

Build Up Your Grammar

1 Complete the profile by changing the form of the verb in brackets using the Past Simple or the Present Perfect.

Christopher Jones is an English language teacher. He ... always good at languages at school, so he ... *decide* to take his degree in French and German. When he ... *finish* his university studies, he ... *begin* teaching in a secondary school in England. Two years later, however, he ... *meet* someone by chance who ... *offer* him a job teaching English to foreign students during the long summer holidays. His students ... adults and he ... *enjoy* the work greatly. He soon ... *find* he ... more interested in teaching his own language to foreigners than foreign languages to English schoolboys. Since then he ... *specialise* in this work. He ... *find* that one of the advantages of the job was that it enabled him to find work almost everywhere in the world. First he ... *go* to Africa for 2 years and then he ... *spend* a year in Arabia. After this he ... *go* to Greece where he ... for the last 3 years. He ... *not*, to South America yet but he wants to go there next. He ... *teach* men and women of all ages and of various nationalities. He also ... *learn* to get on with all kinds of people and to adjust to different ways of life. So far he ... *not*, *regret* his decision to follow this career.

46

3 Read and make up sentences saying how long the people have been doing different things.

2 Complete the sentences (A-C) to make the rules.

A We use the ... to mention about the events in the past.

ample *visited my aunt last week*

B We use the ... to talk about the results and completed actions or events that are connected with the present.

ample *'ve lived in this town for 5 years*

mother has been to London

ane has already done her homework

C We use the ... to talk about an action that began in the past and is still in progress or an action that has recently stopped and which explains the present situation.

ample *'ve been working for this company since*

avid has been playing tennis so he's really tired

Present Perfect, Past Simple, Present Perfect Continuous

ample Paula started laughing ten minutes ago and she is still laughing. *he* *laugh*

he has been laughing for ten minutes

dverbs commonly used with the Present Perfect Continuous

✦ **since** **or** **how long**

have been watching the

game □□□□□ □ □□m□

✦ a□□ □a□ □ night □ morning □

m□ □i□e □ □ear (a□□ □a□ □ong□

a□□ night □ong□□

□ac□ has □een studying □□□

□□□□□□□□□□

✦ □ate□□□ recent□□

□e have □een □or□ing very

hard □□□□□□□□□□

1 The Carltons bought their car two years ago and they still have it.

□□hey □ drive□

2 □itty's brother □umped in the pool at 12. It's now 1 p.m. and he's still in the pool. □□e □ s□im□

3 □heila came to work at 9. It's now 5 p.m. and she's still at work.

□□he □ □or□□

4 We got our mixer in 2001. We still use it. □□e □ use□

5 □en started telling □okes at 6 in the afternoon. It's now 8 and he hasn't stopped. □□e □ tell□

6 Mark and Will started playing a computer game at 4 p.m. It's now 6 and they are still playing. □□hey □ □/ay□

7 I started drawing a picture in the morning and I am still doing it now, at 7 p.m. □□ □ dra□□

1 How long (ha□e

□ou ha□ □ ha□e

□ou been ha□ing□

your car?

2 □on (□or□e□ □ has

been □or□ing□ as

a postman for the past month.

3 Mary (has been

□n□ing □ has

□oun□□ a good □ob.

4 I (ha□e □ritten □

ha□e been □riting□

an essay all day.

5 How long (ha□e

□ou been □i□ing □

□o □ou □i□e□ in

□yiv?

4 Choose the correct

word or phrase

in brackets.

GRAMMAR

LINKS

□□□□□□□ □□□□□□□ □s

□□□□□□□ □□□□□□□ □□□□□□□□□□

✦ We use the □resent □er□ect □onti□

nuous for incomplete actions which were in progress over a period of time in the past. With recently completed actions we use the □resent □er□ect.

□e ha□e been li□ing in □yiv for □□ years□ (We're still there now.)

□hey'□e li□ed in □uhans□, □onets□

and *niro* (They aren't there now.)

✦ We often use the **resent perfect**

continuous with 'how long'. If we ask 'how often' or 'how much/many' we use the **resent perfect**.

o *long has she been sleeping*

o *often have you worn that suit*

o *many English lessons*