Present Perfect vs Past Simple — Worksheet

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30 exercises · Level B1–B2 · Answer key on the last page Free for classroom use

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Choose the correct option (a–d) for each gap or question. Check yourself with the answer key on the last page.

1. I _____ my umbrella on the train yesterday, so I got wet.
   a) left b) have left c) have leaved d) leaved

2. She _____ three novels so far, and she is working on the fourth.
   a) wrote b) has wrote c) has written d) have written

3. Tom and I _____ each other since we were six.
   a) knew b) have known c) have knew d) know

4. The company _____ its first shop in 2004, in a small street near the station.
   a) has opened b) has open c) opened d) was opened

5. _____ you ever _____ a famous person?
   a) Did … met b) Have … meet c) Has … met d) Have … met

6. I _____ to Scotland twice, and I'd love to go again.
   a) have went b) has been c) have been d) was been

7. When _____ she _____ her job at the bank?
   a) has … started b) did … start c) did … started d) has … start

8. He _____ any coffee since he got up, so he's a bit sleepy.
   a) didn't drink b) hasn't drank c) hasn't drunk d) haven't drunk

9. They _____ the match yesterday because their best player was ill.
   a) didn't win b) haven't won c) didn't won d) hasn't won

10. How long _____ you _____ in this town? Do you like it here?
    a) did … live b) have … lived c) have … live d) do … live

11. My grandfather _____ as a teacher for forty years before he retired in 2015.
    a) has worked b) works c) worked d) is working

12. My great-grandmother, who died last year, _____ through two wars.
    a) lived b) has lived c) lives d) is living

13. I _____ to the gym three times since Monday.
    a) went b) go c) am going d) have been

14. Our neighbours _____ very noisy since March, when their son got a drum kit.

a) have been b) were c) are d) has been

15. There's been an accident on the main road. A car _____ into a tree at about six o'clock.

a) has crashed b) crashes c) has crash d) crashed

16. I've lost my phone! I think I _____ it in the taxi last night.

a) have left b) left c) leave d) was leaving

17. _____ you ever _____ in a hot-air balloon?

a) Have … flew b) Did … flown c) Have … flown d) Has … flown

18. What time _____ you _____ home last night?

a) have … come b) did … come c) did … came d) have … came

19. I _____ her at a conference in Berlin two years ago.

a) have met b) have meet c) meeted d) met

20. I _____ a single cigarette since May, when I gave up smoking.

a) haven't had b) didn't have c) don't have d) haven't have

21. I _____ that film. I _____ it on a plane last year.

a) saw … have seen b) have seen … have seen c) have saw … saw d) have seen … saw

22. She _____ in Spain from 2016 to 2019, and then she moved to Italy.

a) has lived b) lives c) lived d) is living

23. Food prices _____ a lot since last summer.

a) have risen b) rose c) have rose d) rise

24. This is the third time you _____ late this week!

a) were b) have been c) are d) had been

25. Last year I _____ to the office, but since January I _____ from home.

a) have driven … worked b) drove … worked c) have driven … have worked d) drove … have worked

26. Which sentence is correct?

a) I didn't see him since Monday.
b) I haven't seen him since Monday.
c) I haven't saw him since Monday.
d) I don't see him since Monday.

27. Which question is correct?

a) When have you moved to London?
b) When did you moved to London?
c) When did you move to London?
d) When you moved to London?

28. Which sentence is correct?

a) I have lived here for five years.
b) I have lived here since five years.
c) I live here for five years.
d) I lived here since five years.

29. Which sentence is correct?

a) My grandfather has never flown in his life. He died in 2010.
b) My grandfather never has flown in his life. He died in 2010.
c) My grandfather didn't never fly in his life. He died in 2010.
d) My grandfather never flew in his life. He died in 2010.

30. Which is correct?

a) I've broke my arm. I fell off my bike on Saturday.
b) I've broken my arm. I fell off my bike on Saturday.
c) I've broken my arm. I've fallen off my bike on Saturday.
d) I broke my arm. I've fallen off my bike on Saturday.

Answer Key

Present Perfect vs Past Simple · Explanations are shortened — the full interactive version is at gramvoy.com/exercises/present-perfect-vs-past-simple/

1. a) left
Yesterday is a finished time, so the past simple: leave – left – left.

2. c) has written
So far means up to now, and she is still writing, so the present…

3. b) have known
Since we were six measures a period from then until now, so the present…

4. c) opened
In 2004 is a finished time, so the past simple opened.

5. d) Have … met
Ever asks about life experience up to now, so the present perfect: Have…

6. c) have been
No time is given — it is experience up to now, so the present perfect…

7. b) did … start
A question with When asks for a finished time, so the past simple: When…

8. c) hasn't drunk
Since he got up covers the time from then until now, so the present…

9. a) didn't win
Yesterday is finished, so the past simple negative didn't win: didn't +…

10. b) have … lived
Do you like it here?

11. c) worked
Before he retired in 2015 closes the forty years, so they are a…

12. a) lived
She died last year, so her life is a finished period: past simple lived.

13. d) have been
Since Monday means from Monday until now, so the present perfect have…

14. a) have been
Since March runs from then until now, and the noise still goes on, so…

15. d) crashed
The news comes first in the present perfect (There's been an accident).

16. b) left
I've lost my phone is the news; last night gives the detail a finished…

17. c) Have … flown
Ever asks about experience in someone's whole life up to now: Have you…

18. b) did … come
Last night is a finished time, so the past simple question: did you…

19. d) met
Two years ago names a finished time, so the past simple met.

20. a) haven't had
Since May runs from that month until now, so the present perfect:…

21. d) have seen … saw
With no time stated, the first sentence is experience: have seen.

22. c) lived
From 2016 to 2019 is a period that ended, so the past simple lived.

23. a) have risen
Since last summer measures a change from then until now, so the present…

24. b) have been
After This is the first / second / third time… English uses the present…

25. d) drove … have worked
Last year is finished, so the past simple drove; since January runs up…

26. b) I haven't seen him since Monday.
Since Monday means from Monday until now, so the present perfect: I…

27. c) When did you move to London?
When asks for a finished time, so the past simple: When did you move…?

28. a) I have lived here for five years.
A period up to now takes the present perfect, and a length of time…

29. d) My grandfather never flew in his life. He died in 2010.
He died in 2010, so his life is a finished period and only the past…

30. b) I've broken my arm. I fell off my bike on Saturday.
The news is in the present perfect, I've broken my arm; the detail with…