

2. Present Perfect with *for* and *since*

*I've been here since two o'clock.
There has been a lot of rain lately.
I have lived here for two years.*

Learning Objective

- You will be able to make contextually correct statements in the Present Perfect.

Noticing

Notice how we form the Present Perfect:

Subject	has/hasn't have/haven't	Past Participle	since/for	time expression
We	have	played	on a soccer team for	about two years.
I	haven't	seen	Alice since	we graduated from college.
She	hasn't	seen	her parents since	last Christmas.

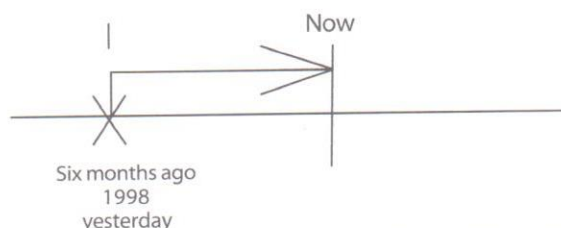
Notice how we ask questions using the Present Perfect:

Has/Have	Subject	Past Participle	for*	time expression
Has	he	been	here for	a long time?

Understanding

The Present Perfect gives the idea that one thing happened (or not) before now. The exact time it happened in the past is unimportant.

Since and *for* give an idea of the time that has passed from the moment an action started until today. After *since* we usually give a date or an event and after *for* we commonly refer to a number of days, years, months, etc.



I have been in Paris for six months.

She has known George since 1998.

I haven't smoked since yesterday.

I came to Paris six months ago and I am still here.

Their relationship began in 1998 and it continues until today.

No cigarettes in my lungs today!

English speakers usually contract *have to* to 've or 's in speaking and writing: *I've lived here for two years.*

She's taken ballet lessons since she was a little girl.

Remember