The Present Tense – Present Perfect

There are three aspects of the present tense:
1) Simple present
2) Present progressive
3) Present perfect (simple and progressive)

The present perfect (simple) tense is used to describe a fact that has been true from sometime in the past and continues to be true up through the present.

• Use the helping verb “has” before a verb in present perfect simple tense to describe (he, she, it).
• Use the helping verb “have” before a verb in the present perfect simple tense when used to describe all other subjects (I, we, you, they).

| he / she / it [has] [verb in participle form] |
| I / we / you / they [have] [verb in participle form] |

Example: It has rained a lot this week.
Example: I have flown on an airplane before.

• Use the helping verb “been” after “have” or “has” when using the verb “to be” in the present perfect simple tense.

| he / she / it [has] [been] [object clause] |
| I / we / you / they [have] [been] [object clause] |

Example: It has been a secret for thirty years.
Example: They have been nice in the past.

Directions: Complete the following sentences in the present perfect simple tense.

1) She ___ _________ (to be) happy all day.
2) It ___ always _________ (to snow) here in December.
3) Dan ___ _________ (to be) sick for three days.
4) Li and Susan ___ _________ (to try) four times already and will not give up.
5) The old car ___ _________ (to be) a piece of junk since I bought it.
6) We ___ not _________ (to take) this test before.
7) My uncle ___ _________ (to be) to China.
8) Our father ___ never _________ (to drive) to California before.
9) I ___ _________ (to speak) to the president before.
10) The old man ___ occasionally _________ (to need) help crossing the street.

Directions: Put the following sentences in present perfect simple tense.

1) I do the laundry.
2) It is cold.

Directions: Now make your own sentences in the present perfect simple tense.

1)

2)

The present perfect (progressive) tense is used to describe an action that has already begun to happen sometime in the past and continues to happen up through the present.

• Use the helping verb phrase “has been” before a verb in present perfect progressive tense to describe (he, she, it).
• Use the helping verb phrase “have been” before a verb in the present perfect progressive tense when used to describe all other subjects (I, we, you, they).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>he / she / it [has] [been] [verb + “ing”]</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I / we / you / they [have] [been] [verb + “ing”]</td>
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Example: He has been running for twenty minutes. ★ = action

Example: I have been running for twenty minutes.

Directions: Write the correct form of the verb in the spaces below.

1) We _____ _____ _________ (to learn) English for one hour.
2) He _____ _____ _________ (to go) to school here for five years.
3) I _____ _____ _________ (to play) the piano since I was eight years old.
4) Li _____ _____ _________ (to talk) on the phone for forty five minutes.
5) Wang, Ted, and Ko _____ _____ _________ (to drive) since morning.
6) Andy and I _____ _____ _________ (to look) for my keys for two hours.
7) The Colorado River _____ _____ _________ (to flow) for centuries.
8) My CD player _____ _____ _________ (to skip) since I bought it.
9) Tommy _____ not _____ _________ (to save) his money for eight years.
10) Nidia _____ _____ _________ (to run) in the race for six minutes.

Directions: Put the following sentences in present perfect progressive tense.

1) I make cakes.

2) The car does not start.

Directions: Now make your own sentences in the present perfect progressive tense.

1)

2)