

Present Perfect ESL Cheat Sheet

by Lianner via cheatography.com/146130/cs/33276/

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

Present Perfect vs Past Simple

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 not the first time
Example: We've been to this restaurant

Results

before

Other uses of Present P	erfect (cont)
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)	One time actions (unlikely to be repeated)
Example: I've watched a lot of Netflix this week	I watched Die Hard this week
Superlatives - often used with ever	This is the best football match I've ever seen

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	1. 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
For -period of time	Since- starting point
Time expressions: for 2 months, 1 year, a long time	Time esxpressions: since 1968, June, I was 8 years old
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.

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

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

We use 'still' in negative sentence when an action is expected to happen but hasn't

Example: I gave my teacher my homework 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	



By Lianner cheatography.com/lianner/ Published 20th July, 2022. Last updated 25th November, 2024. Page 2 of 2.

Sponsored by Readable.com Measure your website readability! https://readable.com