



Sıfırdan İngilizce



HD
HÜSEYİNDEMİRTAŞ
İNGİLİZCE



Past Simple

VS

Present Perfect



I. Overview of Tenses

Simple Past

- **Usage:** Describes actions that were completed at a specific point in the past.
- **Time Reference:** Definite past time.
- **Example:**
 - *I visited Istanbul last summer.*



Present Perfect

- **Usage:** Describes actions that occurred at an indefinite time in the past or that have relevance to the present moment.
- **Time Reference:** Indefinite past time or ongoing relevance.
- **Example:**
 - *I have visited Istanbul.*



2. Detailed Comparison

A. Time Reference

- **Simple Past**

- **Definite Time: The action occurred at a specific, often mentioned, time in the past.**
- **Signal Words: yesterday, last week/month/year, in 2010, when I was a child, etc.**

Examples:

- ***She watched a movie yesterday.***
- ***They moved to Ankara in 2018.***



- **Present Perfect**

- **Indefinite Time: The exact time is not specified or not important.**
- **Ongoing Relevance: The action may have an effect on the present.**
- **Signal Words: ever, never, already, yet, just, recently, since, for, etc.**

Examples:

- ***She has watched that movie before.***
- ***They have lived in Ankara for six years.***



B. Connection to the Present

Simple Past

- The action is completed and has no direct connection to the present.

Example:

- *I finished my homework.* (Homework is done; no further implication.)

Present Perfect

- The action has a connection to the present, either affecting the current situation or being relevant now.

Example:

- *I have finished my homework, so I can go out now.*



C. Use with Time Expressions

- **Simple Past**

- **Often used with specific past time expressions.**

Examples:

- ***They traveled to Spain last summer.***
- ***He graduated in 2020.***

- **Present Perfect**

- **Typically used with non-specific time expressions or those indicating an unfinished time period.**

Examples:

- ***They have traveled to Spain. (No specific time mentioned.)***



- ***He has graduated recently.***

Note: Present Perfect is used with time expressions like *this week, so far, up to now*, which indicate that the time period is still ongoing.

Example:

- ***I have read three books this month. (The month is not over yet.)***



3. Common Scenarios and Examples

A. Completed Actions vs. Experiences

- **Simple Past:** Refers to specific completed actions.

Example:

- *I ate sushi last night.*
- **Present Perfect:** Refers to life experiences without specifying when they occurred.

Example:

- *I have eaten sushi before.*

B. Actions with Present Relevance

- **Simple Past:** Action has no direct relevance to the present.



Example:

- ***She broke her leg last year.***
- **Present Perfect: Action has a present consequence.**

Example:

- ***She has broken her leg, so she can't walk now.***

C. Duration from Past to Present

- **Simple Past: Typically not used for actions continuing to the present.**

Example:

- ***I lived in Izmir.*** (Implies you no longer live there.)
- **Present Perfect: Used with *since* and *for* to express duration up to now.**



Example:

- ***I have lived in Izmir for five years. (You still live there.)***



4. Strategies for Turkish Students

A. Identifying Time Indicators

- **Look for Specific Time Words:** If the sentence includes words like *yesterday, last year, in 2010*, use the Simple Past.

Example:

- *I went to the market yesterday.*
- **Look for Indefinite or Present-Relevant Words:** If the sentence includes words like *ever, never, since, for*, use the Present Perfect.

Example:

- *Have you ever traveled abroad?*



B. Considering the Present Relevance

- **Does the Action Affect the Present?**
 - **Yes: Use Present Perfect.**
 - *I have lost my keys.* (I still don't have them now.)
 - **No: Use Simple Past.**
 - *I lost my keys yesterday.* (The action happened in the past.)



C. Using Ongoing Time Frames

- **Current Periods (Today, This Week, This Month):**
 - **If the period is still ongoing, prefer Present Perfect.**

Example:

- ***She has written three emails today. (Today is not over yet.)***
- **Once the period is over, switch to Simple Past.**

Example:

- ***She wrote three emails yesterday.***

5. Comparative Examples

Situation	Simple Past	Present Perfect
Specific completed action in the past	<i>They built a new house last year.</i>	<i>They have built a new house.</i>
Life experience without specifying when	<i>He graduated from university.</i>	<i>He has graduated from university.</i>
Action affecting the present	<i>She forgot her appointment.</i>	<i>She has forgotten her appointment.</i>



Situation	Simple Past	Present Perfect
Duration from past to now	<i>I studied English for two years.</i>	<i>I have studied English for two years.</i>
Recent actions without specific time	<i>I saw that movie.</i>	<i>I have seen that movie recently.</i>



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