

# Present Perfect Exercises

## USE 1 Unspecified Time Before Now

### TOPIC 1 Things you have done and things you haven't done

When talking about our life experiences we typically move from present perfect to simple past:

- A) Have you ever lived abroad?  
B) Yes, I have.  
A) Where did you live?  
B) I lived in Barcelona, in Spain for ten years when I was in my thirties.  
A) Wow! That's so cool, did you like it there?  
etc etc

Ask each other about your life experiences using the prompts below.

(live) abroad	(work) in a bar or restaurant	(fly) on a Jumbo Jet	(ride) a horse
(swim) across a lake	(play) in a band or orchestra	(run) a marathon	(stay) in a hotel
(catch) a fish	(win) a prize for anything	(climb) a mountain	(fly) a kite
(be) in a play	(write) a poem or story	(work) in a bank	(see) a rainbow
(sing) on a stage	(meet) someone famous	(row) a boat	(ride) a motorbike
(do) a bungee jump	(star) in a home video	(see) a pop star	(fly) in a helicopter

(shake) hands with a politician?	(break) an arm or leg?	(ride) a horse?
(run) a marathon?	(find) some money in the street?	(sing) on a stage?
(tell) a lie?	(drive) a sports car?	(buy) something expensive & useless?
(do) a bungee jump?	(climb) a mountain?	(act) in a play?
(stand) in Times Square?	(lose) something valuable?	(keep) a diary?
(travel) on the Tokyo subway?	(win) a prize for something?	(dive) off a 3-metre board?
(smoke) a cigar?	(play) in an orchestra?	(be) in a car accident?
(speak) to a celebrity?	(fail) an exam?	(fly) in a helicopter?
(fly) a plane?	(walk) across Tower Bridge?	(run) out of petrol?
(forget) someone's birthday?	(be) late for an appointment?	(fall) downstairs?

## TOPIC 2 Change Over Time

What have you done in the last five years?

For example:

### Topics

learn to drive  
get married  
leave school  
buy a car

start an English course  
change jobs  
go to Australia  
become a father

give up smoking  
move house  
join a political party  
learn to swim

start/finish an apprenticeship  
lose weight  
have a baby  
pass an examination

How has life / the world changed in the last ten years?

## TOPIC 3 Accomplishments // negative effects

What have you accomplished so far in your life? What have you NOT been successful at?

What has mankind accomplished so far? What has mankind NOT achieved yet?

What has mankind done that has had a negative effect on the world?

What have scientists accomplished? What haven't scientists achieved yet?

What have doctors accomplished? What haven't doctors been able to do yet?

What have engineers accomplished? What haven't engineers achieved yet?

## TOPIC 4 An Uncompleted Action You Are Expecting

What haven't you got around to yet?

e.g, I still haven't passed my driving test.

What have you almost finished?

e.g, I've almost finished my homework.

What hasn't happened yet?

e.g, They still haven't found the missing Malaysian Airlines plane.

## TOPIC 5 Multiple Actions at Different Times

How many times have you been abroad?

How many times have you taken an English exam?

How many times have you seen 'Star Wars'?

How many problems have you had at work today?

How many different cars have you owned?

## **USE 2 Duration From the Past Until Now (Non-Continuous Verbs)**

How long have you had that/your...?

pair of shoes // pair of trousers // jacket // jumper // belt // hat // laptop // iPad //  
smart phone // desktop computer // car // house // guitar

How long have you been married?

How long have you lived at your current address?

How long have you been a football fan?

How long have you worked for X company?

## **USE 3 To Present New Information**

Present today's news using the present perfect.

e.g, A plane has gone missing over the Indian Ocean.

(If you don't know any news, make something up).