

Unit 1 Present Tense

Objectives

1. To be able to perceive what Present Tense is
2. To be able to apply Present Tense in various contexts
3. To be able to communicate in English with correct Present Tense in various contexts

1.1 Present Simple

FORM

Affirmative

I	am	a student.
	work	at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.
You We They The teachers (A plural noun)	are	students.
	work	at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.
He She It The teacher (A singular noun / An uncountable noun)	is	at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.
	works	

Negative

I	am not	a student.
	don't (do not) work	at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.

You We They The teachers (<i>A plural noun</i>)	aren't (are not) work	students.
He She It The teacher (<i>A singular noun / An uncountable noun</i>)	don't (do not) work	at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.
	doesn't (does not) work	at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.

Yes/No Questions and short answers

Questions			Short answers	
Am	I	good at English?	Yes, you are	No, you're not. / aren't.
Are	you we they the teachers (<i>A plural noun</i>)	good at English?	Yes, I am. Yes, we are. Yes, they are.	No, I'm not. No, we're not (aren't) No, they're not.
Is	he she it the teacher (<i>A singular noun / An uncountable noun</i>)	good at English?	Yes, s/ he is. Yes, it is.	No, s/ he is not. (isn't) No, it's not. (isn't)

Questions			Short answers	
Do	I you we	speaking English?	Yes, I do. Yes, you do. Yes, we do.	No, I don't. (do not) No, you don't. No, we don't.

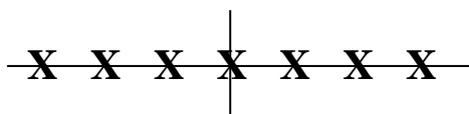
	they the teachers (A plural noun)		Yes, they do.	No, they don't.
Does	he she it the teacher (A singular noun / An uncountable noun)	Speak English?	Yes, s/ he does. Yes, it does.	No, s/ he doesn't. (does not) No, it doesn't.

Wh-Questions and answers

Questions			Answers
What	are	these?	These are tropical birds.
	is	this?	It is a tropical birds

Questions			Answers
What	do	these words mean?	They mean 'zero' in English.
	does	this word mean?	It means 'zero' in English.

USE



Past Now Future

The present simple is used for

1. facts or things that always happen.

Ex. The sun rises in the East.

2. routines and habits.

Ex. We always get up at 5 o'clock in the morning.

3. timetable events.

Ex. The first subway from Bang Sue to Hua Lamphong station leaves at 6 o'clock every day.

4. plots of films, stories and plays.

Ex. At the party, the Beast gracefully dances with the Beauty.

Exercise 1 Write the correct Present Simple form of the verb in brackets.

1. Mark _____ (drive) to work, but his sister _____ (walk) to her office.
2. Jeff always _____ (buy) his food in the supermarket near his house.
3. Susan _____ (like) Geography and English; she always _____ (receive) good scores in her exam.
4. Tao and I _____ (live) in Phuket, but we _____ (work) in Bangkok.
5. For breakfast, I usually _____ (have) cereal with milk.
6. My father _____ (be) a teacher, but my brother and I _____ (want) to be architects.
7. The train to Chiang Mai _____ (leave) at 8pm from Bangkok.
8. This problem _____ (occur) very often.
9. Our grandmother _____ (read) a newspaper every morning.
10. She sometimes _____ (arrive) at work late due to the heavy traffic.

Exercise 2 Complete the sentence with the negative form of the verb in brackets. Use contractions.

1. I _____ (think) that's a good idea.
2. It _____ (snow) in Thailand.
3. Ruth _____ (know) the answer to the questions.
4. Mary _____ (like) people who smoke.
5. The sun _____ (rise) in the West.
6. Tom _____ (be) good at English.
7. Bill _____ always _____ (play) tennis, it _____ (be) his favorite sport.
8. Jenny and Jack _____ (drink) alcohol so they go for soda.
9. The Prime Minister of Thailand _____ (live) in Ayutthaya.
10. Some people _____ (own) a car, they choose the public transportation instead.

Exercise 3 Complete the questions and answers in the short dialogues with the correct form of verb in brackets. Use contractions.

1. A: _____ (water chestnuts / grow) in the river?
B: No, _____. They _____ (grow) in the ground.
2. A: _____ (Thailand / export) petrol?
B: No, _____. It _____ (export) rice.
3. A: _____ (what / be /) the capital city of Thailand?
B: It _____ (be) Bangkok.
4. A: _____ (be) Catharine in an office?
B: Yes, _____. She _____ (be) always in the office in the morning.
5. A: _____ (you / usually / go) abroad every year?
B: No, _____.
6. A: _____ (what time / you / often / leave) for university?
B: I _____ at 6:15am.
7. A: _____ (what color / be) their favorite?
B: They _____ (love) black and white. They _____ (be) always in black.
8. A: _____ (where / you and your brother / exercise) in the evening?
B: We _____ (generally / go) for a walk in the park near our house in the evening.
9. A: _____ (Alan / play) games on a laptop?
B: No, _____. He _____ (like) his original PC version
10. A: _____ (be / this) your new car?
B: Yes, _____. _____ (you / think / suit) me?
A: Absolutely perfect.

Exercise 4 Complete the text with the correct Present Simple form of the verb.

Emperor penguins (1) _____ (live) in the Antarctic. The sea (2) _____ (provide) all their food, so they are good swimmers. They (3) _____ (dive) under the water and (4) _____ (hold) their breath for up to 20 minutes. When the weather is very cold, the penguins (5) _____ (stand) in a group. This (6) _____ (keep) them warm. The Emperor is the only penguins that (7) _____ (breed) in winter in Antarctica. Each female (8) _____ (lay) one egg in May or June. They then (9) _____

_____ (return) to the sea to feed. Each male then (10) _____ (stand) with an egg on his feet. His feet (11) _____ (keep) the egg warm. He (12) _____ (sleep) most of the time and (13) _____ (eat) no food for about 65 days. When the egg (14) _____ (hatch), the female (15) _____ (come) back and (16) _____ (find) her mate. Now the females (17) _____ (feed) the young penguins. The male (18) _____ (spend) his time eating. After a few weeks, the male (19) _____ (return) to the family, and then both parents (20) _____ (look after) the chick.

Note. From Macmillan English Grammar in Context (p.8), by V. Micheal, 2008, Oxford: Macmillan.

Exercise 5 Complete the text with the correct affirmative or negative form of Present Simple verb. Use contractions.

Romeo & Juliet

Two families, the Montagues and Capulets, (1) _____ (live) in Verona, Italy, but they (2) _____ (get on) with each other. Romeo, son of Montagues, thinks he (3) _____ (be) in love with Rosaline, but unfortunately she (4) _____ (love) him. He (5) _____ (go) to see her at the party at the house of his enemy Capulet, but there he (6) _____ (see) Juliet, Capulet's daughter. She (7) _____ (know) his name because he (8) _____ (have) a mask. Tybalt, one of the Capulet family, (8) _____ (try) to fight with Romeo, but Capulet (9) _____ (allow) this. However, Tybalt doesn't agree with him, and (11) _____ (forgive) Romeo for coming to the house. Romeo manages to talk to Juliet and he (12) _____ (kiss) her. They (13) _____ (understand) that their families (14) _____ (be) enemies. When Romeo learns the truth, he (15) _____ (care) that his love for Juliet could be very dangerous. Later he goes back to the house and (16) _____ (stand) in the garden. Juliet is standing on the balcony talking to herself about Romeo, but (17) _____ (see) him below in the garden. After he (18) _____ (talk) to her, they soon show their love for each other, and (19) _____ (agree) to get married. However, they (20) _____ (realize) that a terrible tragedy is about to happen.

Note. Adjusted from Macmillan English Grammar in Context (p.8), by V. Micheal, 2008, Oxford: Macmillan.

Exercise 6 Use the word in brackets to make sentences that are true; sometimes you will need *doesn't* or *don't*.

1. Japanese people / speak / Chinese

2. Autumn / come / before winter

3. Engineer / be / someone whose job / be / to design or build roads, bridges, machines etc.

4. Cotton / come / from the white hair of the cotton plant.

5. There / be / 26 alphabets in English.

1.2 Present Continuous

FORM

Affirmative

I	am	working	at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.
You We They The teachers (A plural noun)	are	working	at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.
He She It The teacher (A singular noun / An uncountable noun)	is	working	at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.

Negative

I	am not	working	at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.
You We They The teachers (<i>A plural noun</i>)	are not (aren't)	working	at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.
He She It The teacher (<i>A singular noun / An uncountable noun</i>)	is not (isn't)	working	at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.

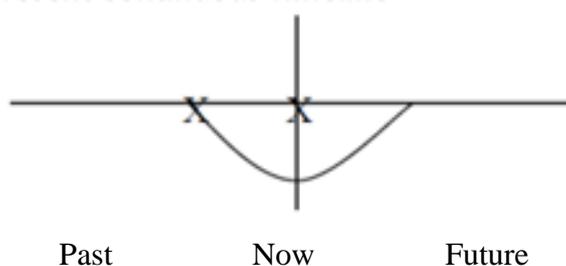
Yes/No Questions and short answers

Questions			Short answers	
Am	I	working at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University? good at English?	Yes, you are	No, you're not. / aren't.
Are	you		Yes, I am.	No, I'm not.
	we they the teachers (<i>A plural noun</i>)		Yes, we are. Yes, they are.	No, we're not (aren't) No, they're not.
Is	he she it the teacher (<i>A singular noun / An uncountable noun</i>)	Yes, s/ he is. Yes, it is.	No, s/ he is not. (isn't) No, it's not. (isn't)	

Wh-Questions and answers

Questions			Answers		
What	Am	I		You're	
	Are	you we they the teachers (A plural noun)		I'm We're They're	
	Is	he she it the teacher (A singular noun / An uncountable noun)	doing?	He's She's It's	sitting on the floor.

USE



The present continuous tense is used for

1. action happening at the moment of speaking, and not finished.

Ex. I'm sorry. I really can't help you wash the car. I'm cooking for dinner at the moment.

2. continuing ,unfinished actions which are not actually happening at the moment of speaking with verbs like work, learn, read, study, etc.

Ex. What are you doing in your English class? We're studying about William Shakespeare.

3. changing situations with verb like become, get, grow, change, increase, or with expression such as more and more.

Ex. It's getting hotter and hotter every year in Thailand.

My son is growing every day. I think he's getting taller and taller.

4. a fixed future arrangement such as an event already written in a diary.

Ex. We're leaving for New York next Friday.

I'm giving my birthday party this Saturday.

Note

There are some verbs which are not usually in present continuous. State verbs or non-action verbs describe such as state, sense, feeling, possession, or opinion, etc. This kind of verb use present simple. Here are some examples of the non-action verbs.

	non-action verbs				
(existence)	be*	seem	appear*		
(senses)	look*	sound*	smell*	taste*	feel*
(desire)	like	want	prefer	love*	hate
(possession)	have*	own	possess	belong	
(opinion)	think*	believe	consider*	understand	know

Example: Sam seems like a nice guy.

Tom Yum Kung tastes spicy but very delicious.

I think it's very good decision to have some rest.

However, some verbs can be both action and non-action verbs, depending on their contexts or meanings. They are marked * in the table above. Here are some examples.

	Example of use
(Non-action)	These pictures look beautiful.
(Action)	Johnson is looking out the window.
(Non-action)	I think that's a great idea.
(Action)	I am thinking about my wedding.
(Non-action)	I have a brand new car.
(Action)	We are having a party this weekend.
(Non-action)	Craig is a consultant .
(Action)	James is being silly this afternoon.
(Non-action)	The surface feels rough.
(Action)	I'm feeling sick. / I feel sick.
(Non-action)	I see your point.
(Action)	I'm seeing you next week.

Exercise 1 Write the correct Present Continuous form of the verb in brackets.

- Excuse me, I think that you _____ (sit) in my seat
- Don't disturb me. I _____ (read) for my upcoming exam.
- Be careful! You _____ (stand) too close to the road.
- Mom and I _____ (go) to the bookstore now, do you need anything?
- Technology _____ (become) more and more important these days.
- Paul _____ (listen) to his favorite band in his room right now.
- The volleyball team _____ (train) for the tournament in October.
- His cousin _____ (study) Thai classical dance at the university.
- The weather _____ (get) colder outside in the winter.
- Our flight to Seoul _____ (leave) this early morning.

Exercise 2 Underline the correct form of verbs.

- It *seems* / *is seeming* rather simple to me.
- I'm *looking* / *look* at that strange man.
- It *belongs* / *is belonging* to Tom.
- I *mean* / *am meaning* that very honestly.

5. The cheese cake *tastes / is tasting* amazing! Could you give me the recipe?
6. I *need / am needing* some time off.
7. The chef *tastes / is tasting* the spicy sauce!
8. I *see / am seeing* what you really mean.
9. He *is thinking / thinks* hard about the problem he's encountering.
10. I *have / am having* my dinner with my parents.

Exercise 3 Complete the questions and answers in the short dialogues with the correct form of verb in brackets. Use contractions.

1. A: What's Jennifer doing?
B: _____ (She / cook) dinner for her family.
2. A: What are Mike and Kim doing in that room?
B: _____ (They / play) chess.
3. A: _____ (The weather / get) better?
B: Yes, the temperature is not too high now.
4. A: Where is your big sister, Louise?
B: _____ (She / talk) to her boyfriend on the phone in her room.
5. A: Where _____ (you / stay)?
B: I'm staying with some friends.
6. A: _____ (you / listen) to me?
B: Of course, I am.
7. A: _____ (he / read) the English novel by Jane Austen?
B: Yes, he _____ (read) the famous one by Jane Austen.
8. A: What _____ (they / watch) on the TV?
B: They _____ (watch) the famous TV series Game of Thrones.
9. A: Somebody _____ (wait) for you outside.
B: I can't see them. Where are they?
A: _____ (they / sit) on the bench in the front yard.
10. A: What _____ (be / that noise)?
B: It's from our next door. The dogs _____ (bark) at the strangers.

Exercise 4 Complete the text with the correct present continuous form of the verb.

Good afternoon, everybody. I (1) _____ (speak) to you from Mount Surprising, the giant volcano. A team of scientist (2) _____ (visit) the volcano, and I'm her for Big TV, just incase anything exciting happens. I (3) _____ (stand) here near the top of the crater, and (4) _____ (look) down into the volcano. At themoment, the four scientists (5) _____ (climb) down into the crater. It doesn't look like very dangerous, I must say, but they (6) _____ (wear) special clothes and a rescue team (7) _____ (stand by) just in case! A little bit of smoke (8) _____ (rise) from the volcano, but that's normal. Now the scientists (9) _____ (set) up their equipment. They (10) _____ (try) to collect some gas, which will help them understand what exactly (11) _____ (go on) under the volcano. Wait a minute! Something (12) _____ (happen)! The ground (13) _____ (shake)! The four scientists (14) _____ (climb) out of the volcano as quickly as they can. They (15) _____ (shout) something as well. I think it's time to leave!

Note. From Macmillan English Grammar in Context (p.12), by V. Micheal, 2008, Oxford: Macmillan.

Exercise 5 Match the questions and answers.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. What do you do? _____ | a. Actually, that's the radio. |
| 2. What are you doing? _____ | b. German, she's from Austria. |
| 3. Where does he work? _____ | c. I'm a lecturer. |
| 4. Where is he working? _____ | d. I want to turn on the air-conditioner. |
| 5. Does your girlfriend play the cello? _____ | e. He's in Chiang Rai this week. |
| 6. Is your boyfriend playing the guitar? _____ | f. At Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University. |
| 7. What language does she speak? _____ | g. It sounds like Japanese. |
| 8. What language is she speaking? _____ | h. Me – can I have some more? |
| 9. Who drinks tea? _____ | i. No, the violin. |
| 10. Who's drinking coffee? _____ | j. Me. Every morning. |

Exercise 6 Two people are standing on a bus stop. Write the conversation between them, using the present simple or the present continuous.

Alex: (Hello. / you / wait / for the same bus as me?)

(1) _____

Pete: (I / wait / for the bus to Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University. And you?)

(2) _____

Alex: (Yes, me too. / you / study / there?)

(3) _____

Pete: (Yes, I / study / there.)

(4) _____

Alex: (What program / you / take?)

(5) _____

Pete: (I / study / in Business English Program.)

(6) _____

Alex: (What about you? What program / you / take?)

(7) _____

Pete: (I / take / an English Program.)

(8) _____

Alex: (this / your first day at university?)

(9) _____

Pete: (Yes. Oh, look! The bus / come.)

(10) _____

Alex: Right! Let's go.

1.3 Present Perfect Simple

FORM

Affirmative

I You We They The teachers <i>(A plural noun)</i>	have	(already, just) worked	at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.	(for 10 years). (since October 2007).
He She It The teacher <i>(A singular noun / An uncountable noun)</i>	has	(already, just) worked		

Negative

I You We They The teachers <i>(A plural noun)</i>	haven't	finished		
He She It The teacher <i>(A singular noun / An uncountable noun)</i>	hasn't	finished	the work	yet.

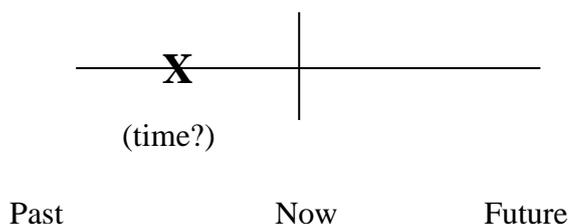
Yes/No Questions and short answers

		Questions		Short answers	
Have	I you we they the teachers <i>(A plural noun)</i>	visited	Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University?	Yes, you have	No, you haven't
	Yes, I have.			No, I haven't.	
Has	he she it the teacher <i>(A singular noun / An uncountable noun)</i>			Yes, s/ he has.	No, s/ he hasn't.
				Yes, it has.	No, it hasn't.

Wh-Questions and answers

		Questions		Answers	
Where	have	I you we they the teachers <i>(A plural noun)</i>	been?	You've	been to Chiang Mai.
	has	he she it the teacher <i>(A singular noun / An uncountable noun)</i>		He's She's It's	

USE



The present perfect simple is used to

1. describe an event in the past without a definite time.

Ex. Somebody has broken a window in our house.

2. describe what someone has achieved or completed in a period of time.

Ex. I've finished my cooking and I've watered the garden as well.

3. describe experience or what someone has done in life.

Ex. I've travelled to London but I've never been to New York.

4. describe changes, comparing past and present.

Ex. The weather in Chiang Mai has become much warmer.

Note

Present Perfect Simple is often used with expressions which refer to 'any time up to now', such as ever, never, before, recently, often, already, yet, etc.

Ex. Have you seen Jim recently?

He has never studied Japanese.

Have you ever been to Korea? – I have never been there.

We use 'for' and 'since' with a length of time.

Ex. They have played for the football club for ten years.

They have played for the football club since 2007.

Exercise 1 Complete the sentences using the Present Perfect Simple form of the verbs in brackets.

1. Don't take my cup away. I _____ (not / finish) my coffee yet.

2. A: What's that movie about?

B: I don't know. I _____ (not / watch) it yet.

3. I _____ (lose) my bag. _____ you _____ (see) it?

4. A: I _____ (reserve) the table for two for tonight.

B: Yes, sir. Could I have your name, please?

5. I _____ (make) some toast for breakfast. Would you like some?
6. We _____ (not / eat) anything since lunchtime.
7. A: _____ you _____ (call) back to the bank?
B: No, I haven't, but I'll do it soon.
8. Jeremy _____ (be) a good friend of mine since I was kids.
9. She _____ (climb) Mont Blanc twice.
10. They _____ (be) married for 5 years.

Exercise 2 Complete the sentences with *since* or *for*.

1. I've bought this car _____ a month.
2. He's studied here _____ April.
3. She's been ill _____ years.
4. I haven't seen them _____ ages.
5. He's lived here _____ 1998.
6. They've been away _____ a long time.
7. I haven't slept _____ 36 hours.
8. We've moved to this new neighborhood _____ many years.
9. I've started my new business _____ 2000.
10. I haven't played the piano _____ five years.

Exercise 3 Make complete questions and answers from the words in brackets with the Present Perfect Simple.

1. (you / have / breakfast?)

Q: _____

(Yes, I / eat / a lot.)

A: _____

2. (Susan / buy / anything?)

Q: _____

(Yes, she / buy / a new dress.)

A: _____

3. (you / break / anything while washing?)

Q: _____

(Yes, I / break / a glass.)

A: _____

4. (Pam / decide / a place for the party?)

Q: _____

(Yes, she / choose / a restaurant near her house.)

A: _____

5. (they / bring / any food?)

Q: _____

(Yes, they / bring / some sweets.)

A: _____

Exercise 4 Complete the conversation using *just*, *already* or *yet* and the words in brackets.

Tina: Are you having a good time here?

Paula: Yes, I've not been here long, and I (1) _____ (I / visit) a lot of tourist attractions.

Tina: (2) _____ (you / visit / the Grand Palace / ?)

Paula: No, (3) _____ (I / not / do / that), but I'm going to soon.

Tina: What about the cruising along the river? (4) _____ (you / try?)

Paula: No, but (5) _____ (I / book / a ticket for this evening) Would you like to come with me?

Tina: Thanks, but (6) _____ (I / do / that). I did it yesterday.

Paula: (7) _____ (I / read) in the online news that The Chainsmokers are giving a concert next week. Do you think it will be good?

Tina: Yes, (8) _____ (they / make) a really good record. Their songs are in the top chart.

Paula: Do you think you will be able to get a ticket?

Tina: Of course, (9) _____ (they / not / sell / all the tickets.)

Paula: We need to be very quick. They are very famous.

Tina: Yes, (10) _____ (their tickets / be / sell out) within an hour in many countries.

Exercise 5 Write a suitable sentence using the Present Perfect Simple.

1. Tim's hair was dirty. Now it's clean. (wash)

_____ ***Tim has washed his hair.*** _____

2. Tom was 80 kg. Now he's 70. (lose weight)

3. Bill played football yesterday. Now he can't walk; his leg is in plaster. (break)

4. My teacher is looking for her wallet. (lose)

5. Mary is on holiday in Spain. (go)

6. Mr. Hill was in Canada last week. He's back in Bangkok now. (be)

7. Look! Mr. Joe has got a lot of boxes. (buy)

8. I can't drink any more wine now. (drink too much)

9. Brad is very tired. (trim / the bushes)

10. Tony needs a holiday. (work / hard / this year)

Exercise 6 Read these sentences about fish. Then put the verb in brackets into Present Perfect Simple form.

1. About 15% of protein eaten by humans _____ (always come) from fish.

2. Recently, however, the number of fish _____ (fall).

3. Several things _____ (cause) this problem.

4. Most scientists agree that governments _____ (not do) enough to stop overfishing.

5. This means that fish populations _____ (grow) smaller.

6. Many fish _____ (not reproduce) fast enough to replace their numbers.

7. The population of North Sea Cod, for example, _____ (reach) a dangerous level.

8. EU law _____ (reduce) the numbers of fishing boats.

9. As a result, many fishermen in traditional fishing ports _____ (lose) their jobs.

10. In recent years, fish in the UK _____ (become) expensive, and

many people _____ (stop) eating it.

Note. From Macmillan English Grammar in Context (p.23), by V. Micheal, 2008, Oxford: Macmillan.

1.4 Present Perfect Continuous

FORM

Affirmative

I You We They The teachers (<i>A plural noun</i>)	have	been working	at Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University.
He She It The teacher (<i>A singular noun / An uncountable noun</i>)	has		

Negative

I You We They The teachers (<i>A plural noun</i>)	haven't	been doing	the project.
He She It The teacher (<i>A singular noun / An uncountable noun</i>)	hasn't		

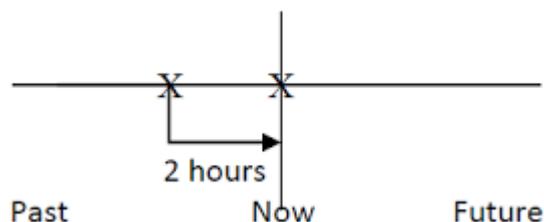
Yes/No Questions and short answers

		Questions		Short answers	
Have	I you we they the teachers <i>(A plural noun)</i>	been waiting	for a bus?	Yes, you have Yes, I have. Yes, we have. Yes, they have.	No, you haven't No, I haven't. No, we haven't. No, they haven't.
Has	he she it the teacher <i>(A singular noun / An uncountable noun)</i>			Yes, s/ he has. Yes, it has.	No, s/ he hasn't. No, it hasn't.

Wh-Questions and answers

Questions			Answers		
Where	have	I you we they the teachers <i>(A plural noun)</i>	been waiting?	You've I've We've They've	been waiting for a bus.
What	has	he she it the teacher <i>(A singular noun / An uncountable noun)</i>		He's She's It's	

USE



The present perfect continuous is used

1. to talk about recent continuing activities.

Ex. What have you been doing lately? I've been reading novels.

2. to explain how recent continuing activities have caused the present situation.

Ex. I have a headache. I've been waking up all night.

3. to talk about recent continuing activities which will probably go on in the future.

Ex. The figure shows how the fashion market in Bangkok has been changing.

4. with *how long* questions.

Ex. How long have you been studying English?

5. with time words such as recently, lately, all (day), every (morning), for, since.

Ex. I've been reading all morning.

(It's still morning now and I've not finished reading yet.)

Note

Present Perfect Continuous VS Present Perfect Simple

We use Present Perfect Simple to talk about the result of something that has happened. (what / how often / how much)

Ex. I've written 5 books.

I've played football three times a week.

I've been to Paris twice.

However, we use Present Perfect Continuous to talk about the duration of the event. (how long)

Ex. *I've been playing football for two hours.*

We also use Present Perfect Simple to talk about permanent or very long lasting situation.

Ex. *I've lived in Bangkok all my life. (permanent)*

I've been living in Bangkok for the last few weeks. (temporary)

Exercise 1 Choose the best verb from the box too complete each sentence. Use the Present Perfect Continuous form of verb.

rain save study read make learn watch wait play (X2)

1. She _____ Italian for 3 months.
2. It _____ for several hours; the road is too wet to drive.
3. We _____ this game for hours. Let's stop.
4. Judy _____ German at school for 3 years.
5. I _____ this fiction for months, but I haven't finished it yet.
6. The people next door _____ a lot of noise all night.
7. I _____ money for my next summer holidays.
8. We _____ this program all morning.
9. I _____ for a bus almost an hour's long.
10. How long _____ the piano?

Exercise 2 Use the Present Perfect Continuous to fill in the blanks

1. I'm tired, because I _____ (work) very hard.
2. He _____ (write) emails all morning.
3. Catherina is getting thinner because she _____ (exercise) a lot.
4. My mother _____ (peel) the potatoes all afternoon.
5. Cathy _____ (attend) a driving course since March.
6. How long _____ you _____ (learn) English?
7. Where are my sunglasses? I _____ (look) for them all day long.
8. Charles _____ (escape) from the police for years.
9. How long _____ you _____ (use) a telephone?
10. She _____ (earn) quite a fortune for the last five years.

Exercise 3 Underline the correct tense.

1. I've bought / have been buying a new pair of shoes.
2. Have you finished / Have you been finishing reading that book yet?
3. They've eaten / have been eating fruit all afternoon, ever since they came from school.
4. I've been reading / have read this book now, so you can have it back.
5. I've been writing / have written eight pages already.
6. Your exam paper is completely blank! What have you been doing / have you done?
7. Oh, no! There's nothing to eat. My sister has been eating / has eaten everything I left in

the kitchen.

8. Oh, no! There's no wine to drink. They have drunk / have been drinking all the wine.
9. No wonder your eyes hurt. You've been playing / have played computer games ever since you had your breakfast.
10. I haven't seen / haven't been seeing you for ages.
11. God! Hakan has scored / has been scoring.
12. They have danced / have been dancing for an hour.
13. I have been waiting / have waited for you for ages.
14. I've finished / 've been finishing my work.
15. I've been writing / have written this letter for an hour.
16. He has visited / has been visiting ten museums this week.
17. I'm very tired. Because I have travelled / have been travelling around Istanbul all day.
18. She has found / has been finding a good job.
19. I'm hot because I have been running / have run.
20. I have written / have been writing letters for weeks.

References