



- A: Have you ever been to New York?
 B: Yes, I have.
 A: When did you go?
 B: I went there in 2017.
 A: What did you do?
 B: We celebrated New Year in Times Square!

Presentation

You can use the present perfect and past simple to say something happened in the past.

Present perfect

Use the present perfect to say something happened in the past but not exactly when:

I / You / We / They	've / haven't	been	to New York
He / She / It	has / hasn't		

Past simple

Use the past simple to say exactly when something happened in the past:

I / You / We / They	went	in 2017.
He / She / It		

Time expressions

When the time phrases refer to an unfinished period of time, you can use the present perfect:

We've been before / today / this week / this month / this year.

We use the past simple (not the present perfect) when we use a time phrase that says the exact time the action happened:

We went yesterday / last week / at midnight / in 2017.

Past participles

The past participle of the verb can be

- regular (add *-ed*): *celebrate* → *celebrated* → *celebrated*, *watch* → *watched* → *watched*
- irregular: *go* → *went* → *gone*, *do* → *did* → *done*

TIP We often start conversations using the present perfect to talk about general experiences, and then use the past simple to give details:

'Have you ever been to New York?' 'Yes, I have.'
'When did you go?' 'I went there in 2017.'

Exercises

1 Match the questions to the answers.

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | What time did you get to school? | <input type="checkbox"/> | a | No, I haven't. Maybe he's working at home today. |
| 2 | Have you seen Ryan this morning? | <input type="checkbox"/> | b | Yes, I've been a few times. |
| 3 | Where did you learn to play the guitar? | <input type="checkbox"/> | c | At my old school. I had a good teacher. |
| 4 | Have you finished your course? | <input type="checkbox"/> | d | We've had a lot of extra work this week, so I stayed until 8. |
| 5 | Have you ever been to Nepal? | <input type="checkbox"/> | e | Yes, I have. I finished yesterday. |
| 6 | Why were you late home? | <input type="checkbox"/> | f | I'm not sure, but I was late. |

2 Make sentences using the present perfect or past simple. Use the present perfect where possible.

- | | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------|
| 1 | We / make / a cake. | <u>We've made a cake.</u> |
| 2 | I / leave / home / in 2015. | <u>I left home in 2015.</u> |
| 3 | They / booked / a trip to Rome. | ..... |
| 4 | You / go / to Rome / last year. | ..... |
| 5 | The lesson / start / 15 minutes ago. | ..... |
| 6 | The film / start. | ..... |
| 7 | You / ever / fly / in a plane? | ..... |
| 8 | You / see / your family / the weekend? | ..... |

3 Complete the conversations with the present perfect or the past simple of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 A: ¹..... (you / call) Mandy last night?
 B: Yes, I did. And I've left three more messages this morning but she ²..... (not / answer).
- 2 A: ³..... (you / buy) anything to eat when you were out?
 B: No, because I ⁴..... (arrange) to go out for dinner this evening with Tim and Shirley.
- 3 A: ⁵..... (you / ever / win) anything?
 B: Only once. I won a competition in my school magazine. They ⁶..... (give) me ten dollars!
- 4 A: (your teacher / give) you an exam?
 B: No, he hasn't.
 A: My teacher has. I (fail) it.

4 Write conversations. Then listen and check.

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|----|---|----|--|
| 1 | Canada? → yes: Montreal last year | 3 | curry? → yes: in London last summer |
| A: | <u>Have you ever been to Canada?</u> | A: | |
| B: | <u>Yes, I have. I went to Montreal last year.</u> | B: | ..... |
| 2 | rugby? → yes: when I was at school | | |
| A: | ..... | 4 | Romeo and Juliet? → yes: at the Globe Theatre in May |
| B: | ..... | A: | ..... |
| | | B: | ..... |