

Present perfect

In English The **present perfect tense** is used to describe what *has* or *has not happened*, either very recently or in a period of time up to the present. It is formed by combining the present tense of the auxiliary verb **to have** and the **past participle** of any verb.

Have you **seen** Luis and Carlos lately?
 I **have seen** that movie three times.
 Jamie still **hasn't paid** her rent this month.

A Circle the form of the verb **to have** and underline the **past participle**.

1. We have made a lot of improvements to our house.
2. The house has undergone a complete remodeling.
3. My mom has laid new tile on our patio.
4. My dad has put on a brand new roof.
5. I have painted all the bedrooms.
6. My brother has been ill, so he could not help.
7. My sister has planted several trees in the backyard.
8. You have helped us a lot by bringing us dinner.

In Spanish The **present perfect tense** is also used to describe what *has* or *has not happened* very recently, or in a period of time up to the present. It is formed by combining the present tense of the auxiliary verb **haber** and the **past participle** of any verb.

yo	he perdido	nosotros(as)	hemos perdido
tú	has perdido	vosotros(as)	habéis perdido
él, ella, usted	ha perdido	ellos(as), ustedes	han perdido

Past participles of *regular* verbs are formed by dropping the infinitive endings and adding **-ado** for **-ar** verbs. Add **-ido** for **-er** and **-ir** verbs, except if the stem ends in **-a**, **-e** or **-o**; then add **-ído**. Some verbs have *irregular* participles.

pensar	pensado	vivir	vivido	leer	leído
abrir	abierto	escribir	escrito	poner	puesto
decir	dicho	hacer	hecho	romper	roto
descubrir	descubierto	morir	muerto	ver	visto
resolver	resuelto	volver	vuelto		

B Circle the form of the verb **haber** and underline the **past participle**.

1. Este mes han llegado muchos turistas del extranjero.
2. Yo he abierto una tienda para los turistas.

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3. Ha pasado mucha gente por mi tienda.
4. Les hemos vendido muchas tarjetas postales.
5. Ustedes han usado el café Internet.
6. Tú les has escrito muchos correos electrónicos a tus amigas.
7. Yo he recibido muchos mensajes (*messages*).
8. Te he dicho muchas veces que no me debes llamar tanto.

C How things have changed! Use the present perfect tense and the information provided to tell about the changes of the last month.

1. Nosotros / comprar / casa nueva
Nosotros hemos comprado una casa nueva.

2. Mi madre / descubrir / un vecindario bonito con tiendas

3. Yo / ver / muchas películas / en el DVD nuevo

4. Mi hermana / romper / espejo / del baño

5. Mis vecinos / hacer / un viaje por Patagonia

6. Mi vecina / todavía / no / volver / del viaje

7. Tú / ponerse / el abrigo / muchas veces / porque / hacer / mucho frío

D The present perfect and the simple past or preterite are both used to talk about the past. Compare the use of each tense in the following sentences below and then answer the question.

- a. Yo **he empezado** a nadar. **Empecé** a nadar el año pasado.
b. Ya **has bailado** tres veces hoy. **Bailaste** tres veces en aquella fiesta.

What is the difference in meaning between each of the pairs of sentences?
