

PRESENT PERFECT: TIME WORDS

B1 | Meaning, position and examples

1 The form

have / has + past participle

These words link a past action, experience or situation to the present.

2 Time words

ALREADY

before now; often earlier than expected
use mainly in affirmative statements
usually: have / has + already + past participle

She has already finished her homework.

YET

by now; use in questions and negative sentences
usually at the end of the sentence
not usually used in affirmative statements

Have you finished yet? / I haven't finished yet.

STILL

a situation continues, often longer than expected
often used in negative sentences
usually before haven't / hasn't

I still haven't received the email.

EVER / NEVER

ever = at any time in your life; use in questions
never = at no time; use with an affirmative verb
never = not + ever (do not use two negatives)

Have you ever tried sushi? / I have never tried it.

RECENTLY / LATELY

in the near past
often used at the end of a sentence
recently is common in affirmative sentences

I've been very busy recently.

QUICK CHOICE

Finished by now?	already / yet
Life experience?	ever / never
Near the present?	recently / lately
Continuing negative situation?	still

3 Remember

Time words help, but the meaning decides the tense.

Use the present perfect when the past action or experience matters now. Use a finished past time with the past simple.