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Name _____
Date _____

Past simple vs present perfect · Worksheet 1

Write the past simple (went) or the present perfect (have gone / has gone).

REMEMBER

- Finished time (yesterday, last week, in 2019) → past simple
- A time with “ago” is finished → past simple
- “When I was…” is a finished time in the past → past simple
- The person is dead, so the time is finished → past simple
- “Since” + a starting point, and it is still true now → present perfect

1. I _____ (see) that film last week.
2. He _____ (call) me two hours ago.
3. When I was a child, I _____ (live) in Peru.
4. My grandfather _____ (visit) 20 countries in his life. He died in 2010.
5. I _____ (know) Maria since 2015.
6. I _____ (have) this phone for two years, and it still works well.
7. This is the first time I _____ (eat) sushi.
8. So far this year, we _____ (have) three exams.
9. I _____ (be) to London twice, and I want to go again.
10. She _____ (move) to Canada in 2019.
11. They _____ (get) married three years ago.
12. She _____ (start) school when she was five.
13. Shakespeare _____ (write) many famous plays.
14. She _____ (be) a teacher since 2010.
15. We _____ (be) married for ten years now.
16. This is the second time he _____ (lose) his passport.
17. She _____ (read) four books so far this month.
18. He _____ (be) to Japan many times.
19. We _____ (eat) at that restaurant yesterday.
20. I _____ (finish) my homework an hour ago.

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Name _____
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Past simple vs present perfect · Worksheet 1 · Answer key

Each answer includes the rule behind it.

1. I saw (see) that film last week.
Finished time (yesterday, last week, in 2019) → past simple

2. He called (call) me two hours ago.
A time with “ago” is finished → past simple

3. When I was a child, I lived (live) in Peru.
“When I was…” is a finished time in the past → past simple

4. My grandfather visited (visit) 20 countries in his life. He died in 2010.
The person is dead, so the time is finished → past simple

5. I have known (know) Maria since 2015.
“Since” + a starting point, and it is still true now → present perfect

6. I have had (have) this phone for two years, and it still works well.
“For” + a period that continues until now → present perfect

7. This is the first time I have eaten (eat) sushi.
“This is the first / second time…” → present perfect

8. So far this year, we have had (have) three exams.
“So far” and “up to now” mean the time is not finished → present perfect

9. I have been (be) to London twice, and I want to go again.
Life experience with no time given (“been to”) → present perfect

10. She moved (move) to Canada in 2019.
Finished time (yesterday, last week, in 2019) → past simple

11. They got (get) married three years ago.
A time with “ago” is finished → past simple

12. She started (start) school when she was five.
“When I was…” is a finished time in the past → past simple

13. Shakespeare wrote (write) many famous plays.
The person is dead, so the time is finished → past simple

14. She has been (be) a teacher since 2010.
“Since” + a starting point, and it is still true now → present perfect

15. We have been (be) married for ten years now.
“For” + a period that continues until now → present perfect

16. This is the second time he has lost (lose) his passport.
“This is the first / second time…” → present perfect

17. She has read (read) four books so far this month.
“So far” and “up to now” mean the time is not finished → present perfect

18. He has been (be) to Japan many times.
Life experience with no time given (“been to”) → present perfect

19. We ate (eat) at that restaurant yesterday.
Finished time (yesterday, last week, in 2019) → past simple

20. I finished (finish) my homework an hour ago.
A time with “ago” is finished → past simple

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