

SCENE 45 • GRAMMAR

have seen, has been, ever

A first look at experience and results

6 Exercises • Duration: 20 min.

The festival

English

Read & listen online 

A first look at experience and results

The present perfect uses **have/has** plus a past participle: **I have seen, she has been**. Spoken contractions are **I've seen, she's been**. Use it for an experience without naming a finished past time, or a result connected to now.

Begin with useful irregular participles: **be → been, see → seen, go → gone, take → taken**. Regular participles use **-ed**, like their past simple. After a finished time such as **yesterday**, use past simple: **I saw him yesterday**.

Ever is useful in an experience question: **Have you ever been to London?** **Never** says not at any time: **I've never been there**. This is a short introduction, rather than a full present-perfect syllabus.

Form	Example	Meaning
seen	I have seen the photo.	Say you have seen the photo, with a current connection.
has	She has been to London.	Describe one woman's experience.
ever	Have you ever been to London?	Ask about an experience at any time.
never	I've never been there.	Say the experience has not happened at any time.
saw	I saw him yesterday.	Choose the past simple with a finished past time.

Form	Example	Meaning
taken	Milo has taken the key.	Describe the missing-key result now.

I have seen the photo.

Say you have seen the photo, with a current connection.

She has been to London.

Describe one woman's experience.

Have you ever been to London?

Ask about an experience at any time.

I've never been there.

Say the experience has not happened at any time.

I saw him yesterday.

Choose the past simple with a finished past time.

Milo has taken the key.

Describe the missing-key result now.

GRAMMAR

G1) NOTICE THE PATTERNS

Underline the form described in this unit.

- 1 I have seen the photo.

Meaning: Say you have seen the photo, with a current connection.

- 2 She has been to London.

Meaning: Describe one woman's experience.

- 3 Have you ever been to London?

Meaning: Ask about an experience at any time.

- 4 I've never been there.

Meaning: Say the experience has not happened at any time.

- 5 I saw him yesterday.

Meaning: Choose the past simple with a finished past time.

- 6 Milo has taken the key.

Meaning: Describe the missing-key result now.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM

Choose the right word for the gap.

- 1 I have _____ the photo.

- ☐ A seen
- ☐ B see
- ☐ C saw

Meaning: Say you have seen the photo, with a current connection.

- 2 She _____ been to London.

- ☐ A is
- ☐ B has
- ☐ C have

Meaning: Describe one woman's experience.

3 Have you _____ been to London?

- ☐ A ever
- ☐ B yesterday
- ☐ C ago

Meaning: Ask about an experience at any time.

4 I've _____ been there.

- ☐ A yesterday
- ☐ B never
- ☐ C not never

Meaning: Say the experience has not happened at any time.

5 I _____ him yesterday.

- ☐ A saw
- ☐ B seen
- ☐ C have seen

Meaning: Choose the past simple with a finished past time.

6 Milo has _____ the key.

- ☐ A taken
- ☐ B took
- ☐ C take

Meaning: Describe the missing-key result now.

G3) COMPLETE A SHORT MESSAGE

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

seen saw

I have _____ the photo.

Meaning: Say you have seen the photo, with a current connection.

has have

She _____ been to London.

Meaning: Describe one woman's experience.

ever yesterday

Have you _____ been to London?

Meaning: Ask about an experience at any time.

never not never

I've _____ been there.

Meaning: Say the experience has not happened at any time.

saw have seen

I _____ him yesterday.

Meaning: Choose the past simple with a finished past time.

taken took

Milo has _____ the key.

Meaning: Describe the missing-key result now.

G4) BUILD USEFUL SENTENCES

Put the words in order.

- 1 the seen I photo. have

Meaning: Say you have seen the photo, with a current connection.

- 2 She London. been to has

Meaning: Describe one woman's experience.

3 been you Have ever London? to

Meaning: Ask about an experience at any time.

4 I've there. never been

Meaning: Say the experience has not happened at any time.

5 him yesterday. I saw

Meaning: Choose the past simple with a finished past time.

6 the taken Milo has key.

Meaning: Describe the missing-key result now.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 Say you have seen the photo, with a current connection. You say:

- ☐ A I have seen the photo.
- ☐ B I have saw the photo.

2 Describe one woman's experience. You say:

- ☐ A She have been to London.
- ☐ B She has been to London.

3 Ask about an experience at any time. You say:

- ☐ A Have you yesterday been to London?
- ☐ B Have you ever been to London?

4 Say the experience has not happened at any time. You say:

- ☐ A I've not never been there.
- ☐ B I've never been there.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| ① Milo has taken the key. | ① A Ask about an experience at any time. |
| ② I have seen the photo. | ② B Say the experience has not happened at any time. |
| ③ I've never been there. | ③ C Describe one woman's experience. |
| ④ She has been to London. | ④ D Describe the missing-key result now. |
| ⑤ I saw him yesterday. | ⑤ E Choose the past simple with a finished past time. |
| ⑥ Have you ever been to London? | ⑥ F Say you have seen the photo, with a current connection. |