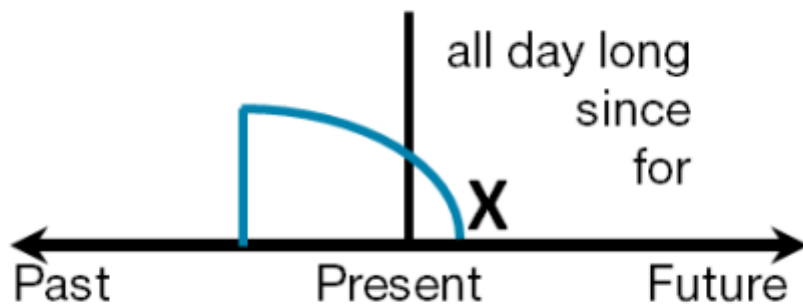


Present Perfect Continuous Tense



have/has been + Verb-ing

PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS TENSE

TESL.COM

Form

Affirmative

S + have/has + been + present participle

They have been learning English for two years.

Negative

S + have/has + not + been + present participle

They have not been learning English for years.

Interrogative

Have/has + S + been + present participle

Have they been learning English for years?

Usage

Long actions that started in the past and continue until now.

I have been living in Ireland for almost 4 years.

Recent actions that have clear evidence or results now.

Her eyes are red because she has been crying all evening.

Typically used for shorter, more temporary situations.

Have they been learning English for years?

Exercise 1

Open up the brackets using the correct form of Present Perfect Continuous

1. What all week? (you/ do)
2. his car all day? (Jim/repair)
3. I....this book for weeks. (read)
4.a lot this year? (Ben/swim)
5. Mr. Bell is busy. He....on the phone for an hour. (talk)
6. I've got a penfriend. I....to her for five years. (write)
7. John won't pass his exams. He....any homework lately. (not/do)
8. Molly....with me since last month. (stay)
9. We....on this project since December. (work)
- 10.Sam.... how to ride a horse for three months. (learn)

Exercise 2

Match up the questions with the answers

| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. How long have you been waiting? | a. He's been planting trees all day. |
| 2. Bill is in the garden. | b. That's why she's lost weight. |
| 3. You've been studying all morning. | c. For ten minutes. |
| 4. Anne has been exercising a lot recently. | d. Lots of things. I've been busy. |
| 5. It's cold outside. | e. It's been snowing all day. |
| 6. Jenny's tired. | f. She's been working hard all week. |
| 7. We've been practising all afternoon. | g. I think it's time to stop now. |
| 8. What have you been doing since I last saw you? | h. Why don't you take a break? |

Exercise 3

Choose the sentence that describes the best every picture.

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1. Jane has been wearing contacts since 2012. |  | |
| 2. Matt has been playing soccer for five years now. |  | |
| 3. They have been performing for an hour already. |  | |
| 4. Emily has been owning this store for 7 years. |  | |
| 5. They have been working for Apple for 2 years. |  | |

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| 6. Robert has been using this laptop for a year now. |  | |
| 7. They have been staying in New York City for a week now. |  | |
| 8. Amanda has been enjoying the Grand Canyon view for half an hour. |  | |

Exercise 4

Choose the right answer and open up the brackets

1. Cliff and his friends____(play) soccer **for/since** two hours.



2. What game Andy and his friend____(play) **for/since** three hours?



3. Lucy____(watch) TV **for/since** 2 pm.



4. My friend's sister____(learn) how to ride a horse **for/since** three years.



5. I____(swim) with my friends **for/since** an hour.



6. Betty and Adam____(make) a sandcastle **for/since** three hours.



7. Phil and Emily____(play) baseball **for/since** half an hour.



8. Whom Victor____(write) the letter **for/since** two hours?



9. Maggy____(knit) a new scarf for her best friend **for/since** 7 pm.

