

How long have you been in this place?

Ask this to know the amount of time spent in the place someone is *now*.



MORE EXAMPLES

A: "**How long have you been in** Hong Kong?"

B: "I've been here for six months, but I still can't find a job!"

A: "**How long have you been in** this country?"

B: "For five years. I grew up in Sri Lanka and moved here five years ago."

For *ago*, see page 46

What does this mean?

NOT ~~What mean this?~~; NOT ~~This mean what?~~



MORE EXAMPLES

A: "What does 'large' mean?"

B: "It means 'big'."

A: "What does 'insatiable' mean?"

B: "I don't know. Look it up in the dictionary."

For *look it up*, see page 128

away on business

in another city or country on a business trip



MORE EXAMPLES

A: "Are you free next week?"

B: "No, I'll be **away on business.**"

A: "I tried calling you last week, but I couldn't reach you."

B: "I was **away on business.**"

For *reach*, see page 254

should have done something

Say this when something was a good idea, but you didn't do it. You made a mistake and now it's too late.



MORE EXAMPLES

“Fred wanted to marry you, but you said no. Now he’s very successful. You **should have** married him!”

“The copier is broken because you put in too much paper. You **shouldn’t have** put in so much paper.”

For *successful*, see page 309

someone **is back**

someone **has returned from somewhere**



MORE EXAMPLES

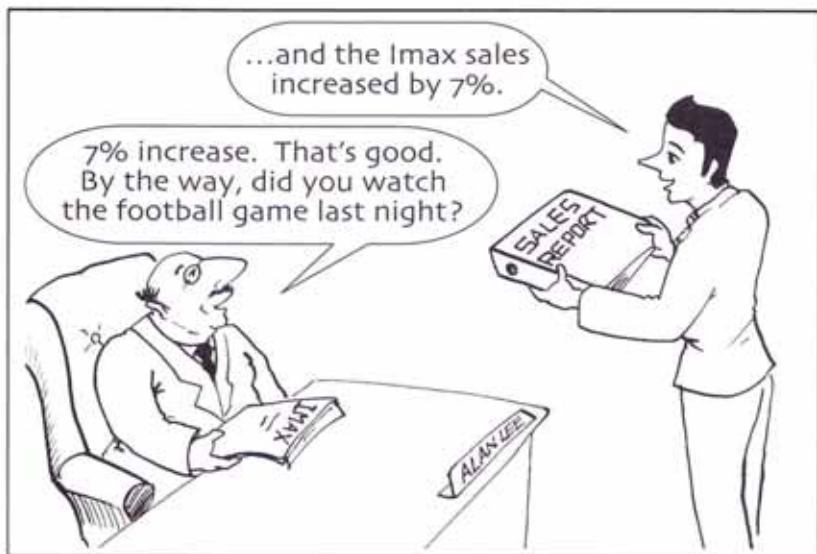
A: "Miss French went to the bank. **Is** she **back**?"

B: "No, she **isn't back** yet."

"My father was in the hospital for a few days, but now he's **back** home."

by the way

Say this to introduce a different topic.



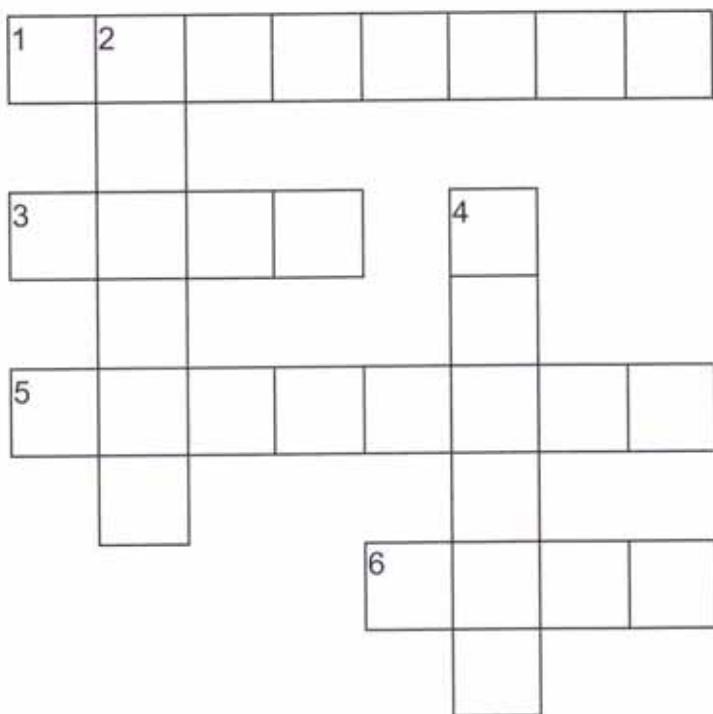
MORE EXAMPLES

A: "Are you ready to go to lunch?"

B: "Yes, let's go. **By the way**, your mother called."

"...then we visited Paris and then we went to London. **By the way**, how's your sister?"

GRAB A PENCIL! • Puzzle #38



ACROSS

- 1) "How long ___ you ___ in this city?" ▪ "I've been here for seven months."
- 3) "We have a test today, but I didn't study! I should ___ studied last night."
- 5) "What ___ 'speedy' ___?" ▪ "'Speedy' means 'fast'."
- 6) "Your sister went to Mexico. Is she still there?" ▪ "No, she's ___."

DOWN

- 2) "My husband often travels for his job. In fact, he's ___ business right now. He's in Brazil."
- 4) "Let's print these documents now. By ___ ___, I'm having a party next Friday."

For answers, see page 367