

English Grammar Exercise – Past Simple and Present Perfect

In English, when we talk about past events, when we refer to a time, we need to use the Past Simple (was/were, wasn't/weren't, did/didn't, saw, took, had, went, etc.).

If we don't refer to a time, we must use the Present Perfect (has/have been, hasn't/haven't been, gone, taken, seen, done, etc.).

Exercise 1. Remove the time reference and change from Past Simple to Present Perfect.

Examples: a) He **went** to Rome last year. --> He **has been** to Rome.
b) We **didn't finish** the project last month. --> We **haven't finished** the project.

1. He took his son to school at 8am.

2. We saw a rabbit in our garden last night.

3. She didn't agree with me when we spoke.

4. They were together when they were young.

5. We traveled to Paris last year.

6. Did you eat lobster yesterday?

Exercise 2. Add a time reference and change from Present Perfect to Past Simple.

Examples: a) I **have finished** the book. --> I **finished** the book **last week**.
b) We **haven't seen** John. --> We **didn't see** John **yesterday**.

1. He has been in the USA.

2. We have seen a ghost.

3. She hasn't taken a shower.

4. Have they completed the task?

5. Why have you gone to the park?

6. I've gotten married.
