

# Present perfect: *just, yet, already* and *still*

GRAMMAR

LEVEL  
Intermediate

NUMBER  
B1\_3035G\_EN

LANGUAGE  
English

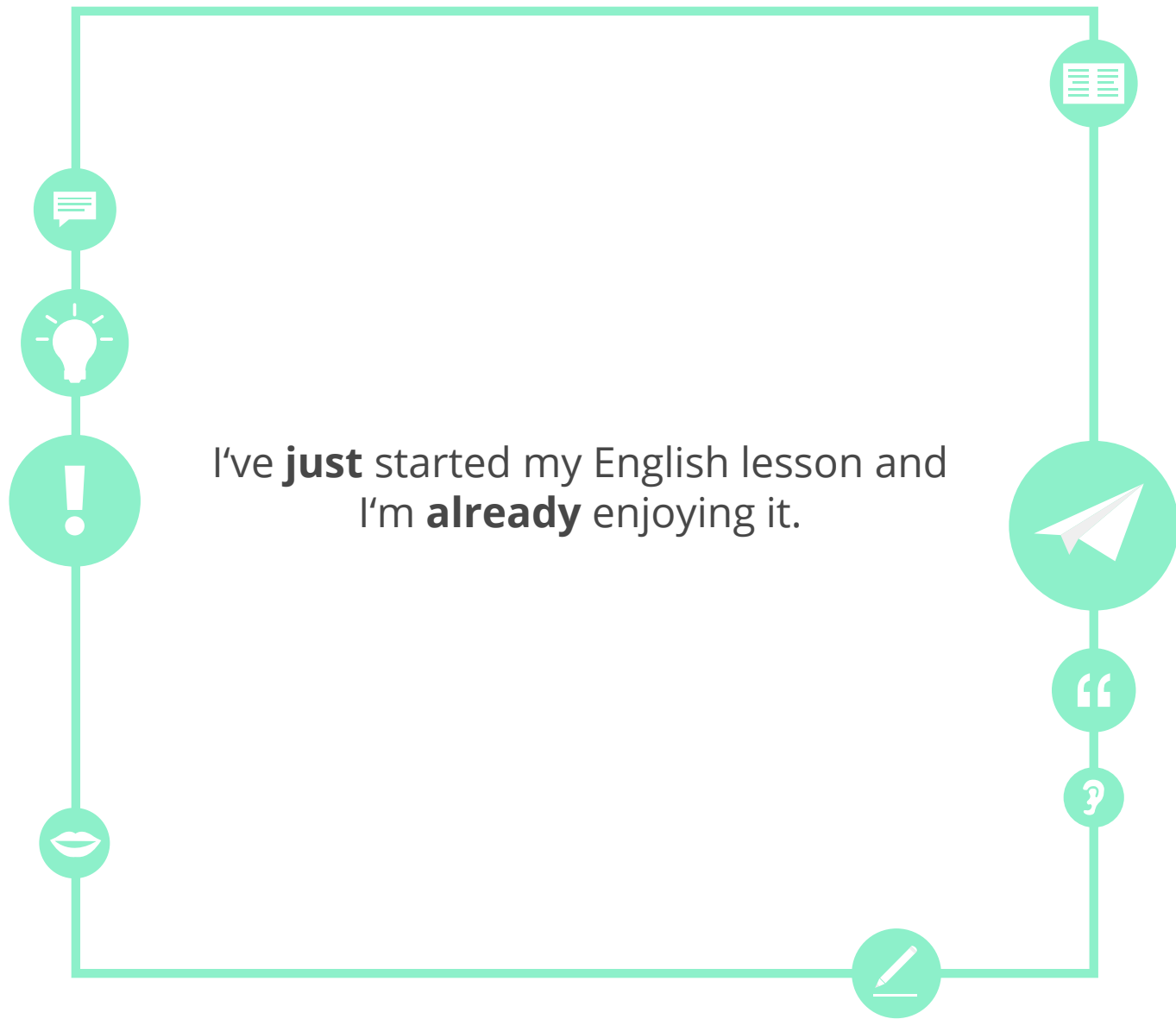




## Goals

- Can recall and provide a simple explanation of the present perfect tense, with examples.
- Can accurately use 'just', 'yet', 'already', and 'still' with the present perfect tense.







## Preview and warm-up

- In this grammar lesson you are going to learn how to use the adverbs *just*, *yet*, *already* and *still* in the **present perfect** tense.



I've **just** dropped a huge steak!



## Find the present perfect

- Which of these sentences is in the **present perfect tense**? Why?



Sarah **broke** her wrist.

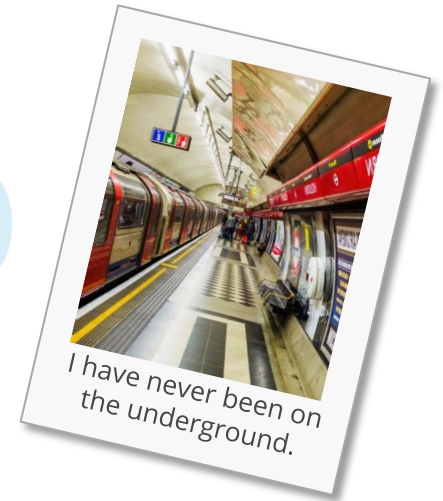
Sarah **has broken** her wrist and now she can't go to school.





What is the difference between these two questions?

**Did you go to  
London last week?**



**Have you ever  
been to London?**



## The present perfect

What is the difference in meaning between these two sentences?

//

I had my dog for ten years.

//

//

I have had my dog for ten years.

//





## The present perfect

We use the **present perfect** in three main ways:

- For **past actions** which have **effects** in the **present**.
- For **experiences** which happened at some time during our lives.
- For things which **began in the past** but have **not finished**.

Past actions – present effects	Experiences	Began in the past – not finished
<b>I have broken my leg so I can't play football.</b>	Have you ever been to New York?	I have known Alice for 3 years.
<b>I have finished my homework so I can go out now.</b>	I have never had an English breakfast.	I have lived in my flat for a long time.



## Make present perfect sentences or questions from the prompts

1. You/go/skiing?

→ Have you ever been skiing?

2. She/see/the Lion King?

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. I/never/eat/turkey.

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Harry/hurt/his leg.

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. I/know/her/10 years.

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Tell the class about...

a place you have never been that you really want to go to

a friend you have known for a long time

something you have done recently

a city you have visited which you didn't like



## Present perfect practice

Answer the questions below in the present perfect tense.  
Use page 8 to help you.



Have you ever  
been to  
Cornwall?

What have you  
always wanted to  
do?

What is the most  
exotic food you  
have eaten?

How long have  
you known your  
best friend?



## *Just*

- *Just* is used when we want to say that something happened **very recently**.
- It is always used with the **present perfect tense**.
- It is used **between** the **auxiliary** and the **main verb**.

I've just been to the shop and the police were there!

I've just had dinner so I'm not hungry.

Georgina isn't ill, I've just seen her shopping in town.

Joseph's just called to say they're going to be late.

I've just told you to stop doing that!





## Still

**Still** is used for an activity which is **ongoing**. It is often used in the **present perfect tense** but it can be used with **other tenses** too. Look at the examples below.

- In **positive** sentences it is used **between** the **auxiliary** and the **main verb**.
- In **negative** sentences and questions it is used **after the subject**.

Present perfect	Other tenses
I've still got all my toys from my childhood.	Graham is still working on his thesis.
We still haven't seen that film you recommended to us.	My girlfriend still surprises me, even after three years together.
I've still never been to England even though I've been learning English all my life.	Will you still love me when I'm old and grey?
She still hasn't spoken to me since our argument.	He said he was still eating his lunch when I called him.



## *Just and still*

- Here are some more examples of *just* and *still* with the **present perfect**.



I've **just** got back from Spain. It was a wonderful holiday!

I **still** haven't been to Spain. I really must go.





## *Just or still?*

Put *just* or *still* into these sentences in the correct place.

1. I have had lunch so I'm really full.
2. Donna is working on her speech. I can't believe it's not ready.
3. I will come even if my wife can't.
4. I've spoken to Jack and he promised that he's 5 minutes away.
5. I haven't met your boyfriend. We need to arrange a time to meet.





## Writing

Use the prompts below to write three sentences about things you have done today.

I have just...

I still haven't...

I am still...

A sheet of white lined paper with a blue vertical margin line on the left and a spiral binding on the left edge. The paper has seven horizontal lines for writing.



## Speaking

Now think about your education.  
Tell your classmates or teacher about your education using the prompts below.



1 I have just...

2 I still haven't...

3 I am still...



## Yet

- We use **yet** when the thing we are talking about is **expected to happen**.
- It is usually used at the **end of the sentence**, and is almost always used in **questions** and **negatives**.

I haven't finished my homework yet, I'll be done in 5 minutes.

Have you had dinner yet?

Lara hasn't seen John yet, he's waiting for her at home.

Have they come back from their holiday yet?





## *Already*

- We use **already** to say that something **has happened**.
- We often use it when something happened **earlier than expected**.
- We use already **after** the **auxiliary verb**.

- I've **already** finished my homework.
- Has she **already** left? That was fast.
- They have **already** been to London so they want to see a different part of the UK this time.
- Have we **already** talked about this?





## Yet and *already*

- Here are some more examples of **yet** and **already** with other tenses.
- Look at the fourth sentence. In everyday British English, we don't usually use **yet** with the past perfect.



He had **already** eaten his dinner when I arrived.

He is **yet** to speak.



I had **already** tried sushi before I went to Japan.

My boss wanted my report, but I hadn't finished it.





## ***Yet or already***

**Put *yet* or *already* into the sentences in the correct places.**

1. I haven't finished my homework but I'm nearly there.
2. Have you finished that presentation? You're ahead of schedule.
3. Don't worry about a thing. I've arranged everything.
4. Has she written to grandma? She said she'd do it ages ago.
5. I can't believe they're here! Nothing is ready.





## Speaking

Think of a historical or interesting event. Then think about another two events: one which has already happened and one which hasn't yet occurred in relation to your chosen event.

Your classmates and teacher have to guess your event.



The First World War **has already happened**.

But the Second World War **hasn't happened yet**.

Is your event the Great Depression?



## Your chores and errands

Make a few sentences about your chores or errands for the week using the prompts below.



I still haven't ...

I haven't  
\_\_\_\_\_  
yet.

I have just  
been to the  
post office  
and...

I've just ...

I have already...



## Writing

**Write a short text about your experiences with education using what you talked about on p. 16**

Make sure you use the words:

- already
- yet
- still
- just





## Game

- What can you say about the scenes in the picture using the adverbs below.

just

yet

still

already





## Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

no




## Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.  
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



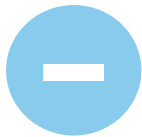
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If you have time, go over  
the most difficult slides again





## Answer key

### Exercise p. 21

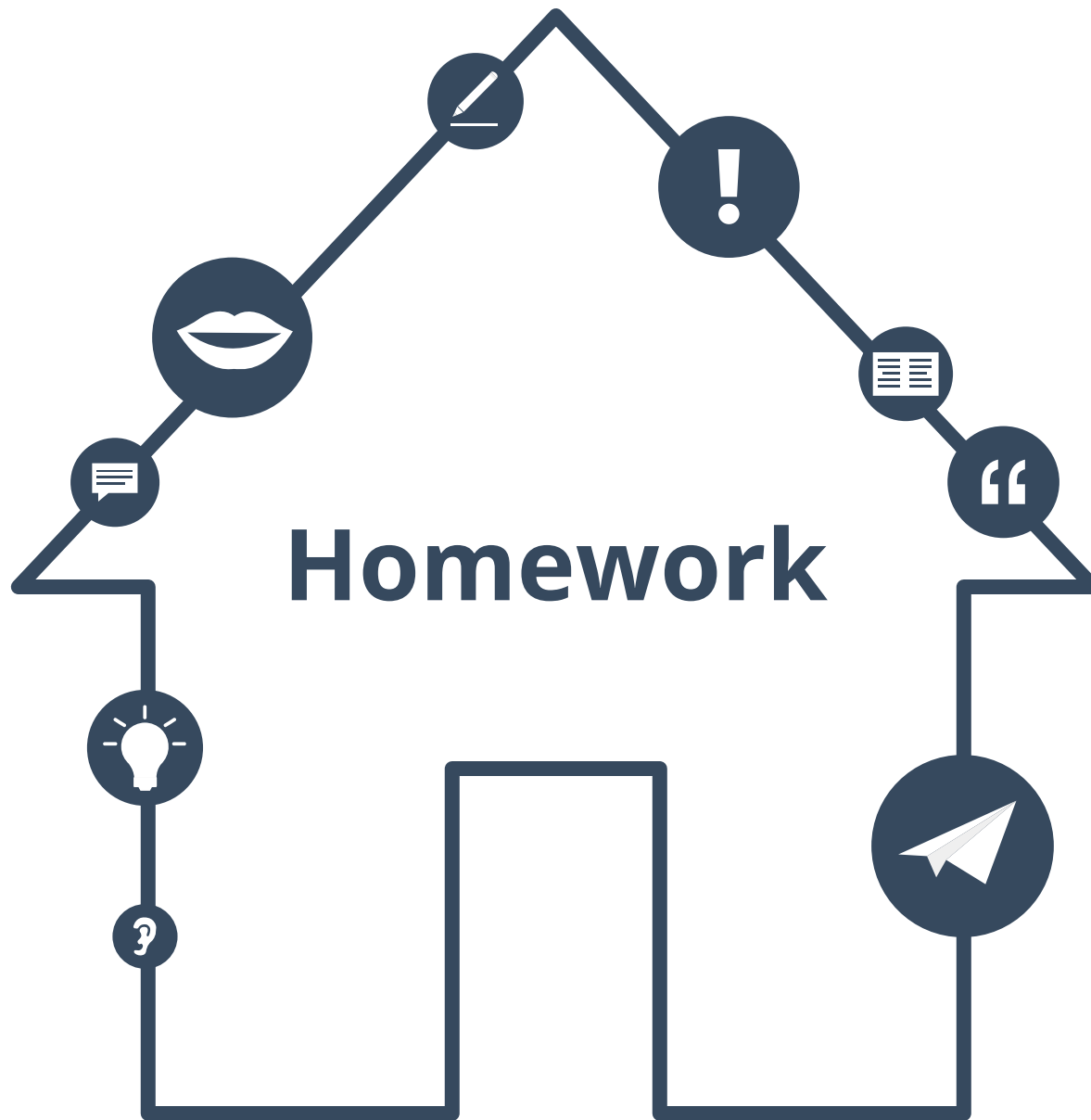
1. homework yet, 2. you already finished, 3. I've already arranged, 4. grandma yet?, 5. here already!

### Exercise p. 15

1. have just had, 2. is still working, 3. will still come, 4. I've just spoken, 5. I still haven't

### Exercise p. 9

2. Have you seen the Lion King?, 3. I have never eaten turkey, 4. Harry has hurt his leg, 5. I have known her for 10 years.





Put *just*, *already*, *yet* and *still* into the sentences in the correct place.

1. Have you finished your homework?  
That was fast!
2. I haven't spoken to him, but I will  
see him this afternoon.
3. I'm waiting to hear from Mr.  
Davies. He should have replied  
weeks ago.
4. I'm so tired, I have finished running  
a marathon.







## Homework answer key

### **Exercise p. 30**

1. Have you finished your homework already? That was fast!
2. I haven't spoken to him yet, but I will see him this afternoon.
3. I'm still waiting to hear from Mr. Davies. He should have replied weeks ago.
4. I'm so tired, I have just finished running a marathon.

