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| **Present Perfect: Versus Present Perfect Continuous** |
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| **FORM:** |  **HAVE/HAS + BEEN + VERB + ING** *I have been writing a letter for 2 hours.* |  |
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| **USE and EXAMPLES:** | Like **Present Perfect**, the **Present Perfect Continuous** is used for past events that somehow relate to the present. However, the two tenses are different.**Present Perfect Continuous*** For a temporary condition that started in the past that will continue for a short time into the future.

*She* ***has been living*** *in Toronto for two years, but she will move to Vancouver next week.***BUT** *She* ***has lived*** *in Toronto for two years* (and has no plans to move)* To emphasize that something is a repeated action, not a single one.

*I* ***have been going*** *to the gym regularly.****BUT*** *I* ***have been*** *to the gym.*Be careful: When we give a specific number of times an action occurred, we use the present perfect.*I have been to the gym* ***three times*** *this week.** For a continuous action

*It* ***has been raining*** *all day!***BUT**  *It* ***has rained*** *three times today.*  * For an incomplete action

*I* ***have been studying*** *for three hours and I am only half finished.****BUT*** *I* ***have studied*** *for three hours now I am going to a movie.* (I am finished.)* For a complete action, but the result of the action is still evident.

*I* ***have been cleaning*** *my apartment. (And I look a mess as a result).***REMEMBER that some verbs (state verbs) can not be used in the continuous tenses.**  |

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| *Choose either PRESENT PERFECT or PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS to fill in the blanks in the sentences below. More than one answer may be correct.*  |

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| 1. | She \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (expect) a delivery of her new furniture. She is still waiting. |
| 2. | Mom \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be, just) to the supermarket for groceries.  |
| 3. | Margo \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (try) to reach you for two days! Please call her back as soon as possible. |
| 4. | I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (watch) a television show about Africa. It is interesting. |
| 5. | For years, some people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (argue) that wine and chocolate are good for your health. Scientists agree with them. |
| 6. | My sister \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (learn) Spanish for three months. She is still a beginner. |
| 7. | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (go) to Australia before? |
| 8. | He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (go) to Florida for Christmas since he was five years old. |
| 9. | I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) Mexico three times. The last time was two years ago. |
| 10. | My family \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (dream) of this vacation every day for the past month! |
| 11. | We \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (be) ready to go for ten minutes.  |
| 12. | Communication \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (change) rapidly since the invention of the internet. |
| 13. | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (see) the latest figures on the economy? |
| 14. | The moving truck \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (arrive). We can unload our furniture now. |
| 15. | They \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (argue) continuously since the party started. They should just leave! |
| 16. | The radio \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (announce, just) the election results. |
| 17. | I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (know) Susan since we were in kindergarten. |
| 18.  | The Smith family \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (build) their new house since last year. They will finish this summer. |