

# Present Perfect vs Present Perfect Continuous

## Practice Worksheet for B2-C1 Learners

<b>Name:</b>	_____	<b>Date:</b>	_____
<b>Level:</b>	B2-C1	<b>Score:</b>	____ / 70

**Quick reminder:** Use the Present Perfect to focus on results, completed quantities, life experience, and states. Use the Present Perfect Continuous to focus on activity, duration, and recent evidence.

### Exercise 1: Choose the correct form

Circle or underline the best option. Think about whether the sentence focuses on result, quantity, duration, or recent evidence. (12 points)

- I'm exhausted because I have worked / have been working all day.
- She has written / has been writing three reports this week.
- We have waited / have been waiting for the train for nearly an hour.
- He has broken / has been breaking his glasses, so he can't read the menu.
- How long have you learnt / have you been learning English?
- They have known / have been knowing each other since university.
- I have cleaned / have been cleaning the kitchen, so it looks much better now.
- Why are your clothes wet? Have you walked / Have you been walking in the rain?
- The company has opened / has been opening five new offices this year.
- We have discussed / have been discussing the same problem all morning.
- She has never visited / has never been visiting Scotland.
- I have read / have been reading this article for twenty minutes, but I still don't understand it.

### Exercise 2: Complete the sentences

Put the verbs in brackets into the Present Perfect or the Present Perfect Continuous. (15 points)

- I \_\_\_\_\_ (try) to contact you all afternoon.
- She \_\_\_\_\_ (finish) the first draft of her essay.
- They \_\_\_\_\_ (live) in Manchester since 2020.
- He \_\_\_\_\_ (repair) the bike, so his hands are covered in oil.
- We \_\_\_\_\_ (complete) four exercises so far.
- How many times \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (take) this exam?
- How long \_\_\_\_\_ she \_\_\_\_\_ (work) for this company?
- I \_\_\_\_\_ (not see) him for ages.
- It \_\_\_\_\_ (rain) since early morning.
- The students \_\_\_\_\_ (prepare) for their speaking test recently.
- My parents \_\_\_\_\_ (own) this house for more than thirty years.
- Someone \_\_\_\_\_ (eat) my biscuits! There are only two left.

13. We \_\_\_\_\_ (already book) the hotel.
14. She \_\_\_\_\_ (study) law for three years, and she still enjoys it.
15. I \_\_\_\_\_ (understand) the difference for a long time.

### Exercise 3: Result or duration?

Read each pair. Write R if the sentence focuses mainly on result/completion. Write D if it focuses mainly on duration/activity. (10 points)

1. I have sent ten emails this morning. \_\_\_\_\_
2. I have been sending emails all morning. \_\_\_\_\_
3. She has cooked dinner. \_\_\_\_\_
4. She has been cooking for two hours. \_\_\_\_\_
5. They have painted the living room. \_\_\_\_\_
6. They have been painting the living room, and they look exhausted. \_\_\_\_\_
7. We have watched three episodes already. \_\_\_\_\_
8. We have been watching TV since lunch. \_\_\_\_\_
9. He has fixed the printer. \_\_\_\_\_
10. He has been fixing the printer for half the afternoon. \_\_\_\_\_

### Exercise 4: Correct the mistakes

Each sentence contains one tense mistake. Rewrite it correctly. (10 points)

1. I have been knowing Maria for ten years.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. She has been writing five essays this term.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. We have visited London last summer.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. He has been owning this car since 2019.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. I have been finishing my homework, so I can go out now.  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. They have been seeing that film three times.  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. It has rained yesterday evening.  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. She has been understanding the rules since the first lesson.  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. How many books have you been reading this year?  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. We have been bought the tickets already.  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Exercise 5: Cambridge-style sentence transformations

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Use the word given. Do not change the word given. Use between two and five words. (10 points)

1. I started learning English five years ago.  
**BEEN**  
I \_\_\_\_\_ English for five years.
2. This is my third visit to Cambridge.  
**HAVE**  
I \_\_\_\_\_ Cambridge three times.
3. She started working on the project at 8 a.m. and she is still working on it.  
**SINCE**  
She \_\_\_\_\_ the project since 8 a.m.
4. The last time I saw Daniel was in March.  
**NOT**  
I \_\_\_\_\_ Daniel since March.
5. They started waiting two hours ago.  
**FOR**  
They \_\_\_\_\_ two hours.
6. He finished the report a few minutes ago.  
**JUST**  
He \_\_\_\_\_ the report.
7. My hands are dirty because I was gardening.  
**BEEN**  
I \_\_\_\_\_ in the garden.
8. We became friends when we were children.  
**KNOWN**  
We \_\_\_\_\_ since we were children.
9. She began studying medicine in 2021.  
**HAS**  
She \_\_\_\_\_ medicine since 2021.
10. They completed all the tasks earlier today.  
**HAVE**  
They \_\_\_\_\_ all the tasks today.

### Exercise 6: Complete the mini-dialogues

Complete each mini-dialogue with the correct form of the verb in brackets. (8 points)

1. A: You look tired. B: I \_\_\_\_\_ (work) on my presentation all evening.
2. A: Is the presentation ready? B: Yes, I \_\_\_\_\_ (finish) it at last.
3. A: Why is the floor wet? B: The children \_\_\_\_\_ (wash) the dog in the bathroom.
4. A: Do you know Sarah well? B: Yes, I \_\_\_\_\_ (know) her since primary school.
5. A: Why can't we use the printer? B: It \_\_\_\_\_ (break) down again.
6. A: How long \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (wait)? B: About forty minutes.
7. A: How many practice tests \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (do)? B: Six so far.
8. A: Why does the kitchen smell so good? B: Mum \_\_\_\_\_ (bake) bread.

## Exercise 7: Speaking and writing practice

*Answer the questions in full sentences. Try to use both the Present Perfect and the Present Perfect Continuous. (5 points)*

1. What have you been doing a lot recently?

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2. What have you achieved or completed this month?

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3. How long have you been learning English?

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4. What is something you have never done but would like to try?

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5. Write three sentences about your progress in English this year.

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# Answer Key

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## Exercise 1

1. have been working
2. has written
3. have been waiting
4. has broken
5. have you been learning
6. have known
7. have cleaned
8. Have you been walking
9. has opened
10. have been discussing
11. has never visited
12. have been reading

## Exercise 2

1. have been trying
2. has finished
3. have lived / have been living
4. has been repairing
5. have completed
6. have ... taken
7. has ... been working
8. have not seen
9. has been raining
10. have been preparing
11. have owned
12. has been eating
13. have already booked
14. has been studying
15. have understood

## Exercise 3

1. R
2. D
3. R
4. D
5. R
6. D

7. R
8. D
9. R
10. D

#### Exercise 4

1. I have known Maria for ten years.
2. She has written five essays this term.
3. We visited London last summer.
4. He has owned this car since 2019.
5. I have finished my homework, so I can go out now.
6. They have seen that film three times.
7. It rained yesterday evening.
8. She has understood the rules since the first lesson.
9. How many books have you read this year?
10. We have bought the tickets already.

#### Exercise 5

1. have been learning
2. have visited
3. has been working on
4. have not seen
5. have been waiting for
6. has just finished
7. have been working / have been gardening
8. have known each other
9. has been studying
10. have completed

#### Exercise 6

1. have been working
2. have finished
3. have been washing
4. have known
5. has broken
6. have ... been waiting
7. have ... done
8. has been baking

## Exercise 7

*Suggested answers will vary. Accept grammatically correct answers that use the target tenses appropriately.*

1. I have been reading more English articles recently.
2. I have completed two grammar units this month.
3. I have been learning English for several years.
4. I have never taken an international English exam, but I would like to try.
5. I have improved my vocabulary, I have been practising speaking more often, and I have become more confident in writing.

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