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Present Perfect vs. Past Simple Worksheet

Explanation of Present Perfect and Past Simple

Present Perfect is used for:

- Actions that happened at an unspecified time before now
 - *Example: I **have already seen** that film.*
- Life experiences
 - *Example: She **has visited** New York.*
- Actions with relevance to the present
 - *Example: They **have finished** the job.*

Structure

- **have/has** + past participle
 - *I **have eaten**.*

Past Simple is used for:

- Actions that happened at a specific time in the past
 - *Example: I **saw** that movie two days ago.*
- Completed actions
 - *Example: She **visited** New York in 2023.*

Structure

- Verb in the past form
 - *I **ate**.*

Time Expressions

- **Present Perfect:** ever, never, just, already, yet, so far, until now, etc.
- **Past Simple:** yesterday, last month, in 2020, when I was a child, etc.



Exercise: Choose the correct form (Present Perfect or Past Simple)

1. I _____ (eat) tiramisu many times.
2. She _____ (visit) her parents last night.
3. They _____ (just / arrive) at the concert.
4. _____ you ever _____ (be) to Miami?
5. We _____ (not / finish) our homework yet.
6. He _____ (call) you four days ago.
7. They _____ (live) in Barcelona for five years before moving to Lisbon.
8. She _____ (already / see) that film.
9. When _____ you _____ (graduate) from high school?
10. I _____ (lose) my keys, so I can't open the front door.
11. We _____ (go) to the movies last night.
12. She _____ (start) her new job in February.
13. They _____ (never / try) Colombian food before.
14. I _____ (meet) my best friend in 2020.
15. _____ you _____ (read) the news today?
16. He _____ (travel) to Budapest last year.
17. She _____ (buy) a laptop four days ago.
18. We _____ (just / get) back from our trip to Spain.
19. They _____ (finish) their dinner an hour ago.
20. I _____ (live) here since 2019.
21. _____ she _____ (ever / visit) the Empire State Building?
22. He _____ (take) the bus to work yesterday.
23. We _____ (be) friends since we were kids.
24. I _____ (not / see) him at school yesterday.
25. They _____ (move) to Rio de Janeiro recently.



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Answers

1. I **have eaten** tiramisu many times.
2. She **visited** her parents last night.
3. They **have just arrived** at the concert.
4. **Have** you ever **been** to Miami?
5. We **haven't finished** our homework yet.
6. He **called** you four days ago.
7. They **lived** in Barcelona for five years before moving to Lisbon.
8. She **has already seen** that film.
9. When **did** you **graduate** from high school?
10. I **have lost** my keys, so I can't open the front door.
11. We **went** to the movies last night.
12. She **started** her new job in February.
13. They **have never tried** Colombian food before.
14. I **met** my best friend in 2020.
15. **Have** you **read** the news today?
16. He **traveled** to Budapest last year.
17. She **bought** a new laptop four days ago.
18. We **have just gotten** back from our trip to Spain.
19. They **finished** their dinner an hour ago.
20. I **have lived** here since 2019.
21. **Has** she ever **visited** the Empire State Building?
22. He **took** the bus to work yesterday.
23. We **have been** friends since we were kids.
24. I **didn't see** him at school yesterday.
25. They **have moved** to Rio de Janeiro recently.