

# Was it, or has it been?

An informative PowerPoint about using simple past and present perfect tenses

# Learning Intention

- To use the present perfect form of verbs in contrast to the simple past tense.

# Success Criteria

- I can identify verbs in a sentence.
- I know if a verb tense refers to past or present activity.
- I understand the terms 'present perfect tense' and 'simple past tense'.
- I can choose the appropriate tense for my sentence.

# Starter Activity

My friend *Andrew* has lived in this town for five years and we have been best friends all that time. Before he came to our town, he was in *London* but his mum got a new job so the family moved here. When I met Andrew, he spoke with an *English* accent, but his dad says he has taken on the way I speak, so now he sounds as if he has been here all his life!

## Spot the Verb!

1. Can you find the verbs in this paragraph?
2. Separate the verbs into 'past ideas' and 'present ideas'.

# What's the Difference?

Before he **came** to our town,  
**Andrew was** in **London**.

His mum **got** a new job so  
the family **moved** here.

When I **met Andrew**, he **spoke**  
with **an English** accent.

My friend **Andrew has lived** in  
this town for five years.

We **have been** best friends  
all that time.

His dad says he **has taken**  
on the way I speak.



**It's all about the timing...**

**Past** tense is used for activities  
or events that started and  
finished in the past.

**Present perfect** tense is used for  
activities that started in the past but  
are still true now, or have an effect  
on what is happening now.



# Your Turn!

Can you decide which verb form is correct?

1. My mum **has grown** her hair very long; it's now down to her waist!  
My mum **grew** her hair very long; it's now down to her waist!

Use present perfect  
tense here!

2. We **have been** waiting ages for this bus but now it's coming.  
We **waited** ages for this bus but now it's coming.

Use present perfect  
tense here!

3. On my birthday, I **had** a party and all my friends **slept** over.  
On my birthday, I **have had** a party and all my friends **have**  
**slept** over.

Use simple past  
tense here!



# Making the Present Perfect Tense

A little extra word...

- **Present perfect** tense uses the **auxiliary** verb **have** before the main verb.
- Use '**have**' for I/you/we/they.
- Use '**has**' for he/she/it.

1. My friend *Andrew* has **lived** in this town for five years.
2. We have **been** best friends all that time.
3. His dad says he has **taken** on the way I speak.
4. Unfortunately, the cat has **been** sick on the carpet – yuk!
5. Mum asked, “Where have you **been** all this time?”
6. What a shame; Sports Day has **been** postponed because of the rain.
7. Has every person **chosen** a partner now?
8. “What has **happened** to all my pencils?” asked the teacher.

# Making the Present Perfect Tense

do...did...done

- **Present perfect** tense uses the **past participle (third form)** of the main verb after the auxiliary 'have'.
- Make sure you choose the correct form!

1. My hair has really **grew / grown** recently, hasn't it?
2. Wow; look how much work you've **did / done** today!
3. Dad didn't put the washing out because it has **was / been** raining all day.
4. Mum, Josh has **came / come** round – can I go out to play for a bit?
5. Oh no, I have **forgot / forgotten** my homework book!
6. The teacher has **blew / blown** her whistle for the end of playtime.
7. Shh! The film has **began / begun** already.
8. Would you like to see the portrait I've **drew / drawn** of you?



# Making the Present Perfect Tense

do...did...done

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1. My hair has really **grown** recently, hasn't it?
2. Wow; look how much work you've **done** today!
3. Dad didn't put the washing out because it has **been** raining all day.
4. Mum, Josh has **come** round – can I go out to play for a bit?
5. Oh no, I have **forgotten** my homework book!
6. The teacher has **blown** her whistle for the end of playtime.
7. Shh! The film has **begun** already.
8. Would you like to see the portrait I've **drawn** of you?

# Plenary

What have we learned?

We use the **simple past** tense to talk about events that are **completely in the past**.

e.g. Cassie **went** to school yesterday.

The **present perfect** tense is for events which are **still true now** or **affect us in the present**.

e.g. Where's Cassie? Well, it's 9am, so she **has gone** to school.

e.g. Cassie's exhausted because she **has been** on a school trip all day.



