

Present Perfect ESL Cheat Sheet

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Present Perfect form

The present perfect is formed with the auxilairy 'to have' and the past participle

Postive: We've hidden it/ She's got the present for Andy

Negative: They haven't found it/ He hasn't seen his boss today

Question: Have they forgotten it?/ Has she received the letter?

Don't forget the third person singular of 'to have' is * has*

In order to sound more fluent make sure to use contractions in positive & negative sentences

The past participle

Regular verbs: + ed - TO LISTEN, LISTENED, LISTENED

Irregular verbs: learn by heart SORRY:)

Present Perfect Use

We use the present perfect in two ways: Describing experiences in our lives up to now and results in the present

Experiences

Example: I've travalled a lot

We can use 'ever' to ask questions about life experiences

Example: Have you ever visited Africa?

We can use 'never' for negatives sentences. It means 'not in your life'

Example: I've never seen a ghost

We can use 'before' to say if it's the first time

Example: We've been to this restaurant before

Present Perfect vs Past Simple

Freschi Fehect vs Fast Simple		
Present Perfect	Past simple	
Single or repeated actions in the past when we don't know the date of the action or it isn't important	Single or repeated actions when we know the definite time	
Example: I've driven an automatic car before	Example: I drove a race car last summer	
Time expressions: before, ever, already, just and yet	Time expressions: yesterday, last week, in 2018 etc.	
2. Situations that started in the past and are still continuing	2. Situations that started and finished in the past	
Example: Tom has worked in the shop for 2 years	Example: Tom worked in the shop for 2 years	
With- for or since	With- for	
3. One or more completed actions in a time period that is continuing	3. One or more completed actions in a time period that is finished	
Example: He's sold 15 cars this month	Example: He sold 15 cars last month	
Time expressions: this morning, this week, today, so far etc.	Time expressions: yesterday, last week, ago etc.	

Results

Example: My car's broken down

We can use 'just' to mean ' a short time ago'

Example: They've just arrived

We can use 'already' to mean 'before expected'

Example: Yes, I know Sarah, we've already met

We can use 'recently' to mean 'in the last few days or months

Example: What's the cinema like now? I don't know, I haven't been

there recently

Results (cont)

We can use 'yet' in questions and negative sentences for something that is expected to happen but hasn't happened at the time of speaking

Example: Have you spoken to Julie yet? No, not yet

Still

We use Still in negative sentences when we expected something to happened before now

Example: I gave me teacher my homeworl last week, but she still hasn't marked it

Other uses of Present Perfect	
Unfinished time period	To talk about actions that are still continuing
Today, this week, this morning etc.	Example: I've sent 100 emails this week (it's still this week)
So far = up to now	Example: She's made 5 phone calls so far this afternoon
Compare: I've drunk two coffees this morning (it's still the morning)	I drank two coffees this morning (its now the afternoon)
Repeated actions	They may happen again
Example: I've been there many times	Example: I've watched a lot of Netflix this week

Other uses of Present Perfect	
We can use the question 'how long' to ask about the duration or the starting point of an action	We answer this question with either for or since
FOR	SINCE
Period of time- 2 minutes, 5 weeks, 1 year etc.	Starting point- 1995, 1st July, when I was 10
Example: I've worked here for 5 years	Example: I've worked here since 2015
We often use present perfect + ever with superl-atives	the worst, the most expensive etc.
Example: This is the best film I've ever seen!	

