

PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE

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PAST PERFECT SIMPLE

Review

Present perfect simple: 'think'

	I / you / we / they	he / she / it
Common expressions	for, since, already, yet, just, ever, never, recently, lately, once, twice, three times, how long, since when, ...	
Affirmative	have thought	has thought
Negative	haven't thought	hasn't thought
Interrogative	Have ___ thought... ?	Has ___ thought... ?

Present perfect uses:

1. We use this tense when we want to talk about unfinished actions that started in the past and continue to the present. Usually we use it to say 'how long' an action or state has continued with 'since' and 'for'. Often, we use **stative verbs** in this situation:

- **I've known** Karen since 1994.
- **She's lived** in London for three years.

Present perfect uses:

We use 'since' with a **fixed time in the past** (2004, April 23rd, last year, two hours ago). The fixed time can be another action, indicated with the **past simple** (since I was at school, since I arrived):

- I've known Sam **since** 1992.
- I've liked chocolate **since** I was a child.
- She's been here **since** 2pm.

We use 'for' with a **period of time** (2 hours, three years, six months):

- I've known Julie **for** ten years.
- I've been hungry **for** hours.
- She's had a cold **for** a week.

Present perfect uses:

2. Finished actions or situations:

1: Life experience

(we don't say when the experience happened, just sometime in the past)

- I **have been** to Tokyo.
- She **has lived** in Germany.
- They **have visited** Paris three times.
- We **have never seen** that film.
- **Have you ever read** 'War and Peace'?

Present perfect uses:

3. Finished actions or situations:

A finished action with a result in the present

(focus on result)

- **I've lost** my keys (so I can't get into my house).
- **She's hurt** her leg (so she can't play tennis today).
- **They've missed** the bus (so they will be late).
- **I've cooked** dinner (so you should come and eat).

Present perfect uses:

4. Finished actions or situations:

With an unfinished time word (this month, this week, today, in the last year)

- I **haven't seen** her this month.
- She's **drunk** three cups of coffee today.
- This week they've **been** shopping four times.

Past perfect simple: 'think'

	I / you / we / they / he / she / it
Common expressions	after, as soon as, the moment that, until, before, when, by the time
Affirmative	had thought
Negative	hadn't thought
Interrogative	Had ___ thought... ?

Past perfect simple uses

1: A completed action before something else in the past.

- When we arrived, the film **had started**. (= first the film started, then later we arrived)

Past perfect simple uses

2: To explain or give a reason for something in the past.

- I **'d eaten** dinner so I wasn't hungry.
- It **had snowed** in the night, so the bus didn't arrive.

Past perfect simple uses

3: Stative verbs only: something that started in the past and continued up to another action in the past.

- When he graduated, he **had been** in London for six years.
- (= he arrived in London six years before he graduated and lived there continuously until he graduated, or even longer)

Past perfect simple uses

4: As part of the third conditional.

- If I **had known** you were ill, I would have visited you.

