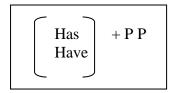
## VII- The Present Perfect

**a.** The form: the present perfect is composed of verb *to have* in the present plus the past participle.



- b. The use of the present perfect:
- 1. We use the present perfect with *since* or *for* to talk about something that began in the past and continuous into the present (and may continue in the future).
  - e.g. Novac Djokovic has been a professional tennis player since 2007.
  - **e.g.** He has been a professional tennis player for several years.

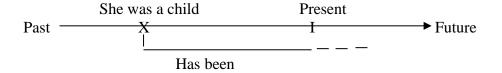


- **2.** We use the present perfect with <u>since + point in time</u> (since 5:00, since Monday, since 1994) to show when something started.
- **e.g.** He has earned millions of dollars since 2007. (Exactly \$ 181,599,018 in 98 single titles and 1 double title)
  - **3.** We use the present perfect when an action is finished but its results are still in the present.
    - **e.g.** Someone has hit me.

I 've been to the dentist  $\begin{array}{cccc} & & \text{Hit} & \text{Results} \\ & & & \text{Now} \\ \text{I've been married} & \text{Past} & & & & & \\ \text{I've got a bad mark in reading} & & & & \text{married} \\ \end{array}$ 

- **4.** We use the present perfect with *for* +length of time (for ten minutes, for two weeks, for years, for a long time) to show how long a present situation has lasted.
  - e.g. Issam Jellali has been the coach of Ons Jabeur for many years.
- **5.** Since can also introduce a time clause. If the action ended in the past, use the past simple in the time clause.
- e.g. Ons has loved sports since she was a child.
- **e.g.** She has won many tennis tournaments since she moved from Tunisia.

Time clause (She doesn't live in Tunisia now)



If the action still continues in the present, use the present perfect in the time clause. **e.g.** She has become extremely successfully since she has been in the United States.

**6.** We often use the present perfect with already and just to talk about things that have happened before now.

*Already* means "at some time before now." *Just* means "very recently: a moment or two ago."

**e.g.** A: Is your daughter going to get her flu jab? B: She has already had it. And I 've just had it, too.

**Note1**: Do not use the present perfect with already when you mention a specific time in the past.

**e.g.** Don't say: She's already had it last month.

Or she's just had it last month

*Already* and *just* usually come between have and the past participle.

**e.g.** Researchers have <u>already</u> discovered cures for many diseases. *Already* can also come at the end of the clause.

**e.g.** I've just recovered from bad cold. They've made a lot of progress already.

- 7. Use the present perfect with *not yet* to talk about things that have not happened before now. Notice that yet usually comes at the end of the clause.
- **e.g.** They haven't discovered a cure for the cancer yet, but they hope to discover one in the future.
  - The flu season hasn't finished yet.

Note2: Yet can also come between have not and the past participle.

- **e.g.** They haven't yet discovered a cure for the cancer.
- **8.** We <u>usually</u> use yet in questions to find out if something has happened before now.

**e.g.** Has your son had his flu jab yet?

**Note3**: <u>Sometimes</u> we use already in a question to express surprise that something has happened sooner than we expected it to.

**e.g.** Has he already had his flu jab? The flu season hasn't begun yet.

**Note4**: In spoken American English, people often use *already*, *just* and *yet* with the past simple to talk about the recent past.

**e.g.** I already read that book.

We just got back from Los Angeles.

Did you do the shopping yet?

**9.** Use the present perfect to talk about things that happened at an indefinite time in the past (indefinite past). You can use the present perfect when you don't know when something happened or when the specific time is not important.

**e.g.** They've won several awards.

I've interviewed the whole cast.

I've seen his chat show.

- **10.** We use *ever* with the present perfect to ask questions. It means at any time up till now. And use *never* to answer negatively.
  - **e.g.** A: Have you won an award, or have you ever won an award?

B: No, I've never won one. Or No, never.

**Note4**: The past participles *been* and *gone* have very different meanings.

- **e.g.** Tom has been to India. (means) He went and now he's back.
  - Tom has gone to India. (means) He went and he's still there now.
- **11.** We use the present perfect with *recently* **or** *lately* to talk about events in the very recent past.
  - **e.g.** He hasn't had time lately.
  - **e.g.** I've recently signed a contract to write a book.

**Note5**: Do not use *recently* **or** *lately* with the present perfect on a specific past time expression . e.g. I've recently got back from Los Angeles.

**But not**  $\rightarrow$  I've recently got back from Los Angeles last Monday.

## The present perfect Versus the past simple

- 1- The present perfect is used to talk about things that started in the past, continue up to the present and may continue into the future.
- **e.g.** They've decided to live apart for a few years. (We don't know when they decided; the time is not important)
  - They have lived apart for the past three years. (They started living apart three years ago, and they are still living apart).
    - They've lived apart since 2021. (They are still living apart).
    - \* The past simple is used to talk about complete actions in the past.
- **e.g.** They lived apart until 2004. (They don't live apart anymore)
  - 2- The present perfect is used to talk about things that have happened in a period of time that is not finished, such as Today, this month, this year, ...
- **e.g.** I've had three cups of coffee this morning. (it's still this morning. I might have more)
  - \* *The past simple* is used to talk about things that happened in a period of time that is finished, such as yesterday, last month, last year, and this morning.
- **e.g.** I had three cups of coffee yesterday. (yesterday is finished)

I had three cups of coffee this morning. (It's now 2 p.m. so this morning is finished)

Present Perfect	Past Simple
- She has owned the business since 2001	- She owned the business from 2001 to 2003
- They 've met twice this month	- They met twice this month