

# 13 Present Perfect (1)

1 We form the Present Perfect using the present tense of **have** + a past participle:

POSITIVE	
<i>FULL FORM</i>	<i>SHORT FORM</i>
I/you <b>have arrived</b>	I've <b>arrived</b>
he/she/it <b>has arrived</b>	he's <b>arrived</b>
we/you/they <b>have arrived</b>	we've <b>arrived</b>

NEGATIVE	
<i>FULL FORM</i>	<i>SHORT FORM</i>
I/you <b>have not arrived</b>	<b>haven't</b>
he/she/it <b>has not arrived</b>	<b>hasn't</b>
we/you/they <b>have not arrived</b>	<b>haven't</b>

QUESTIONS  
 Have I/you arrived?  
 Has he/she/it arrived?  
 Have we/you/they arrived?

2 Regular past participles end in **-ed** or **-d**:

played travelled arrived washed

(For more regular past participles see Appendix 2, page 243.)

Many past participles are irregular:

buy → bought      go → gone  
 make → made

(For irregular past participles see Appendix 3, page 244.)

3 We use the Present Perfect:

▶ to talk about recent actions:

At 18.00, Anne arrived home.

At 18.01, we can say:

*Anne has arrived home.*

From 18.30 to 19.00, Anne ate her dinner.

At 19.01, we can say:

*She's eaten her dinner.*

▶ to talk about our lives:



*I've sailed across the Atlantic.*

*I've seen gorillas in Africa.*

*I haven't danced the Flamenco.*

4 When we ask people about their lives, we often use **ever** (= at any time):

*Have you ever been to Australia?*

When people talk about their lives, they sometimes use **never** (= not at any time):

*I've never learnt French.*

Note that **ever** and **never** come before the past participle.

## Practice

A Use short forms (*I've seen, she's gone*) of the Present Perfect to make positive or negative sentences.

- |                                  |                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ▶ (He/lose/his passport)         | He's lost his passport.....     |
| ▶ (She/not/see/her sister)       | She hasn't seen her sister..... |
| 1 (We/finish/our work)           | .....                           |
| 2 (They/buy/a new house)         | .....                           |
| 3 (They/not/phone/the doctor)    | .....                           |
| 4 (They/go/to the cinema)        | .....                           |
| 5 (You/eat/four bananas!)        | .....                           |
| 6 (You/not/take/any photographs) | .....                           |

Now use the Present Perfect to make questions.

- ▶ (you/see/John?) *Have you seen John?* .....
- 7 (you/be/to Canada?) .....
- 8 (they/cook/our breakfast?) .....
- 9 (Jane/make/any mistakes?) .....
- 10 (we/visit/all the museums?) .....

**B** James is talking about his life. Put the correct past participles in the gaps.

I've (▶) *seen*..... (see) a lot of beautiful places in my life, and I've (1)..... (do) a lot of interesting things. I've (2)..... (travel) in North and South America, for example. I've (3)..... (visit) all the big American cities. I've (4)..... (drive) across Mexico. I haven't (5)..... (be) to Argentina, but I've (6)..... (work) in Peru and Bolivia. I've (7)..... (swim) in the Pacific Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean, and the Mediterranean Sea. I've (8)..... (eat) in the best restaurants in Paris, and I've (9)..... (sing) Italian songs in Rome. I haven't (10)..... (make) much money in my life, but I've (11)..... (meet) a lot of interesting people and I've (12)..... (take) a lot of wonderful photographs!



**C** Read the questions. If they refer to a recent event, put a tick (✓). If they refer to someone's life rewrite the sentence using *ever*.

- ▶ Have you had coffee? *✓* .....
- ▶ Have you eaten elephant meat? *Have you ever eaten elephant meat?* .....
- 1 Have you bought a newspaper? .....
- 2 Have you flown in a military aeroplane? .....
- 3 Have you washed your hands? .....
- 4 Have you spoken to a prince or princess? .....
- 5 Have you had anything to drink? .....

**D** Now write true answers to these questions, using either *this morning* or *never*.

- ▶ *No, I haven't had coffee this morning.* .....
- ▶ *No, I've never eaten elephant meat.* .....
- 1 .....
- 2 .....
- 3 .....
- 4 .....
- 5 .....