



PAST SIMPLE TENSE

VS.

PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE TENSE

VS.

PRESENT SIMPLE TENSE

THE PAST SIMPLE TENSE

FORM:

I/you/he/she/it/we/you/they workED/SLEPT.

DID I/you/he/she/it/we/you/they WORK/SLEEP?

I/you/he/she/it/we/you/they DIDN'T WORK/SLEEP.

Short answers:

Yes, I did./No, I didn't.



THE PAST SIMPLE TENSE

Exceptions in spelling when adding *-ed*:

1. After a final *-E* only add a *-D* : e.g. love – loved, smile- smiled, hate-hated
2. Final consonant after a short, stressed vowel or *-l* as final consonant after a vowel is doubled: e.g. admit – admitted; travel- travelled
3. A final *-y* after a consonant becomes an *-i*: e.g. hurry – hurri**IED**, cry- cri**ED**, try- tri**ED**

BUT play-pla**YED**, stay-sta**YED** because the *-y* is preceded by a vowel.

4. Verbs short in pronunciation that end in a vowel preceded by a consonant: e.g. jog-jog**ged**, beg-beg**ged**, slam-slam**med**



THE PAST SIMPLE TENSE – TO BE

Don't forget that the verb TO BE follows different rules:

FORM:

I/he/she/it WAS. You/we/they WERE.

WAS I/he/she/it? WERE you/we/they?

I/he/she/it WASN'T. You/we/they WEREN'T.

Short answers:

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

Yes, you were./ No, you weren't.



THE PAST SIMPLE TENSE

ADVERBS:

yesterday

last week/month/year

3 days AGO

in 1985

in the last century

in the 20th century

the other day

when I was born

when I was a child

in the beginning, etc.



THE PAST SIMPLE TENSE

USE:

1. Actions that started and finished in the past (usually short actions):

e.g. My friends LEFT yesterday.

The company started working in 1978.

2. To indicate the past habits:

e.g. When I WAS a student, I CARRIED a bag with me.

He WAS a fan of this musician.

3. A sequence of short actions happening one after another.

e.g. He CAME in, TOOK off his coat and SAT down.



THE PAST SIMPLE TENSE

- When you want to make a WH- question, follow the rules we have already covered:

I went to the cinema with my sister.

WHERE **did you go** with your sister?

First goes the question word and then the auxiliary verb
DID + Subject + INFINITIVE.

I went to the cinema with my sister.

WHO did you go to the cinema **WITH**?

Remember: Prepositions are always AT THE END of the question!!!



THE PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE TENSE

FORM:

I/you/we/they HAVE worked/been

He/she/it HAS worked/been

PAST PARTICIPLE

HAVE I/you/we/they worked/been?

HAS he/she/it worked/been?

I/you/we/they HAVEN'T worked/been

He/she/it HASN'T worked/been

Short answers:

Yes, I have./No, I haven't.

Yes, he has./No, he hasn't.



THE PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE TENSE

ADVERBS:

already (+)

yet (-, ?)

recently

lately

ever

never

since

for

so far

up to now

in the past/last 20
years

just

this morning

this evening

today

during the last ten
days



THE PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE TENSE

USE:

1. **Actions for which *we don't know when they happened*, or actions for which it is more important that they happened than when they happened.**

e.g. I *have bought* a cat recently.

2. **Actions which happened in the past and the effects of which are visible in the present.**

e.g. I *have broken* my arm. (present result = My arm is still in a cast.)

e.g. The government *has increased* taxes.

(present results = taxes are now higher)

e.g. We *have employed* two new workers.

(present results = two more employees)



THE PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE TENSE

USE:

- 3. Actions which started in the past and last up to now.**

e.g. I *have lived* here since 1968. (I started living here in 1968 and I am still living here)

- 4. Personal experience (from the moment of birth till now)**

e.g. I *have never been* to America.

- 5. To show an activity within a period of time which is **not yet finished** at the time of speaking:**

e.g. The quality of the product *has improved* this year. (The year is not yet finished.)

e.g. John *has changed* three jobs this month. (The month is not yet finished.)



THE PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE TENSE

USE:

6. to give new information

e.g. Did you hear the news? Jim **has found** a new job!

e.g. Do you know about Susan? She **has got married!**

7. to announce a recent happening

e.g. We **have just** signed a new contract.

e.g. I **have just** finished work.

8. with a superlative

e.g. This is **the largest** order we **have** ever **received**.

e.g. This is **the most boring** book I **have** ever **read!**



THE PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE TENSE

USE:

9. with the expressions such as ***This is the first time*** or ***It's the first time***:

e.g. *This is the first time* we ***have done*** business with you so the payment should be in cash.

e.g. *It's the first time* I ***have had*** a job interview so I'm a bit nervous.

10. to talk about an activity ***between a short time ago and now***:

e.g. I *haven't* seen John ***lately***. Have you?

e.g. We *have* ***recently*** *changed over* to Microsoft XP.





PRESENT SIMPLE VS. PRESENT PERFECT

THE PRESENT PERFECT VS. THE PRESENT SIMPLE

Živim u Novom Sadu 20 godina.

= I **have lived** in Novi Sad for 20 years.

~~NOT: I live in Novi Sad for 20 years.~~

Ne pušim već osam godina.

= I **haven't smoked** for eight years.

~~NOT: I don't smoke for eight years.~~



THE PRESENT PERFECT VS. THE PRESENT SIMPLE

Ne pušim od septembra.

= I ***haven't smoked*** since September.

NOT: I ~~don't smoke~~ since September.

Koliko dugo poznaješ Toma?

= How long ***have*** you ***known*** Tom?

NOT: How long ~~do you know~~ Tom?





PAST SIMPLE VS. PRESENT PERFECT

THE PRESENT PERFECT VS. THE PAST SIMPLE

1. We use the ***past simple*** tense when we know exactly **when** an activity happened in the past.
 - ◉ The government **reduced** interest rates ***last week***.

We use the ***present perfect*** tense for an activity that happened **at a non-specific time** in the past:

- ◉ The government **has reduced** interest rates.



THE PRESENT PERFECT VS. THE PAST SIMPLE

2. We use the *present perfect* tense to give new information or to announce a recent happening.

⦿ A: Did you know? I' *ve changed* my job!

But, if we continue to talk about it, we normally use the *past simple* tense:

⦿ B: Really? When *did* you *change* it?

⦿ A: Well, actually, my previous employer *called* me yesterday and *asked* me to work for him again.



THE PRESENT PERFECT VS. THE PAST SIMPLE

3. The *present perfect* always tells us something about the present. The sentence

◉ Prices *have fallen*.

tells us that the prices are now lower.

The *past simple* tense tells us only about the past:

◉ The prices *fell* last year.

We do not know what the prices are like now. We only know that they fell last year.



THE PRESENT PERFECT VS. THE PAST SIMPLE

4. We **DO NOT** use the *present perfect* when we are talking about a finished time in the past, e. g. *yesterday, two years ago, in 1980, when I was a child, etc.*

We use the *past simple* tense here:

- ⦿ I ***played*** tennis very well when I ***was*** young.
- ⦿ Mr Jones ***retired*** from his job two years ago.
- ⦿ I ***lost*** my key yesterday.



THE PRESENT PERFECT VS. THE PAST SIMPLE

5. We **DO NOT** use the *present perfect* tense to ask **when something happened**.

We use the *past simple* instead:

⦿ **When *did* you *change* your job?**



THE PRESENT PERFECT VS. THE PAST SIMPLE

- If a person we are talking about is dead, we use the PAST SIMPLE.

e.g. Adam Smith *wrote* “The Wealth of Nations”.

- If we are talking about some past event we use the PAST SIMPLE Tense, *even if we don't have an adverb* as an indicator of a tense.

e.g. Our last meeting *proved* to be fruitful and successful.



THE PRESENT PERFECT VS. THE PAST SIMPLE

We **faced** many problems in the last century.

- ◉ The last century is over, has nothing to do with the present and that is why we use the Past Simple Tense.

BUT

We **have faced** many problems in the last 20 years.

- ◉ The expression “in the last 20 years” encompasses the period from 1993 till NOW. Since **the present moment is involved**, we use the Present Perfect Simple Tense.



THE PRESENT PERFECT VS. THE PAST SIMPLE

Main clause

Temporal clause

He **hasn't worked** anywhere **since** he **left** "Philips".

NOT

He **hasn't worked** anywhere since he ~~**has left**~~ "Philips".

- If we have a complex sentence like this one, **the temporal clause (the one beginning with SINCE) should be in the Past Simple Tense**, while **the main clause should be in the Present Perfect Tense**.

