

# What's the Difference?

Before he **came** to our town, Kashaan **was** in Birmingham. His mum **got** a new job so the family **moved** here. When I **met** Kashaan, he **spoke** with a 'Brummie' accent.

My friend Kashaan **has lived** in this town for five years. We **have been** best friends all that time. His dad says he **has taken** on the way I speak.

past now future

## It's all about the timing...

**Past** tense is used for activities or events that started and finished in the past.

**Present perfect** tense is used for activities that started in the past but are still true now, or have an effect on what is happening now.

We use the **simple past** tense to talk about events that are **completely in the past**.

e.g. Cassie **went** to school yesterday.

The **present perfect** tense is for events which are **still true now or affect us in the present**.

e.g. Where's Cassie? Well, it's 9am, so she **has gone** to school.  
e.g. Cassie's exhausted because she **has been** on a school trip all day.

A horizontal timeline arrow pointing from left to right. The word "past" is at the far left, "now" is above a vertical tick mark, and "future" is at the far right. A red arrow points down to the timeline at a point before "now". From this point, a green double-headed arrow extends both backwards and forwards towards "now".

To be able to decide which tense you should use, you need to look at the verbs. Remember, verbs tell us the action!

Can you decide which verb form is correct? Use the timeline above to help you.

1. I went to the zoo yesterday. / I have been to the zoo yesterday.
2. When you have eaten, you can go and play. / When you ate, you can go and play.
3. I have lost my pencil during the last lesson. / I lost my pencil during the last lesson.
4. Wait for me! I haven't put my coat on yet! / Wait for me! I didn't put my coat on yet.

- **Present perfect** tense uses the **auxiliary** verb **HAVE** before the main verb.
- Use '**have**' for I / you / we / they.
- Use '**has**' for he / she / it.

Example My friend Kashaan has lived in this town for five years.  
We have been best friends all that time.

- **Present** perfect tense uses the **past participle (third form)** of the main verb after the auxiliary 'have'.
- Make sure you choose the correct form!

Example My hair has really **grown** recently, hasn't it?  
Wow; look how much work you've **done** today!

### Task 2:

Decide whether to use **has** or **have** to complete the following sentences.

1. His dad says he \_\_\_\_\_ **taken** on the way I speak.
2. Unfortunately, the cat \_\_\_\_\_ **been** sick on the carpet – yuk!
3. Mum asked, "Where \_\_\_\_\_ **you been** all this time?"
4. What a shame; Sports Day \_\_\_\_\_ **been** postponed because of the rain.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ every person **chosen** a partner now?
6. "What \_\_\_\_\_ **happened** to all my pencils?" asked the teacher.

Decide which is the correct form to use in these sentences.

1. Dad didn't put the washing out because it has **was** / **been** raining all day.
2. Mum, Josh has **came** / **come** round – can I go out to play for a bit?
3. Oh no, I have **forgot** / **forgotten** my homework book!
4. The teacher has **blew** / **blown** her whistle for the end of playtime.
5. Shh! The film has **began** / **begun** already.
6. Would you like to see the portrait I've **drew** / **drawn** of you?

### Task 3:

Tick to show which sentence uses the **present perfect**. Tick one.

She went to the shops.

☐

She was going to the shops.

☐

She has gone to the shops.

☐

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Which sentence below has been written in the past tense? Tick one.

This is the oldest car in the street.

☐

The car's engine dates back to 1970.

☐

The wheels were changed in 2014.

☐

The mechanic wants to change the seats.

☐

Underline the verb form that is the **present perfect** in the passage below.

Annie enjoys climbing trees in her garden and has made a swing that dangles from one of the branches, with the help of her mum. She was crossing her fingers that there would be time to start making a real tree house, but the weekend disappeared. Annie was so pleased to have an adult to tie the knots.

#### Task 4:

Help the fisherman complete the word search below by finding the present perfect form of each of the verbs.

Each verb tense will start with either 'has' or 'have' followed by the past participle of the verb, e.g. The lady **throw** food to the birds = has thrown. You would be searching for 'has thrown' within the word search.

1. The boy catch a fish.
2. We go to the cinema.
3. The cat break the cat flap.
4. The puppies scratch the furniture.
5. The teacher write the report.
6. The fisherman catch a huge trout.
7. The children talk in their group.
8. The baby wriggle in his pushchair.
9. The chefs cook a meal.
10. The head teacher speak in assembly.
11. My parents bought my birthday presents.



