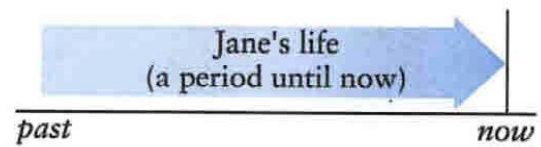


Present Perfect (2) (I have done)

A

Study this example conversation:

Dave: Have you traveled a lot, Jane?
 Jane: Yes, I've been to lots of places.
 Dave: Really? Have you ever been to China?
 Jane: Yes, I've been to China twice.
 Dave: What about India?
 Jane: No, I haven't been to India.



When we talk about a period of time that continues from the past until now, we use the *present perfect* (have been / have traveled, etc.). Here, Dave and Jane are talking about the places Jane has visited in her life (which is a period that continues until now).

Some more examples:

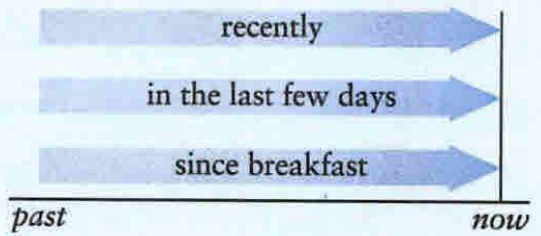
- Have you ever eaten caviar? (*in your life*)
- We've never had a car.
- "Have you read *Hamlet*?" "No, I haven't read any of Shakespeare's plays."
- Susan really loves that movie. She's seen it eight times!
- What a boring movie! It's the most boring movie I've ever seen.

been (to) = visited:

- I've never been to China. Have you been there?

Here are more examples of speakers talking about a period that continues until now (*recently / in the last few days / so far / since breakfast, etc.*):

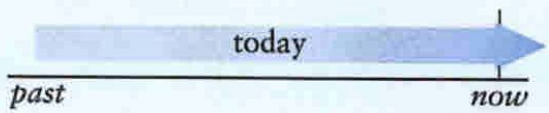
- Have you heard from Brian recently?
- I've met a lot of people in the last few days.
- Everything is going well. We haven't had any problems so far.
- I'm hungry. I haven't eaten anything since breakfast. (= from breakfast until now)
- It's nice to see you again. We haven't seen each other for a long time.



B

We use the present perfect with *today / this morning / this evening, etc.*, when these periods are not finished at the time of speaking:

- I've drunk four cups of coffee today.
- Have you had a vacation this year?
- I haven't seen Tom this morning. Have you?



C

We say, "It's the first time something has happened" (*present perfect*). For example:

- Don is taking a driving lesson. It's his first one. It's the first time he has driven a car. (*not drives*)
- or He has never driven a car before.
- Sarah has lost her passport again. It's the second time this has happened. (*not happens*)
- Eric is calling his girlfriend again. This is the third time he's called her tonight.



Exercises

8.1 You are asking somebody questions about things he or she has done. Make questions from the words in parentheses.

- (ever / ride / horse?) *Have you ever ridden a horse?* _____
- (ever / be / Mexico?) _____
- (ever / run / marathon?) _____
- (ever / speak / famous person?) _____
- (always / live / in this town?) _____
- (most beautiful place / ever / visit?) What _____ ?

8.2 Complete B's answers. Some sentences are positive and some negative. Use a verb from this list:

be be eat happen have meet play read see see

A

- What's Brian's sister like?
- How is Amy these days?
- Are you hungry?
- Can you play chess?
- Are you enjoying your vacation?
- What's that book like?
- Is Bangkok an interesting place?
- Mike was late for work again today.
- The car broke down again yesterday.
- Who's that woman by the door?

B

- I have no idea. *I've never met* _____ her.
 I don't know. I _____ her recently.
 Yes, I _____ much today.
 Yes, but _____ for ages.
 Yes, it is the best vacation _____ in a long time.
 I don't know. _____ it.
 I don't know. _____ there.
 Again? He _____ every day this week.
 Not again! That's the second time _____ this week.
 I don't know. _____ before.

8.3 Complete these sentences using today / this year / this semester, etc.

- I saw Tom yesterday, but *I haven't seen him today* _____.
- I read a newspaper yesterday, but I _____ today.
- Last year the company made a profit, but _____.
- Tracy worked hard at school last semester, but _____.
- It snowed a lot last winter, but _____.

8.4 Read the situations and write sentences as shown in the examples.

- James is driving a car, but he's very nervous and not sure what to do.
 You ask: *Have you driven a car before?* _____
 He says: *No, this is the first time I've driven a car.* _____
- Ben is playing tennis. He's not very good, and he doesn't know the rules.
 You ask: Have _____ ?
 He says: No, this is the first _____.
- Sue is riding a horse. She doesn't look very confident or comfortable.
 You ask: _____
 She says: _____
- Maria is in Los Angeles. She has just arrived, and it's very new for her.
 You ask: _____
 She says: _____