

<http://www.studyingenglishonline.com>

### Tell other students about you

*I've been studying English for three years. I've passed two exams and recently I've been preparing for a third. I think it's going to be really difficult so I've been taking extra classes at the weekend. In fact, I've just been looking at my homework for tomorrow's class. I need to go back now and finish it!*

## Presentation

To form the present perfect continuous, use  
*have / has + been + verb + -ing*

### Affirmative and negative

I / You / We / They	've (have) haven't (have not)	been	preparing	for an exam.
He / She / It	's (has) hasn't (has not)			

### Questions

How long	have	I / you / we / they	been	studying English?
	has	he / she / it		
	Have	I / you / we / they	been	studying English?
	Has	he / she / it		

### Short answers

Yes, I / you / we / they	have.	No, I / you / we / they	haven't.
Yes, he / she / it	has.	No, he / she / it	hasn't.

Use the present perfect continuous to talk about a long action or repeated action that started in the past and continues to the present:

*I've just been looking at my homework.* (continuous)

*I've been going to extra classes at the weekend.* (repeated)

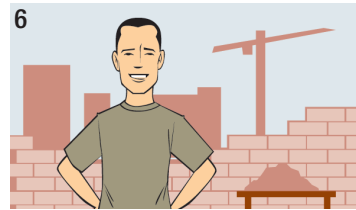
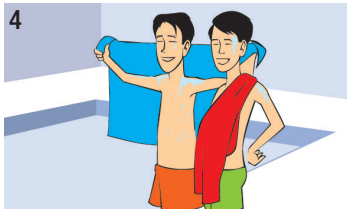
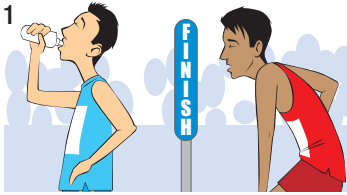
We also use the present perfect continuous to talk about long actions in the past that have an effect on the present:

*I've just been looking at my homework for tomorrow's class. (and now I need to finish it!)*

## Exercises

- 1 Look at the pictures. Complete the sentences with the present perfect continuous form of the verbs in the box.

build dance eat paint run swim



- 1 They ..... a marathon.  
 2 She ..... all day.  
 3 He ..... the living room.  
 4 They ..... in the pool.  
 5 They ..... ice cream.  
 6 He ..... a wall all morning.

- 2 Answer these questions about the pictures in Exercise 1 with short answers.

- 1 Have they been running a marathon? Yes, they have  
 2 Has she been playing tennis all day? No, she hasn't. (She's been dancing.)  
 3 Has he been painting the bedroom? .....  
 4 Have they been cycling? .....  
 5 Have they been eating ice cream? .....  
 6 Has he been painting a wall? .....

- 3 Complete this conversation using the present perfect continuous. Use the verb in brackets or write in the missing auxiliary verb.

A: You look tired.

B: Yes, I am! I <sup>1</sup> ..... (prepare) for my final English exams.

A: Really? How long <sup>2</sup> ..... you ..... (study) English?

B: For six years. And I have the exams in two weeks.

A: So <sup>3</sup> ..... you ..... (revise) all day?

B: No, I <sup>4</sup> ....., but I will do some revision later.

A: What are your plans for after your exams?

B: Well, recently I <sup>5</sup> ..... (think) about spending a year in Australia. It'd be a lot of fun and I'd practise my English, of course.

A: What a coincidence! My brother <sup>6</sup> ..... (look) at holidays in Australia. But he only wants to go for two weeks, not a whole year.

- 4 Answer these questions for you.

- 1 What have you been doing today? .....  
 2 Have you been studying English? .....  
 3 Have you been sunbathing and eating ice cream? .....