

# LESSON 159

---

## 904 It's two weeks since ...

The sentence "It's two weeks since I watched TV" means that I have not watched TV in the last two weeks; the last time I watched TV was two weeks ago. The structure is "It's" + time period + "since" + past tense.

Give me an example of the structure "It's" + time period + "since" + past tense, please.

It's six months since  
she gave up smoking

Now, I will name an activity, and I want you to tell me how long it is since you last did it.

Swim in the sea

It's ... since I swam ...

Clean your room

It's ... since I cleaned ...

Do physical exercise

It's ... since I did ...

Lose your temper

It's ... since I lost ...

Cook a meal for other people

It's ... since I cooked ...

Fly to another country

It's ... since I flew ...

## roar

What kind of noise does a lion make?

A lion makes a roaring  
noise

## 905 slope

## steep

## brake

Would a car stand still on a slight slope without its brakes on?

No, a car wouldn't stand still ...

What would happen to it?

It would begin to roll slowly  
down the slope

And if the slope was very steep, what would happen? If the **slope** was ..., the car would **gather speed** and eventually crash into something

## **soil**

Is the soil deep on the side of a mountain? **No**, the soil isn't ...; it's shallow (or thin)

Why? Because a lot of it **gets washed** away by rain water

## **shield**

In the past, what did a soldier carry to protect himself against enemy swords? In the **past**, a soldier carried a shield ...

## **bleed – bled – bled**

## **plaster**

What are the three forms of "bleed"? The three forms of "bleed" are "bleed, bled, bled"

When you cut yourself, what do you put over the cut to stop it bleeding? When I ..., I put a **plaster** ... to stop it bleeding

## 906 **spit – spat – spat**

Is it forbidden to spit in the streets in this country? Yes, it's forbidden ...  
~ No, it isn't forbidden ...

What are the three forms of "spit"? The three forms of "spit" are "spit, spat, spat"

## **comb**

How often do you comb your hair? I **comb** my hair about ...

## **rubber**

## **tyre**

What do we use rubber for? We use rubber for making car or bicycle **tyres** etc.

## ribbon

What can we use a ribbon for?

## tie up

We can use a ribbon for tying up presents, and a small girl might wear a ribbon in her hair

## stuff

The word "stuff" is similar in meaning to the word "thing". The difference is that "thing" is a countable noun, whereas "stuff" is an uncountable noun. For example, instead of saying "What are all these things on the table?", we could say "What is all this stuff on the table?".

## manufacture

907 What's the difference between the word "thing" and the word "stuff"?

The difference ... is that "thing" is a countable noun, whereas "stuff" is an uncountable noun

Give me an example of the word "stuff", please.

I need to pack all my stuff for the holiday. We talked about lots of interesting stuff during the train journey.

Have you got lots of stuff to do tomorrow?

Yes, I've got ... ~ No, I haven't got ...

What kind of stuff does your country manufacture?

My country ...

When you go to a restaurant, what type of stuff do you like to eat?

When I go ..., I like to eat...

What kind of stuff do you enjoy doing at the weekends?

At the weekends, I enjoy ...

## hob

## grill

## oven

What do we call the three main parts of a cooker?

We call ... the hob, the grill and the oven

And which part would you use to roast a chicken?

I'd use the oven to roast a chicken

## trunk

What do we call the main part of the body, not including the head, arms or legs?

We call the main ... the trunk

Consequently, what is a tree trunk?

A tree trunk is the main part or body of a tree

908 What do we mean by a trunk used for travelling?

By a trunk ..., we mean a large strong bigger than a suitcase, that we use for box, transporting our belongings from one place to another

What do we call an elephant's nose?

We call ... a trunk

**shell**

**outer**

What do we call the outer covering of an egg or a nut?

We call the outer ... the shell

**shy**

**mature**

**diminish**

Were you shy with adults as a child?

Yes, I was ... ~ No, I wasn't ...

Would you agree that, in general, a person's shyness diminishes as they become more mature?

Yes, I'd agree ...  
~ No, I wouldn't agree ...

**sow – sowed – sowed (or sow – sowed – sown)**

Do most modern farms use machines to sow seeds in the land?

Yes, most modern farms ...

What are the three forms of "sow"?

The three forms of "sow" are "sow, sowed, sowed" (or "sow, sowed, sown")

**wrap**

**wrap up**

**sticky tape**

**string**

What do we use to wrap up a parcel?

We use cardboard, paper, sticky tape, string etc. to wrap up a parcel

909 Should we wrap up well when we go out in cold weather?

Yes, we should wrap up ...

**bribe**

If you were in an important position in the government, would you accept bribes?

Yes, if I were in ..., I'd ...  
~ No, if I were in ..., I wouldn't ...

## department

If you were a sales assistant in a large department store, which department would you most enjoy working in? If I were ..., I'd most enjoy working in the ... department

## threaten

What am I doing?

You're threatening to hit somebody with your hand

If a robber threatened you with a knife or a gun, what would you do?

If a robber ..., I'd ...

Is a threat to commit murder considered a serious crime in many countries even if the murder never actually takes place?

Yes, a threat ... is considered ... even if ...

910



Dictation 110

The queue was so long/ that it disappeared/ around the curve in the road./ It's rare for a film to be enjoyed/ by all types of people./ This knife is sharp enough/ to cut the raw meat./ We were relieved to find our baggage./ George touched the light switch/ and got a shock/ from the electric current./ The racecourse was closed/ for a whole season./ When this ladder is fully extended,/ we'll be able to lean it/ against that wooden beam/ running across the ceiling./ A piece of straw/ is actually the stem of a wheat plant./ If you give me a needle and thread,/ I will sew up the hole/ in your shirt./ It took several weeks/ for the wound to heal./ As the sun began to set,/ the shadows grew longer.