

Present Perfect Tense

We use the present perfect tense to say that an action happened before now.

- You can **NOT** use the Present Perfect with specific time expressions such as: *yesterday, one year ago, a week ago, last week, at 5 o'clock, when I was a child, when I lived in Japan, at that moment, that day, one day, the other day, etc.*
- We **CAN** use the Present Perfect with unspecific expressions such as: *ever, never, just, once, many times, several times, before, so far, yet, already, in the last week, in the last year, this week, this month, up to now, since, etc.*

We use Present Perfect tense to talk about:

1. Experience

- I **have been** to Las Vegas. / I **have** never **been** to Las Vegas.
- I think he **has seen** that movie before. / He **has** never **seen** that movie before.
- I **have read** this book several times. / I **have** already **read** this book.

2. Change over time

- She **has grown** since the last time I saw her.
- John **has become** more interested in skateboarding.
- We **have moved** to Florida.

3. Accomplishments

- I **have finished** my book report.
- He **has learned** how to read in Japanese.

4. An uncompleted action

- I **haven't finished** my homework yet.
- She **hasn't called** me yet.
- They **haven't done** it so far.

5. Duration from the past until now

- I **have had** a cold for two weeks.
- She **has been** in London for two months.
- I **have** always **loved** chocolate. / She **has loved** chocolate since she was little.

Verb Conjugation & Spelling

Regular verbs: **have / has verb + -ED.**

Irregular verbs: **have / has + Past Participle (V₃)**

The spelling for the **Verb + -ED** differs depending on the ending of that verb:

1. Drop: For verbs that end in **-E** we add **-D**.

- manage – managed
- invite – invited
- like – liked

2. Double: For verbs with a short vowel we double the last consonant :

- hug – hugged
- stop – stopped
- plan – planned

3. Change : For verbs that end in a **consonant + Y** we change it to **-IED** :

- worry – worried
- multiply – multiplied
- identify – identified

4. Just add: For all the other we just add **-ED** :

- push – pushed
- work – worked
- talk - talked

NOTE: For verbs that end in a **vowel + Y**, we just add **-ED**.

- play – played / enjoy – enjoyed / stay - stayed

Negative Sentences in the Present Perfect Tense

- Regular verbs: **have / has not + verb + -ED**.
- Irregular verbs : **have / has not + Past Participle (V₃)**
 - Affirmative: She **has finished** her dinner.
Negative: She **hasn't finished** her dinner yet.
 - Affirmative: We **have been** here before.
Negative: We **haven't been** here before. / We **have** never **been** here before.

Negative Contractions: have not = haven't / has not = hasn't

There is no difference in meaning though we normally use contractions in spoken English.

Examples of Negative Sentences:

- John **has never been** to Florida.
- We **haven't had** a chance to call him yet.
- He **hasn't changed** at all.
- They **haven't finished** the test.
- She **hasn't read** this book before.

