ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

# The Present Perfect Tense or The Past Simple Tense Test A1 A2 Level Exercises

A1 A2 Level Grammar Tests · 16 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
https://englishtestsonline.com/the-present-perfect-tense-or-the-past-simple-tense-test-a1-a2-level-exercises/

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| 1 | **D** | 2 | **B** | 3 | **A** | 4 | **D** | 5 | **D** | 6 | **C** | 7 | **A** | 8 | **B** | 9 | **B** | 10 | **B** |
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## Explanations

**1.** Ouch! I _____ a cup. Now, Mum will get angry.
✓ **D) have just broken**
It happened a moment ago and we can see the result now, so we use **have just** + past participle: **I have just broken a cup**.

**2.** A: What _____ since we last _____?

B: Nothing special. The same things.
✓ **B) have you done / met**
**Since** takes the present perfect in the main part: **What have you done**. After **since**, we use the past simple for the time in the past: **since we last met**.

**3.** We have lived in this flat for _____.
✓ **A) five years**
We use **for** with a length of time: **for five years**. For a starting point like **2010** or **September**, we use **since**.

**4.** We met _____ and got married a year later.
✓ **D) in 2002**
We use **in** with years: **in 2002**. The sentence is about a finished time in the past, so we don't use **since** or **for**.

**5.** A: _____ a birthday cake?<br><br>B: Yes. I _____ one for my sister last year.
✓ **D) Have you ever made / made**
We ask about life experience with **Have you ever** + past participle: **Have you ever made**. **Last year** is a finished time, so the answer uses the past simple: **I made one**.

**6.** A: How long _____ Tim?

B: For ten years. They _____ in 2000.
✓ **C) has Jane known / met**
**How long** about something that is still true needs the present perfect: **has Jane known**. **In 2000** is a finished time, so we use the past simple: **they met**.

**7.** A: I'm sure I _____ the door when we left.<br><br>B: Shall we go back and check it?
✓ **A) locked**
**When we left** is a finished time in the past, so we use the past simple: **I locked the door**. Not **have locked**, because we don't use the present perfect with a finished past time.

**8.** Larry _____ a lot of money last year but he _____ it all.
✓ **B) won / has already spent**
**Last year** is a finished time, so we use the past simple: **won**. The money is gone now, so we use the present perfect with **already**: **has already spent**. Not **has won**, because we don't use the present perfect with **last year**.

**9.** Tim _____ to Italy ten days ago and he _____ yet.
✓ **B) went / hasn't returned**
**Ten days ago** needs the past simple: **went**. **Yet** at the end of a negative sentence goes with the present perfect: **hasn't returned yet**.

**10.** I _____ Jill _____.
✓ **B) haven't seen / for a long time**
We use **for** with a length of time: **for a long time**. The present perfect **haven't seen** shows the time goes on until now.

**11.** We _____ to the city centre for ages. Are there any changes?
✓ **B) haven't been**
**For ages** means a long time until now, so we use the present perfect. We say **have been to** a place when we went there and came back: **We haven't been to the city centre for ages**.

**12.** A: _____ reading this book?

B: On Saturday.
✓ **D) When did you start**
B gives a time in the past (**On Saturday**), so A asks **When** + past simple: **When did you start**. Not **How long**, because the answer is a day, not a length of time.

**13.** Barney _____ on holiday _____ 1998.
✓ **D) hasn't gone / since**
**Since 1998** means from 1998 until now, so we use the present perfect: **hasn't gone on holiday since 1998**.

**14.** I think I _____ my keys. I can't find them anywhere.
✓ **A) have lost**
The keys are missing now, so we use the present perfect: **I have lost my keys**. This shows a past action with a result now.

**15.** My friend _____ to London a few years ago.
✓ **C) moved**
**A few years ago** is a finished time, so we use the past simple: **moved**. We say **move to** a place, not **live to**.

**16.** A: _____ Bodrum before?

B: Yes, I _____ here three years ago.
✓ **D) Have you visited / was**
To ask about experience, we use **Have you visited … before? Three years ago** is a finished time, so B uses the past simple: **I was here**.