

## Present perfect 1 (I have done)

**A** Study this example situation:



Tom can't find his key.  
He's **lost** his key. (= He **has lost** ...)

he **has lost** his key =  
he lost it and he doesn't have it now

**have lost / has lost** is the *present perfect simple*:

I/we/they/you	<b>have</b> (= I've etc.)	<b>finished lost done been</b> etc.
he/she/it	<b>has</b> (= he's etc.)	

The present perfect simple is **have/has + past participle**. The past participle often ends in **-ed** (finished**ed**/decided**ed** etc.), but many verbs are *irregular* (**lost/done/written** etc.).

For a list of irregular verbs, see Appendix 1.

**B** When we say 'something **has happened**', this is usually new information:

- Ow! I've **cut** my finger.
- The road is closed. There's **been** an accident. (= There **has been** ...)
- Police **have arrested** two men in connection with the robbery.

When we use the present perfect, there is a connection with *now*. The action in the past has a result

- Tom **has lost** his key. (= he doesn't have it *now*)
- He told me his name, but I've **forgotten** it. (= I can't remember it *now*)
- Sally is still here. She **hasn't gone** out. (= she is here *now*)
- I can't find my bag. **Have you seen** it? (= do you know where it is *now*?)

Compare **gone (to)** and **been (to)**:

- James is on holiday. He **has gone to** Italy. (= he is there now or on his way there)
- Amy is back home now. She **has been to** Italy. (= she has now come back)

**C** You can use the present perfect with **just, already** and **yet**.

**Just** = a short time ago:

- 'Are you hungry?' 'No, I've **just had** lunch.'
- Hello. **Have you just arrived**?

**Already** = sooner than expected:

- 'Don't forget to pay the bill.' 'I've **already paid** it.'
- 'What time is Mark leaving?' 'He's **already left**.'

**Yet** = until now. We use **yet** to show that we are expecting something to happen.

We use **yet** in questions and negative sentences:

- Has it stopped raining yet**?
- I've written the email, but I **haven't sent** it **yet**.

# Exercises

## 7.1 Read the situations and complete the sentences using the present perfect. Choose from these verbs:

break disappear go up grow improve ~~lose~~ shrink stop

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1 Tom is looking for his key. He can't find it.         | Tom <u>has lost his key.</u> |
| 2 Maria's English wasn't very good. Now it is better.   | Her English .....            |
| 3 My bag was here, but it isn't here any more.          | My bag .....                 |
| 4 Lisa can't walk and her leg is in plaster.            | Lisa .....                   |
| 5 Last week the bus fare was £1.80. Now it is £2.       | The bus fare .....           |
| 6 Dan didn't have a beard before. Now he has a beard.   | Dan .....                    |
| 7 It was raining ten minutes ago. It isn't raining now. | It .....                     |
| 8 I washed my sweater, and now it's too small for me.   | My sweater .....             |

## 7.2 Put in **been** or **gone**.

- 1 My parents are on holiday. They've gone to Italy.
- 2 Hello! I've just ..... to the shops. I've bought lots of things.
- 3 Tom has just ..... out. He'll be back in about an hour.
- 4 Alice isn't here at the moment. I don't know where she's .....
- 5 You're very late. Where have you .....

## 7.3 Complete the sentences using the present perfect.

- 1 Sally is still here. She hasn't gone (she / not / go) out.
- 2 I can't find my bag. .... (you / see / it) anywhere?
- 3 I can't log on to the website. .... (I / forget) my password.
- 4 I sent Joe an email this morning, but ..... (he / not / reply).
- 5 Is the meeting still going on, or ..... (it / finish)?
- 6 ..... (the weather / change). It's colder now.
- 7 ..... (you / not / sign) the form. Could you sign it now, please?
- 8 Are your friends still here, or ..... (they / go) home?
- 9 Paul doesn't know what he's going to do. .... (he / not / decide / yet).
- 10 'Do you know where Julia is?' 'Yes, ..... (I / just / see / her).'
- 11 'When is David going away?' '..... (he / already / go).'
- 12 A: ..... (your course / start / yet)?  
B: Not yet. It starts next week.

## 7.4 Read the situations and write sentences with **just**, **already** or **yet**.

- 1 After lunch you go to see a friend at her house. She says, 'Would you like something to eat?'  
You say: No thank you. I've just had lunch. (have lunch)
- 2 Joe goes out. Five minutes later, the phone rings and the caller says, 'Can I speak to Joe?'  
You say: I'm afraid ..... (go out)
- 3 You are eating in a restaurant. The waiter thinks you have finished and starts to take your plate away.  
You say: Wait a minute! ..... (not / finish)
- 4 You plan to eat at a restaurant tonight. You phone to reserve a table. Later your friend says,  
'Shall I phone to reserve a table?' You say: No, .....
- 5 You know that Lisa is looking for a place to live. Perhaps she has been successful.  
You ask her: .....? (find)
- 6 You are still thinking about where to go for your holiday. A friend asks, 'Where are you going  
for your holiday?' You say: ..... (not / decide)
- 7 Laura went out, but a few minutes ago she returned. Somebody asks, 'Is Laura still out?'  
You say: No, ..... (come back)

