



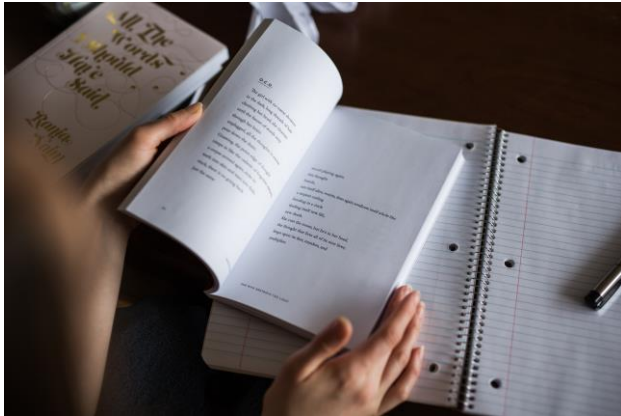
**How long have you known  
your best friend?**

**How long have you  
been studying  
English?**

# How long have you...???

## ...known your best friend?

## ...been studying English?



I've **known** my best friend **for** 10 years.

I've **been studying** English **since** I was a child.



# Present perfect with *for* and *since*

We use the words *for* and *since* to show **how long** something has happened. This is usually something that is still relevant to the present moment.

Uses:            **For**    **Since**

\_\_\_\_\_ to talk about a specific point in time (= when?)

\_\_\_\_\_ with a period of time (= how long?)





## Present perfect with *for* and *since*

**Susan is on holiday in Bali. She is still there now.  
She arrived there on Friday and today is Wednesday.  
How long has Susan been in Ireland?**

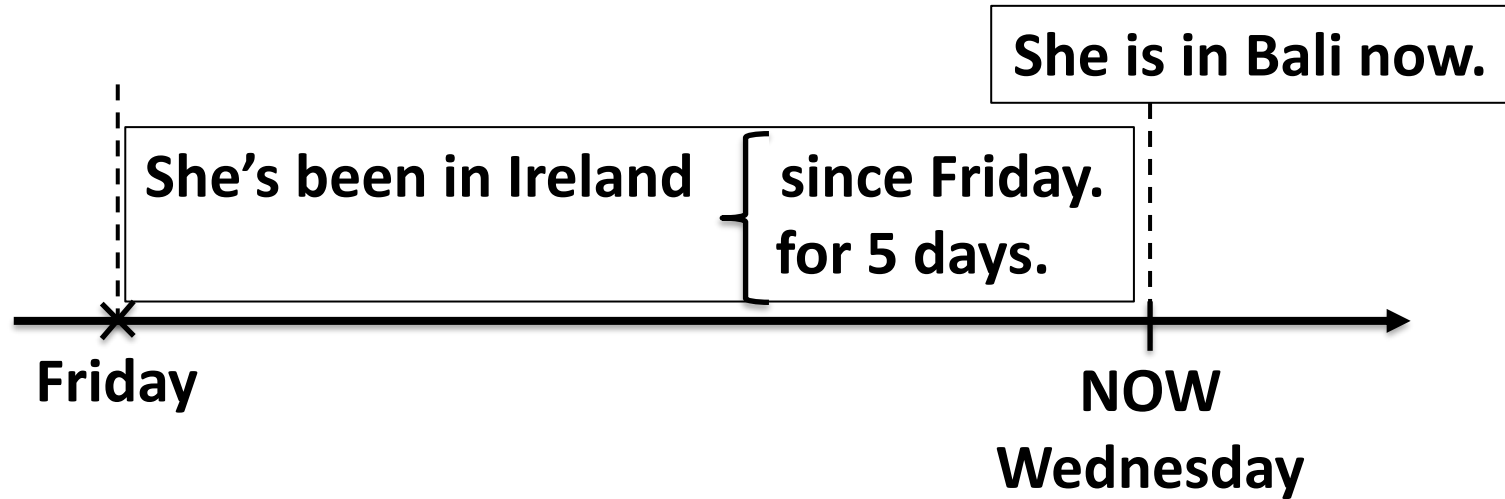


## Present perfect with *for* and *since*

**Susan is on holiday in Bali. She is still there now.  
She arrived there on Friday and today is Wednesday.  
How long has Susan been in Ireland?**

**She's been in Ireland { since Friday.  
for 5 days.**

# Present perfect with *for* and *since*



**Susan is on holiday in Bali. She is still there now.  
She arrived there on Friday and today is Wednesday.  
How long has Susan been in Ireland?**

**She's been in Ireland** { **since Friday.**  
**for 5 days.**





# Present perfect with *for* and *since*

Fri > Sat > Sun > Mon > Tue > Wed

Start of the period

← **for five days** →

Friday ← **since Friday** →

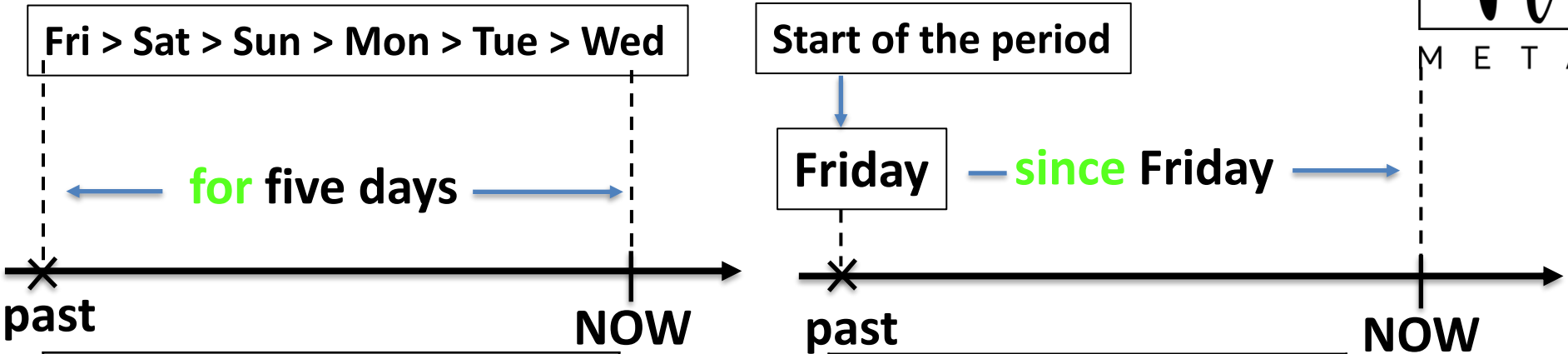


For	
five days	15 minutes
an hour	10 weeks
7 months	a year
a long time	a few minutes

Since	
Monday	8 <sup>th</sup> May
9 a.m.	June
we left	Easter
I was a child	2010



# Present perfect with *for* and *since*



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five days	15 minutes
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Since	
Monday	8 <sup>th</sup> May
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## CAREFUL

Ago is only used for **finished time**:

*She went there 5 days ago.* (past simple)

*She's been there for 5 days.* (present perfect)

~~*She's been there for 10 days ago.*~~



# Practice! Ex 1.

Complete the sentences using the verbs in the box in the present perfect and *for* or *since*.

be have know live play work finish

*For example:*

1. They  the same car  ten years.
2. He  with the same company  nearly 12 years.
3. I  my boyfriend  the 1990s.
4. He  a teacher  more than 30 years.
5. We  in this flat  last April.
6. She  the guitar  she was 12.
7. I  my coffee 10 minutes ago.



# Time words with Present perfect



Time words show **WHEN** something happened.

The Present Perfect usually goes with:

- a. **Just**  
a short time ago  
*I've just woken up.*
  
- b. **Already**  
before expected  
*They've already gone to bed and it's only 8 p.m.*
  
- c. **Yet**  
until now  
*She hasn't finished her homework yet.*

# Time words with Present perfect



- a. Just - between auxiliary and main verb  
*I've **just** woken up.*
  
- b. Already - between auxiliary and main verb  
*They've **already** gone to bed and it's only 8 p.m.*
  
- c. Yet – at the end of a sentence/question.  
*Has she finished her homework **yet**?*  
*No. She hasn't finished it **yet**.*

## CAREFUL

Yet is only used in negative sentences.

*She **hasn't finished** it yet. NOT*

~~*She **has finished** it yet.*~~

# Practice! Ex 2.

Complete the sentences using the verbs in the box in the present perfect form and use the correct time word in each sentence.

finish read leave meet start arrive

1. I  my coffee. Can I have a refill?

2. The train was meant to leave at noon but it' .

3.  you  the Harry Potter books ?

4. We  our neighbours.

5. He  living here.

6. The doctor .



# Other time words with Present perfect

Some other time words that are often used are:

- a. *Ever* - used only in questions. Ever goes between the auxiliary and the main verb.

*Have you ever been to Japan?*

- b. *Never* - used only in positive sentences. Never goes between the auxiliary and the main verb.

*I've never tasted sushi.*

## CAREFUL

*I've never tasted sushi. NOT*

~~*I haven't never tasted sushi.*~~

# Practice! Ex 3.

Write correct sentences using the prompts given.

1. She/have/accident/ever?

2. You/taste/snails /ever?

3. They/be/London/never.

4. I/drive/bus/never.

5. He/try/diving/ever?

6. We/be/here/never.

# Present perfect continuous

Subject + [HAVE]/not + been + V-ing

I	have(n't)/	been	working
Tom	has(n't)		studying
The class			learning



[HAVE] + subject + been + V-ing

Have/	You	been	working
Has	Tom		studying
	the class		learning

*I've been learning Italian for a month.*

*Have you been doing your homework?*

# When do we use the Present perfect continuous?

## Uses:

The present perfect continuous is used like the present perfect simple BUT we use the present perfect continuous when:

- the action is repeated or long

Jessica **has been trying** to pass her entrance exam for 3 months. (She still hasn't passed.)

- the action is still happening

I've **been waiting** for the bus for an hour.  
(I'm still waiting)

- the action is temporary

I've **been studying** this topic for a semester.  
(I will not continue afterwards).





# Present tense vs present perfect tense.



## *Present simple*

**Are** they married?

Sara and John **are** married.

**Do** you **know** Susan?

Yes. I **know** her.

## *Present perfect simple*

How long **have** they **been** married?

Sara and John **have been** married **for** 2 years.

How long **have** you **known** Susan?

**I've known** her **since** I was a child.

# Present tense vs present perfect tense.

## *Present continuous*

Are you **learning**  
Spanish?

I'm **learning** Spanish.

It's **raining**.

## *Present perfect continuous*

Have long **have** you **been learning**  
Spanish?

I've **been learning** it **for** 6 years.

It's **been raining** all day.

## **CAREFUL**

The continuous form is not used with  
stative verbs.

*I've known Carla since 2010. NOT*

~~*I've been knowing Carla since 2010.*~~

# Practice! Ex 4.

Complete the sentences using the correct verb form.



1. Tony *lived/has been living* in Canada since last March.
2. Sorry I'm late. *Have you been waiting/Did you wait* for a long time?
3. Jessica *studies/has studied* French now. She likes it more than Maths.
4. Stephen is a good friend of hers. She's *known/knows* him well.
5. Stephen is a good friend of hers. She's *known/knows* him since childhood.
6. Is that coat new? No, I *had/'ve had* it for years.

# Things to remember



- **For/Since**

Used to show how long something has been happening.

- **Time words used with present perfect**

- Just, already and yet;
- Periods of time that are still in progress: this morning (if the day hasn't finished), this week, this year, all my life;
- ever and never.

# Things to remember



- **Time words used with past simple**

- **Specific time in the past: yesterday, last week;**
- **Ago: 5 minutes ago, 10 years ago;**
- **Questions with when: When did you go there?**

- **Present perfect continuous**

**Used to show an action is still related to the present moment but it is not finished yet or the action takes time.**

*I've been studying all week.*

# A Useful Tip!



Tenses show different time, whether it's the present, the past or the future.

- *How do we understand time?*

That depends on the context we are talking about:

*I spoke to Tom this morning.* BUT *I've been working since this morning.*

This morning is used in both sentences but in the 1<sup>st</sup> sentence it shows a finished time and in the second shows that the action is still going.

**The speaker – YOU – have the power  
to decide which tense you want to use  
depending on the context of your chat.**

Thank you



# References:

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