

# Present perfect and past 2 (I have done and I did)

A

Do not use the present perfect (**I have done**) when you talk about a *finished* time (for example, **yesterday / ten minutes ago / in 2005 / when I was a child**). Use a past tense:

- It **was** very cold **yesterday**. (*not has been*)
- Paul and Lucy **arrived ten minutes ago**. (*not have arrived*)
- Did you eat** a lot of sweets **when you were a child**? (*not have you eaten*)
- I **got** home late **last night**. I **was** very tired and **went** straight to bed.

Use the past to ask **When ... ?** or **What time ... ?**:

- When did** your friends **arrive**? (*not have ... arrived*)
- What time did** you **finish** work?

Compare:

*Present perfect*

- Tom **has lost** his key. He can't get into the house.
- Is Carla here or **has she left**?

*Past simple*

- Tom **lost** his key **yesterday**. He couldn't get into the house.
- When did** Carla **leave**?

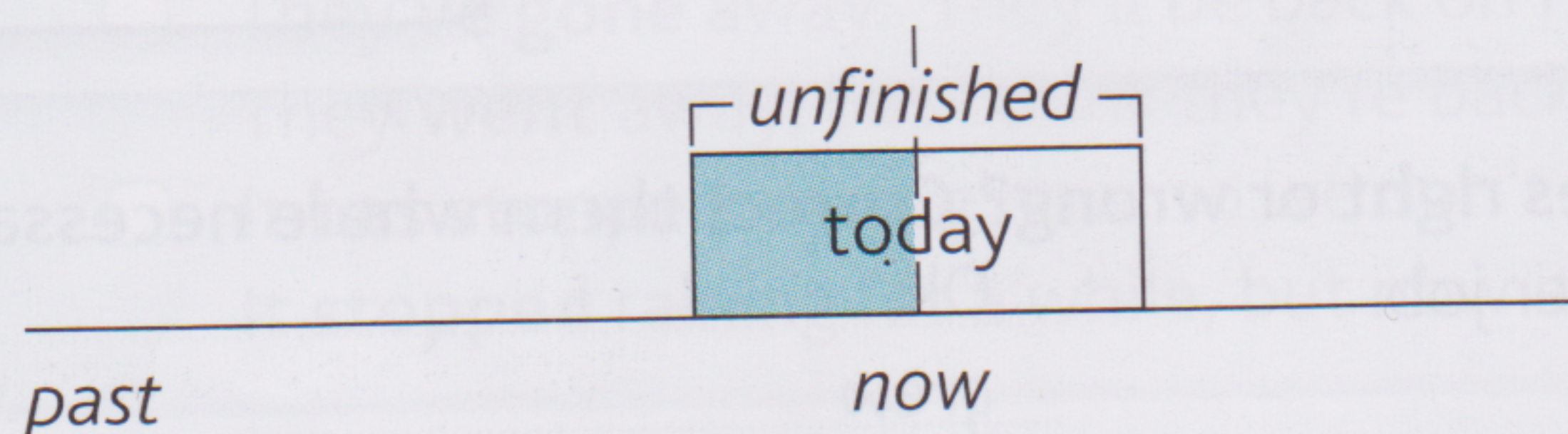
B

Compare:

*Present perfect (have done)*

- I've **done** a lot of work **today**.

We use the present perfect for a period of time that *continues until now*. For example: **today / this week / since 2007**.

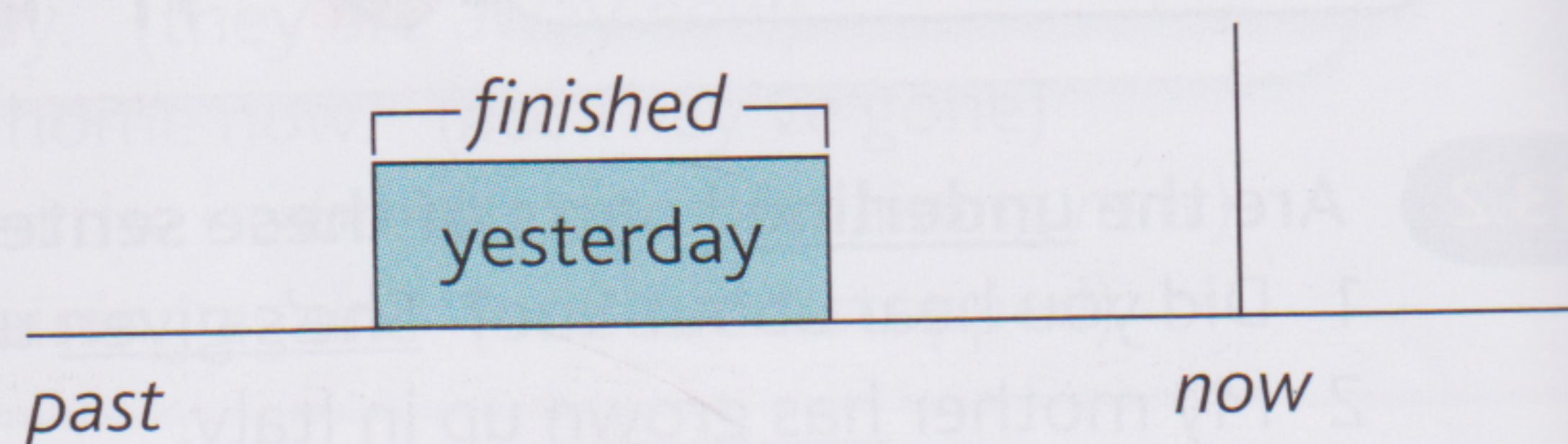


- It **hasn't** rained **this week**.
- Have you seen** Anna **this morning**? (*it is still morning*)
- Have you seen** Tim **recently**?
- I don't know where Lisa is. I **haven't seen** her. (= I haven't seen her recently)
- We've **been waiting** for an hour. (*we are still waiting now*)
- Jack lives in Los Angeles. He **has lived** there for seven years.
- I **have never played** golf. (*in my life*)
- It's the last day of your holiday. You say:* It's **been** a really good holiday. I've really **enjoyed** it.

*Past simple (did)*

- I **did** a lot of work **yesterday**.

We use the past simple for a *finished* time in the past. For example: **yesterday / last week / from 2007 to 2010**.



- It **didn't** rain **last week**.
- Did you see** Anna **this morning**? (*it is now afternoon or evening*)
- Did you see** Tim **on Sunday**?
- A: **Was** Lisa at the party **on Sunday**?  
B: I don't think so. I **didn't** see her.
- We **waited** (*or were waiting*) for an hour. (*we are no longer waiting*)
- Jack **lived** in New York for ten years. Now he lives in Los Angeles.
- I **didn't play** golf **last summer**.
- After you come back from holiday you say:* It **was** a really good holiday. I really **enjoyed** it.

**14.1** Are the underlined parts of these sentences right or wrong? Correct them where necessary.

- 1 I've lost my key. I can't find it anywhere. OK
- 2 Have you eaten a lot of sweets when you were a child? Did you eat
- 3 I've bought a new car. You must come and see it. .....
- 4 I've bought a new car last week. .....
- 5 Where have you been yesterday evening? .....
- 6 Lucy has left school in 1999. .....
- 7 I'm looking for Mike. Have you seen him? .....
- 8 'Have you been to Paris?' 'Yes, many times.' .....
- 9 I'm very hungry. I haven't eaten much today. .....
- 10 When has this book been published? .....

**14.2** Make sentences from the words in brackets. Use the present perfect or past simple.

- 1 (it / not / rain / this week) It hasn't rained this week.
- 2 (the weather / be / cold / recently) The weather .....
- 3 (it / cold / last week) It .....
- 4 (I / not / read / a newspaper yesterday) I .....
- 5 (I / not / read / a newspaper today) .....
- 6 (Emily / earn / a lot of money / this year) .....
- 7 (she / not / earn / so much / last year) .....
- 8 (you / have / a holiday recently?) .....

**14.3** Put the verb into the correct form, present perfect or past simple.

- 1 'What's Madrid like?' 'I don't know. I haven't been (I / not / be) there.'
- 2 When I got (I / get) home last night, I was (I / be) very tired and I went (I / go) straight to bed.
- 3 A: (you / see) Lisa recently?  
B: Yes, (I / see) her a few days ago.
- 4 I'm tired. (I / not / sleep) well last night.
- 5 The bus drivers were on strike last week. (there / be) no buses.
- 6 Mr Lee (work) in a bank for 15 years. Then (he / give) it up. Now he works as a gardener.
- 7 Mary lives in Dublin. (she / live) there all her life.
- 8 A: (you / go) to the cinema last night?  
B: Yes, but (it / be) a mistake. The film (be) awful.
- 9 My grandfather (die) before I was born.  
(I / never / meet) him.
- 10 I don't know Karen's husband. (I / never / meet) him.
- 11 It's nearly lunchtime, and (I / not / see) Martin all morning.  
I wonder where he is.
- 12 'Where do you live?' 'In Boston.'  
'How long (you / live) there?' 'Five years.'  
'Where (you / live) before that?' 'In Chicago.'  
'And how long (you / live) in Chicago?' 'Two years.'

**14.4** Write sentences about yourself using the ideas in brackets.

- 1 (something you haven't done today) I haven't eaten any fruit today.
- 2 (something you haven't done today) .....
- 3 (something you didn't do yesterday) .....
- 4 (something you did yesterday evening) .....
- 5 (something you haven't done recently) .....
- 6 (something you've done a lot recently) .....