

Present perfect with “since”, “for” and “just”

Hello and welcome back, in this lesson we will be expanding our understanding of the present perfect.

We will focus on the use of “**since**”, “**for**” and “**just**” with the present perfect tense have specific meanings and today we are going to analyse them



JUST

When to use present perfect

In English, for any action which started in the past and is continuing in the present, we can **only** use the present perfect or present perfect continuous- **NOT** the present simple.



When do we use “since” with the present perfect?

The present perfect is used in English with “**since**” when we are referring to the point in the past when the action started

I have worked
here **since** 2000



They have lived
here **since** 2010



We have known each
other **since** 2005



Why since?

In all of these examples, only “**since**” can be used as we have mentioned the specific year in which the actions started.

Also pay attention to the fact that the actions are still continuing in the present.



When should we use the present perfect with “for”?

When we use “**for**” in the present perfect, we cannot use a specific date or year but rather a **duration of time**.

Examples:

I have worked here **for** 5 years
pic of worker



They have lived here **for** 10 years



She has travelled **for** 8 years



Why for?

As we can see in these examples, “**for**” can be the only option as we have mentioned a duration of time, whereas “**since**” would be used for a specific date.



Just

We use “**just**” with the present perfect to express that an action was completed in the very recent past.

Subject + auxiliary verb (present tense of “to have”) + past participle

I have just finished my homework



He has just arrived



They have just eaten their dinner



As we can see in these examples, the structure stays the same with “**just**” staying in between the auxiliary verb and past participle in all of the examples.

Just remember

Learning the situations in which we use the present tense with “**since**”, “**for**” and “**just**” is the most important thing.

Since – a fixed date

For – a duration of time

Just – to show a recently finished action

