

How long have you ... ? (present perfect 4)

Jane is on holiday in Ireland.

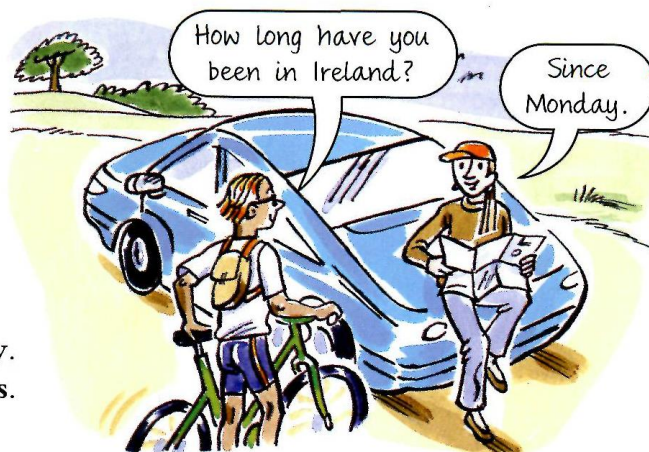
She is there now.

She arrived in Ireland on Monday.

Today is Thursday.

How long **has she been** in Ireland?

She **has been** in Ireland { **since Monday.**
for three days.



Compare **is** and **has been**:

She **is** in Ireland
now.

is = present

She **has been** in Ireland { **since Monday.**
for three days.

has been = present perfect

Monday

now

Thursday

Compare:

present simple

present perfect simple (have been / have lived / have known etc.)

Dan and Kate **are** married.

They **have been** married **for five years.**

(not They are married for five years.)

Are you married?

How long have you been married?

(not How long are you married?)

Do you **know** Lisa?

How long have you known her?

(not How long do you know her?)

I **know** Lisa.

I've **known** her **for a long time.**

(not I know her for ...)

Vicky **lives** in London.

How long has she lived in London?

She **has lived** there **all her life.**

I **have** a car.

How long have you had your car?

I've **had** it **since April.**

present continuous

present perfect continuous (have been + -ing)

I'm **learning** German.

How long have you been learning German?

(not How long are you learning German?)

I've **been learning** German **for two years.**

David **is watching** TV.

How long has he been watching TV?

He's **been** (= He **has been**) **watching** TV **since 5 o'clock.**

It's **raining.**

It's **been** (= It **has been**) **raining** **all day.**

Complete these sentences.

- Jane is in Ireland. She has been in Ireland since Monday.
- I know Lisa. I have known her for a long time.
- Sarah and Andy are married. They married since 1999.
- Brian is ill. He ill for the last few days.
- We live in Scott Road. We there for a long time.
- Catherine works in a bank. She in a bank for five years.
- Alan has a headache. He a headache since he got up this morning.
- I'm learning English. I English for six months.

Make questions with How long ... ?

1	Jane is on holiday.	<u>How long has she been on holiday</u>	?
2	Scott and Judy are in Brazil.	How long	?
3	I know Amy.	How long you	?
4	Diana is learning Italian.	?
5	My brother lives in Canada.	?
6	I'm a teacher.	?
7	It is raining.	?



Look at the pictures and complete the sentences with:

for ten minutes	all day	all her life
for ten years	since he was 20	since Sunday

- They have been married for ten years.
- She
- They
- The sun
- She
- He

Which is right?

- Mark ~~lives~~ / has lived in Canada since April. (has lived is right)
- Jane and I are friends. I know / I've known her very well.
- Jane and I are friends. I know / I've known her for a long time.
- A: Sorry I'm late. How long are you waiting / have you been waiting?
B: Not long. Only five minutes.
- Martin works / has worked in a hotel now. He likes his job a lot.
- Ruth is reading the newspaper. She is reading / She has been reading it for two hours.
- 'How long do you live / have you lived in this house?' 'About ten years.'
- 'Is that a new coat?' 'No, I have / I've had this coat for a long time.'
- Tom is / has been in Spain at the moment. He is / He has been there for the last three days.

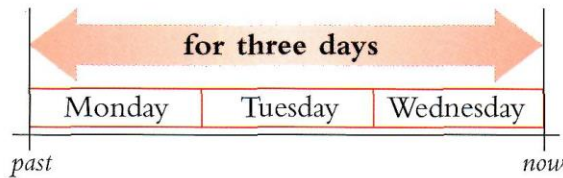
for since ago

for and since

We use **for** and **since** to say *how long*:

- Jane is in Ireland. She **has been** there { **for three days.**
since Monday.

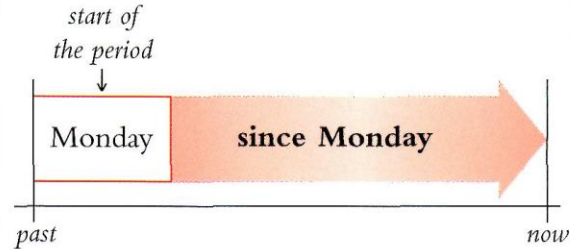
We use **for** + a period of time
 (three days / two years etc.):



for	
three days	ten minutes
an hour	two hours
a week	four weeks
a month	six months
five years	a long time

- Richard has been in Canada **for six months.** (*not* since six months)
 □ We've been waiting **for two hours.** (*not* since two hours)
 □ I've lived in London **for a long time.**

We use **since** + the start of the period
 (Monday / 9 o'clock etc.):



since	
Monday	Wednesday
9 o'clock	12.30
24 July	Christmas
January	I was ten years old
1985	we arrived

- Richard has been in Canada **since January.** (= from January to now)
 □ We've been waiting **since 9 o'clock.** (= from 9 o'clock to now)
 □ I've lived in London **since I was ten years old.**

ago

ago = before now:

- Susan started her new job **three weeks ago.** (= three weeks before now)
 □ 'When did Tom go out?' '**Ten minutes ago.**' (= ten minutes before now)
 □ I had dinner **an hour ago.**
 □ Life was very different **a hundred years ago.**

We use **ago** with the *past* (**started/did/had/was** etc.).

Compare **ago** and **for**:

- **When did** Jane **arrive** in Ireland?
 She **arrived** in Ireland **three days ago.**
 □ **How long has** she **been** in Ireland?
 She **has been** in Ireland **for three days.**

Write for or since.

- 1 Jane has been in Ireland since Monday.
- 2 Jane has been in Ireland for three days.
- 3 My aunt has lived in Australia 15 years.
- 4 Jennifer is in her office. She has been there 7 o'clock.
- 5 India has been an independent country 1947.
- 6 The bus is late. We've been waiting 20 minutes.
- 7 Nobody lives in those houses. They have been empty many years.
- 8 Michael has been ill a long time. He has been in hospital October.

Answer these questions. Use ago.

- 1 When was your last meal? Three hours ago.
- 2 When was the last time you were ill?
- 3 When did you last go to the cinema?
- 4 When was the last time you were in a car?
- 5 When was the last time you went on holiday?

Complete the sentences. Use for or ago with these words.

- 1 Jane arrived in Ireland three days ago. (three days)
- 2 Jane has been in Ireland for three days. (three days)
- 3 Lynn and Mark have been married (20 years)
- 4 Lynn and Mark got married (20 years)
- 5 Dan arrived (an hour)
- 6 I bought these shoes (a few days)
- 7 Silvia has been learning English (six months)
- 8 Have you known Lisa ? (a long time)

Complete the sentences with for or since.

- 1 (Jane is in Ireland – she arrived there three days ago)
Jane has been in Ireland for three days.
- 2 (Jack is here – he arrived on Tuesday)
Jack has
- 3 (It's raining – it started an hour ago)
It's been
- 4 (I know Sue – I first met her in 2002)
I've
- 5 (Claire and Matthew are married – they got married six months ago)
Claire and Matthew have
- 6 (Liz is studying medicine at university – she started three years ago)
Liz has
- 7 (David plays the piano – he started when he was seven years old)
David has

Write sentences about yourself. Begin your sentences with:

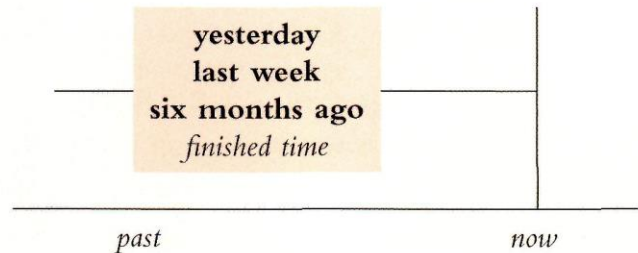
I've lived ... I've been ... I've been learning ... I've known ... I've had ...

- 1 I've lived in this town for three years.
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

I have done (present perfect) and I did (past)

With a *finished time* (**yesterday** / **last week** etc.), we use the past (**arrived/saw/was** etc.):

<i>past</i> + <i>finished time</i>	
We arrived	yesterday.
	last week.
	at 3 o'clock.
	in 2002.
	six months ago.



Do *not* use the present perfect (**have arrived** / **have done** / **have been** etc.) with a finished time:

- ☐ I **saw** Paula **yesterday**. (*not* I have seen)
- ☐ Where **were** you **on Sunday afternoon**? (*not* Where have you been)
- ☐ We **didn't have** a holiday **last year**. (*not* We haven't had)
- ☐ 'What **did** you **do last night**?' 'I **stayed** at home.'
- ☐ William Shakespeare **lived from 1564 to 1616**. He **was** a writer. He **wrote** many plays and poems.

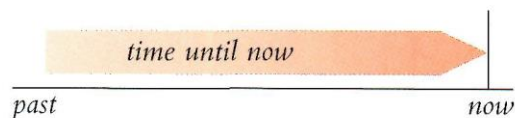
Use the past to ask **When ... ?** or **What time ... ?**:

- ☐ **When did** you **buy** your computer? (*not* When have you bought?)
- ☐ **What time did** Andy **go** out? (*not* What time has Andy gone out)

Compare:

present perfect

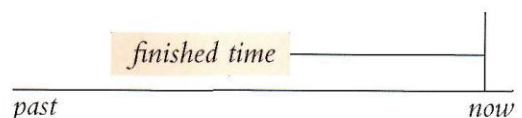
- ☐ I **have lost** my key.
(= I can't find it *now*)
- ☐ Ben **has gone** home.
(= he isn't here *now*)
- ☐ **Have** you **seen** Kate?
(= where is she *now*?)



- ☐ **Have** you **ever been** to Spain?
(= in your life, until *now*)
- ☐ My friend is a writer. He **has written** many books.
- ☐ The letter **hasn't arrived** yet.
- ☐ We've **lived** in Singapore for six years.
(= we live there *now*)

past

- ☐ I **lost** my key **last week**.
- ☐ Ben **went** home **ten minutes ago**.
- ☐ **Did** you **see** Kate **on Saturday**?



- ☐ **Did** you **go** to Spain **last year**?
- ☐ Shakespeare **wrote** many plays and poems.
- ☐ The letter **didn't arrive** **yesterday**.
- ☐ We **lived** in Glasgow for six years, but now we live in Singapore.

Complete the answers to the questions.

- 1 Have you seen Kate?
- 2 Have you started your new job?
- 3 Have your friends arrived?
- 4 Has Sarah gone away?
- 5 Have you worn your new suit?

Yes, I saw her five minutes ago.
 Yes, I last week.
 Yes, they at 5 o'clock.
 Yes, on Friday.
 Yes, yesterday.

Are these sentences OK? Correct the verbs that are wrong. (The verbs are underlined.)

- 1 I've lost my key. I can't find it.
- 2 Have you seen Kate yesterday?
- 3 I've finished my work at 2 o'clock.
- 4 I'm ready now. I've finished my work.
- 5 What time have you finished your work?
- 6 Sue isn't here. She's gone out.
- 7 Steve's grandmother has died two years ago.
- 8 Where have you been last night?

OK

Did you see

Put the verb in the present perfect or past.

- 1 My friend is a writer. He has written (write) many books.
- 2 We didn't have (not/have) a holiday last year.
- 3 I (play) tennis yesterday afternoon.
- 4 What time (you/go) to bed last night?
- 5 (you/ever/meet) a famous person?
- 6 The weather (not/be) very good yesterday.
- 7 Kathy travels a lot. She (visit) many countries.
- 8 I (switch) off the light before going out this morning.
- 9 I live in New York now, but I (live) in Mexico for many years.
- 10 'What's Canada like? Is it beautiful?' 'I don't know. I (not/be) there.'

Put the verb in the present perfect or past.

1 A: Have you ever been (you/ever/be) to Florida?

B: Yes, we went (go) there on holiday two years ago.

A: (you/have) a good time?

B: Yes, it (be) great.

2 A: Where's Alan? (you/see) him?

B: Yes, he (go) out a few minutes ago.

A: And Rachel?

B: I don't know. I (not/see) her.

3 Rose works in a factory. She (work) there for six months.

Before that she (be) a waitress in a restaurant. She

..... (work) there for two years, but she
 (not/enjoy) it very much.

4 A: Do you know Martin's sister?

B: I (see) her a few times, but I
 (never/speak) to her. (you/ever/speak) to her?

A: Yes. I (meet) her at a party last week. She's very nice.