

Present Perfect Continuous: Versus Present Perfect

FORM :	Present Perfect : Have / has + (not) + past participle	Present Perfect Continuous : Have / has + (not) + been + "...ing"
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USE :	The Present Perfect is used :	The Present Perfect Continuous is used:
	When the action is finished. e.g. <i>She <u>has done</u> her homework.</i>	When the action is not finished. e.g. <i>She <u>has been doing</u> her homework</i>
	To talk about repeated actions over a period of time. Questions are usually asked with "How many/much...?" or "How often...?" e.g. <i>How many singing lessons <u>have you had</u>?</i>	To talk about how long an activity has been in progress. Questions are usually asked with "How long...?" e.g. <i>How long <u>have you been singing</u>?</i>
	For situations which are more permanent (continuing for a longer time). e.g. <i>He <u>has always watched</u> the news after dinner.</i>	For situation which are more temporary (continuing for a short time). e.g. <i>He <u>has been watching</u> the news after dinner for a few weeks.</i>
	For situations that happen less frequently (once or twice). <i>I <u>have used</u> the gym once since I moved to this condominium.</i>	For situations that are repeated more often. <i>I <u>have been using</u> the gym since I moved to this condominium.</i>
	With some verbs the present perfect and present perfect continuous convey the same meaning. Use both to describe something that started in the past and continues to now. These verbs include <i>work, live, study, and teach.</i> e.g. <i>She <u>has worked</u> for this company for five years.</i> <i>She <u>has been working</u> for this company for five years.</i>	

Underline either the PRESENT PERFECT or the PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS to make the sentences correct.

1. *(They've been repairing/They've repaired)* the road all this week, but they haven't finished it yet.
2. I'm very sorry, but *(I've been breaking/I've broken)* this chair.
3. David *(has been saving/has saved)* nearly ten thousand dollars so far this year.
4. "What's the matter? *(Have you been losing/Have you lost)* something?"
5. A: "Can I have a look at your newspaper?" B: Sure. *(I've been reading/I've read)* it.
6. Tina *(has been eating/has eaten)* my chocolates. There aren't many good ones left.

Fill in each blank with the PRESENT PERFECT or PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS.

I (1)_____ (read) a book right before I go to sleep for years.
Recently, I (2)_____ (read) biographies. I
(3)_____ (read) biographies of Mahatma Gandhi and Marilyn Monroe and for the
last couple of nights, I (4)_____ (read) about Christopher Columbus.
I (5)_____ just _____ (realize) that mom's fiftieth birthday is
coming up soon and it (6)_____ (be) a long time since we did
something for her birthday. I think we should do something special this year. I heard that Jason
was in Japan. He (7) _____(work) there for the last three months. Over the past
year, his company (8)_____ (set up) a new branch in Tokyo. She used to get
up at 7:00 a.m. every morning, but now she's on vacation and she
(9)_____ (wake up) at 8:00 a.m. It is only one hour, but it makes a
big difference. She (10)_____ (have) more energy since she
(11)_____ (be) on vacation.