

28 Activities and their results

English uses the present perfect continuous to talk about recent activities that are probably still ongoing. Use the present perfect simple to talk about finished activities.

 **New language** Forms of the present perfect


 **Vocabulary** State and action verbs

 **New skill** Talking about results of activities

28.1 KEY LANGUAGE PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS AND PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE

Use the present perfect continuous to emphasize the continuous nature of an activity in the past. It is possible that the activity is still going on.

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

 **I've been fixing** my car. I'm covered in oil.



Use the present perfect simple to emphasize the completion of an activity in the past. It is likely that the activity is finished.

PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE

 **I've fixed** my car. Now I can drive to work again.



28.2 FURTHER EXAMPLES PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS AND PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE

I've been cooking dinner.
It will be ready soon.



I've cooked dinner.
It's ready now.

Vicky has been running
today. Now she's really tired!



Vicky has just run a race.
Now she's receiving a medal.

I've been eating too
much cake. I must eat less!



I've eaten all the cake.
The plate is empty.





28.3 MARK THE SENTENCES THAT ARE CORRECT



I've been playing rugby all afternoon. I'm exhausted and covered in mud.
I've played rugby all afternoon. I'm exhausted and covered in mud.

☒
☐


He's washed the car for half an hour. There's water all over our driveway.
He's been washing the car for half an hour. There's water all over our driveway.

☐
☐


Her room looks so neat and tidy. She's put all her clothes away now.
Her room looks so neat and tidy. She's been putting all her clothes away now.

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☐


How long have you walked in the rain? You're both soaking wet.
How long have you been walking in the rain? You're both soaking wet.

☐
☐


You've been sunbathing for far too long. Please go and sit in the shade now.
You've sunbathed for far too long. Please go and sit in the shade now.

☐
☐


Riley has just broken a glass. There are pieces on the floor, so be careful.
Riley has just been breaking a glass. There are pieces on the floor, so be careful.

☐
☐


Has Oliver eaten chocolate all morning? He won't want any lunch.
Has Oliver been eating chocolate all morning? He won't want any lunch.

☐
☐


I've just finished a really good book. You can borrow it now if you like.
I've just been finishing a really good book. You can borrow it now if you like.

☐
☐


28.4 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO AND MARK WHETHER THE ACTIVITY IN EACH PICTURE IS IN PROGRESS OR FINISHED



In progress ☒
Finished ☐



In progress ☐
Finished ☐



In progress ☐
Finished ☐



In progress ☐
Finished ☐



In progress ☐
Finished ☐

28.5 ⚠ COMMON MISTAKES STATE VERBS AND ACTION VERBS

State verbs describe feelings or a state of mind.
Action verbs describe an action. You cannot normally use state verbs in the continuous form.



I've always loved classical music. ✓

"Love" is a state verb, so it is correct to use it in the present perfect simple.

I've always been loving classical music. ✗

It is incorrect to use "love" in the present perfect continuous.



28.6 READ THE ARTICLE AND WRITE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS AS FULL SENTENCES

PROPERTY NEWS

A perfect home?

Buying an apartment is harder than you think,
says property expert Stella Parnell

I've always loved property. It's fascinating to see how people have decorated their homes. It's always been easy for me to have an opinion about properties when I've been viewing them with friends, because I can easily imagine how places might look.

Of course, it's also important to realize how much apartment maintenance costs. In my current apartment, I've been repairing hundreds of little faults

for years. My friend Sadiq has almost completely rebuilt his apartment in the same amount of time! This week I have been calculating roughly how much time and money I've spent on repairs over the years. It's expensive, but now I understand how important it is to look after your property. This month I've been painting my living room and tiling the kitchen. The apartment will look great when it's all done!

What has Stella Parnell always loved?

She has always loved property.

- 1 What does she say is fascinating to see?

- 2 What can she easily imagine?

- 3 What has she been doing in her apartment?

- 4 What has Sadiq done with his apartment?

- 5 What has Stella been doing this week?

- 6 What does she understand now?

- 7 What has she been doing this month?

28.7 DESCRIBE THE PICTURES OUT LOUD USING THE PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS OR PRESENT PERFECT SIMPLE



He has been repairing his bike and he's covered in oil.

1



I _____ all the cake. There are only crumbs left.

2



Luca _____ just _____ a big fish.

3



We _____ in the rain. We're all soaking wet!

4



She _____ for an hour. The food smells delicious!

28.8 REWRITE THE LETTER, CORRECTING THE ERRORS

Hi Jacob,

I hear you've been passing your driving test and that Uncle George has been buying you a car. Congratulations! I suppose you've driven around ever since. I'm so jealous. I've always been wanting to learn to drive. You should visit me soon! I've worked too hard recently and I've been realizing that I need a break.

Love Alice

Hi Jacob,
I hear you've passed your driving test

28 CHECKLIST



Forms of the present perfect ☐

Aa State and action verbs ☐



Talking about results of activities ☐