I know. I**'ve been working** in the garden.

We use the present perfect continuous:

1 with action verbs, to say that an action started in the past and is still happening now.
   - This use is common with time expressions like *How long…?*, *for* or *since*, *all day* / *evening*, etc.
   - Don't use the present simple or continuous in this situation. NOT ~~*I know Miriam since I was a child*~~.
2 for repeated actions, especially with a time expression, e.g. *all day*, *recently*.
3 for continuous actions which have just finished (but which have present results).

1 39

1 I**'ve been learning** French for the last three years. He**'s liked** classical music since he was a teenager.
2 She**'s been having** piano lessons since she was a child. They**'ve had** that car for at least ten years.
3 We**'ve lived** in this town since 1980. We**'ve been living** in a rented flat for the last two months.
4 I**'ve painted** the kitchen. I**'ve been painting** the kitchen.

1 To talk about an unfinished action we normally use the present perfect continuous with action verbs and the present perfect simple with non-action verbs.
2 Some verbs can be action or non-action depending on their meaning, e.g. *have piano lessons* = action, *have a car* = non-action.
3 With the verbs *live* or *work* you can often use the present perfect simple or continuous. However, we normally use the present perfect continuous for shorter, more temporary actions.
4 The present perfect simple emphasizes the completion of an action (= the kitchen has been painted). The present perfect continuous emphasizes the duration of an action, which may or may not be finished (= the painting of the kitchen may not be finished yet).

a Circle the correct form of the verb. Tick (✓) if both are possible.

Have you ever *tried* / *been trying* caviar?

1 She's *worked* / *been working* here since July.
2 Your mother has *phoned* / *been phoning* three times this morning!
3 The kids are exhausted because they've *run* / *been running* around all day.
4 Tim and Lucy haven't *seen* / *been seeing* our new house.
5 I've never *met* / *been meeting* her boyfriend. Have you?
6 It's *rained* / *been raining* all morning.
7 Bill has just *gone* / *been going* to work. He won't be back till this evening.
8 My sister has *lived* / *been living* alone since her divorce.

b Complete the sentence with the best form of the verb in brackets, present perfect simple or continuous.

I*'ve bought* a new car. Do you like it? (buy)

1 We _____ Jack and Ann for years. (know)
2 You look really hot. _____ at the gym? (you / work out)
3 Emily _____ her homework yet, so I'm afraid she can't go out. (not do)
4 They don't live in London, they _____. (move)
5 I _____ time to cook anything. (not have)
6 We _____ for hours. Is this the right way? (walk)
7 _____ you _____ my diary again? (read)
8 Oh no! I _____ my finger on this knife. (cut)

◀ p.15

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