

PRACTICAL GRAMMAR

Teaches real language
in natural situations



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6 Past simple and present perfect simple

Finished actions in the past



I've seen so many incredible things on this trip. Things that very few people have ever seen before.

I saw the most incredible documentary on TV last night. It was brilliant. Did you see it too?

Do you mean the one about Antarctica? I didn't see it last night, but I've seen it before. It's great, isn't it?

Real Language in natural situations

Dialogues, short texts, emails, pictures and diagrams present the grammar in a familiar context and at the appropriate language level.

Presentation

Past simple

You use the past simple to talk about finished actions and events in the past when there is a clear reference to a specific time in the past or when the past time reference is clearly implied or understood:

I saw a great film last night.

Did you see it too? (It is clear in the context that the question refers to last night.)

The past simple is often used with a past time expression such as *yesterday, last week, three years ago*.

Present perfect

You can use the present perfect simple to talk about finished actions and events in the past when there is no time reference, or when it's not important, or we don't know exactly when the action happened:

I've seen it before. (It is not important to know exactly when.)

Common expressions that refer to periods of time which continue to the present include: *so far, up to now, over/during the last three years*.

Some time expressions can refer to both a period of time that has finished and a period of time that continues in the present: *this morning, today, this week, this month*.

Have you talked to Simon this morning? (It is still morning.)

Did you talk to Simon this morning? (It is the afternoon, the morning has finished.)

22

ever / never

Use *ever/never* to talk and ask about life experiences when the person is still alive:

Have you ever been to the South Pole? (ever = at any time during your life so far)

I've never been to Asia. (never = at no time during my life so far)

If the person is dead, we use the past simple.

Charles Darwin never went to Antarctica.

(not) ... yet

Use *(not) ... yet* to emphasize that something has not happened at any time up to now.

I haven't seen the film yet.

Use *yet ...?* to ask if an action has happened before the present moment.

Have you seen John yet?

already

Use *already* to emphasize that something has happened before the present moment.

They've already gone home.

You can use *already* at the fact that something has happened before the present moment.

Have you already finished your homework?

See page 235: Summary of perfect simple

Exercises

1 Read about Simon Reeve. Circle the correct form of the verbs.



Simon Reeve is an author and TV presenter. Several of his books and TV programmes ¹won / have won international awards. He ²made / has made a series of fascinating travel documentaries for the BBC. He ³travelled / has travelled to the four corners of the earth. In 2006 he ⁴circled / has circled the earth following the Equator. In 2008 he ⁵did / has done the same again, but this time following the tropic of Capricorn. He ⁶visited / has visited some of the most dangerous places on earth. He ⁷also went / has also been to places no other foreign visitor ⁸ever visited / has ever visited. His taste for travel first ⁹developed / has developed when he and his family ¹⁰drove / have driven across Europe on their summer holidays.

2 Write questions using the present perfect simple or past simple.

- 1 Has he ever won (ever/win) any international awards? – Yes, several.
- 2 Which tropic has he (follow) in 2008? – The tropic of Capricorn.
- 3 Where else has he (visit)? – Some very dangerous places.
- 4 How many countries has he (visit)? – Too many to count!
- 5 When did he first (develop) a taste for travelling? – During his summer holidays as a child.

3 1.07 Complete the interview using the present perfect simple or past simple of the verbs in brackets. Then listen and check.

- A: What's the most exciting thing you ¹ have ever done (ever/do)?
- B: I ² (do) so many exciting things. Perhaps the most exciting was when I ³ (climb) to the top of Kilimanjaro. I ⁴ (climb) a lot of mountains, but Kilimanjaro was definitely the best. When I ⁵ (reach) the top, I just ⁶ (want) to shout. It's amazing standing on a snow-capped mountain looking down over sun-baked Africa.
- A: What ⁷ (be) the worst moment of your last trip?
- B: When I ⁸ (catch) malaria. I ⁹ (never/feel) so ill.
- A: Is there anywhere you ¹⁰ (not/visit)?
- B: I ¹¹ (never/be) to the Arctic Circle. I'd love to visit the North Pole. I ¹² (never/see) the midnight sun or the Northern Lights. I'd love to do that some day.

4 1.08 Add already, ever or yet to the dialogues. Add only one word per dialogue. Then listen and check.

- 1 A: Has John arrived? I need to see him.
B: No, he hasn't. He phoned to say he'd be late today.
- 2 A: Have you been on a cruise?
B: No, but my parents are going on one at the end of the month. They're really excited about it.
- 3 A: Is there anything I can do to help?
B: No, I've cooked dinner. We just need to heat it up when the others get back.
- 4 A: Shall I throw out this old magazine?
B: No, please don't. I haven't read it.
- 5 A: Do you mind if I change the channel? Or are you watching the film?
B: No, turn over. I've seen this film twice!

23

Two audio CDs provide listen and check support and key pronunciation of the grammar item.

Listening and pronunciation

7 Present perfect simple and present perfect continuous 2

Recent events, news stories and present/future results of past events, *just*



- A: Have you seen this article about that fire in the stadium?
 B: Oh, yeah, we've just been talking about that. What does the newspaper say about it?
 A: Well, it seems that the police have been looking at the evidence again and they've taken the manager in for questioning.
 B: Really? They've questioned him three or four times already, haven't they?
 A: Yes. But this time it looks more serious. They've closed the stadium. There'll be no match on Saturday.

Presentation

You can use both the present perfect simple and the present perfect continuous to talk about:

- recent past events and news stories:

The police have reopened the case about the fire in the football stadium.

We've just been talking about the fire at the stadium.

- a past event or action that has a present or future result:

The police have closed the stadium. (Result: there'll be no match on Saturday.)

They've been looking at the evidence again. (Result: they've closed the stadium.)

Use the present perfect simple to talk about a single, complete action: *They've taken the manager in for questioning.*

Use the present perfect continuous to talk about an action, or series of actions, that was in progress in the recent past but is no longer happening: *The kids have been playing football. (They are not playing football now.)*

You don't usually use stative verbs in the present perfect continuous.

Say *I've known the manager for several years.* (don't say *I've been knowing the manager for several years.*)

See Unit 3: Stative verbs in the continuous

See page 235: Summary of present perfect simple and present perfect continuous

just

Use *just* to show that an action took place, or was in progress, recently. Use the present perfect simple to talk about a single, finished action: *I've just finished.*

Use the present perfect continuous to talk about an action that was in progress until recently: *I've just been talking to your mum on the phone.*

Quantity and duration

Use the present perfect simple to talk about a specific number of times you have done something in the past or the number of things you have produced or made:

She's been to Paris three times in the last year.

He's written five books.

He's had several different jobs.

Tip You often use the present perfect simple with expressions of quantity: *three books, four times, several jobs.*

Use the present perfect continuous to emphasise the duration of an action or series of actions, in progress recently (we don't know if it's complete):

The police have been questioning him all morning.

I've been working at it.

I've been having some trouble.

Tip You often use the present perfect continuous with expressions of time: *over the last few years.*

Tips

Common errors and characteristics of English grammar are highlighted.

Every unit is made up of two pages. The presentation page explains the rules of the grammar and has information on the form, meaning and use. The exercises page provides lots of practice.

Exercises

- 1 Look at the pictures and write sentences in the present perfect continuous.



- 1 They / play / garden
 They have been playing in the garden.



- 3 What / you / do?



- 2 She / chop / onions



- 4 you / hit / sister?

- 2 Choose the correct form of the verbs.

1 A: Why isn't Sam here?

B: His car's **broken** / *been breaking* down.

2 A: Why is the office such a mess?

B: We've **looked** / *been looking* for something.

3 A: What's the smell?

B: I've **cooked** / *been cooking*.

4 A: Are you going to buy a cake for Dad?

B: No, Sue's **baked** / *been baking* one already.

5 A: I need a cup of tea. I'm exhausted! I've **helped** / *been helping* Sue all day.

B: Here you are. Put your feet up and relax.

6 A: Have you **finished** / *been finishing*?

B: Yes, we have. We can take it easy now.

- 3 Look at the verbs in bold. Which should *not* be in the present perfect continuous? Where necessary, write the verbs in the present perfect simple.

1 I've been working hard all morning. I'm taking a break.

4 They've been winning the last ten matches.

2 I've been writing ten pages of the report. I've written.

5 He's been making more than ten films in his short career.

3 They've been playing really well all season.

6 He's just been finishing filming a new documentary.

- 4 **1.09** Complete the conversation using the present perfect simple or present perfect continuous form of the verbs in brackets. Then listen and check.

A: ¹ _____ (you/hear) the news? Bill ² _____ (just/resign).

A: Yes, they ³ _____ (have) two really big arguments in the last week. And he ⁴ _____ (decide) that enough is enough. He ⁵ _____ (quit) his job. He ⁶ _____ (already/start) looking for a new one.

B: No! You're kidding! Why?

A: Well, he ³ _____ (not get on) with the boss recently.

B: Yes, I noticed they ⁴ _____ (argue) quite a lot recently.

B: Well, good luck to him, I say.

10 Review of units 6 to 9

Grammar

1 Choose the best response or ending.

- Why did he run away?
a Because he'd seen a ghost. ✓
b Because he was seeing a ghost.
- Are they still working on the house?
a No, they aren't. They've just finished.
b No, they aren't. They've just been finishing.
- What happened when they heard the news?
a They had decided to have a party.
b They decided to have a party.
- He's just rung and ...
a he's coming here now.
b he came here.
- I've lost my mobile phone ...
a and I don't know where it is.
b then I bought a new one.
- Where had they been all that time?
a They'd been playing golf.
b They'd played golf.

2 Choose the correct form of the verbs.

Collect cool

In the past, collecting *'was'* had been a hobby for rich people, kings and queens *'sent / were sending'* explorers to find new objects in strange new countries. Since those times, people from all types of background *'collected / have collected'* every kind of object from the normal (stamps and coins) to the weird (thumbboxes and toilet paper).

Mike Bryant *'collected / has been collecting'* antique bottles for years. Bryant *'has built / has been building'* an extra room above his garage to keep all the bottles.

Another collector, Pat Sonnenberg, has also *'created / been creating'* a special room in the house for her collection of 350 lunchboxes. She *'started / has started'* collecting lunchboxes because she *'didn't have / hasn't had'* one for school when she was a child.

3 Complete the story using the past simple, past continuous, past perfect or past perfect continuous. Sometimes more than one form is possible.

It was 8 o'clock and at last I was ready. I _____ (spend) hours deciding what to wear. This was a special occasion and I _____ (want) to look my best. I _____ (walk) to the bus stop when a friend _____ (pass) me in his car. He _____ (drive) into town. He _____ (offer) to give me a lift. We _____ (stop) the car opposite the restaurant. I could see the people inside. They _____ (already/start) eating. As I waited on the pavement, a huge lorry _____ (drive) straight through a big puddle of water. My dress was covered in mud. I _____ (look) a real mess. All the customers in the restaurant _____ (laugh) at me. I _____ (never/feel) so embarrassed in my whole life.

4 Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

all weekend already for years and years just last year never when yet

- A: Have you seen the Grand Canyon?
B: No. We're going there tomorrow.
- A: My children have tried sushi.
B: I think they should. They'll love it.
- I was working in the office _____ I heard a loud bang.
- Hello. I've _____ left you a message on your phone. Did you get it?
- I've been working on this project _____ I can't wait to hand it in tomorrow morning!
- They'd been arguing about the same old things _____, ever since they got married.
- It was very late when she got home. Her husband had _____ gone to bed and was sound asleep.
- We didn't have a holiday _____ and I don't know if we'll get one this year either.

Two-page review after every 4 units.

Regular reviews and progress tests

1 Progress test (units 1 to 10)

- Jamal's house _____ almost 200 years old.
a is being b is c are
- The Uyuni Salt Flats in Bolivia _____ incredibly valuable deposits of lithium.
a contains b are containing c contain
- Hyun Tae _____ the international news online every morning.
a is reading b read c reads
- I absolutely _____ to help you with your homework again!
a refuses b am refusing c refuse
- So, then the policeman _____ over the wall, shouting at the thief!
a is jumping b jumps c jump
- In the last chapter, the hero's wife _____ him for the soldier.
a leaves b is leaving c leave
- The sales representatives often _____ in the Chalgrove Hotel on the corner.
a are staying b stays c stay
- At the moment, Carol _____ six cats, I think!
a is having b has c have
- The pills sometimes _____ dizziness.
a cause b causes c are causing
- The government's _____ to control rising crime.
a tries b trying c try
- Where _____? It's after midnight!
a do you go b do you go c are you going
- Alfredo _____ studying Astrophysics this term.
a does b is c are
- The shops in the town centre _____ open later and later these days.
a stays b are staying c stay
- Sarah's brother _____ her DVDs without asking her.
a always is borrowing b borrows always c is always borrowing
- Don't leave yet. The rain _____ down outside.
a is pouring b are pouring c pours
- It _____ a pity that the party has to be cancelled. We've invited so many people!
a seems b is seeming c seem
- Not everyone _____ that the winner deserved the cup.
a agrees b is agreeing c does agree
- _____ everything politicians tell you?
a Are you believing b Do you believe c Believe you
- We _____ enough time to finish the exercise before lunch.
a haven't got b aren't having c has not
- Helen and Gary _____ to the chess club in the leisure centre.
a are belonging b doesn't belong c belong
- _____ milk in his tea, or lemon?
a Is Ivan preferring b Is Ivan prefers c Does Ivan prefer
- The fire alarm _____ for almost half an hour now.
a has been ringing b is ringing c rings
- Who _____ the last piece of cheesecake?
a takes b has taken c has been taking
- Mr and Mrs Rossi _____ the café since 1987.
a have been owning b have owned c own
- _____ my keys? I can't find them anywhere.
a Have you been seeing b Do you see c Have you seen
- The employment agency _____ its offices to Holborn.
a moved recently b has recently moved c has been recently moving
- No, we _____ lunch yet. We're starving!
a didn't have b hadn't c haven't had

Progress tests for every 10 units at the back of the book.



MyPG Online

Free pincode with every book provides extensive additional online practice

Practical Grammar aims to:

- teach grammar at elementary to upper intermediate level
- improve grammar accuracy
- help students use grammar in real-life situations, including conversations

Organisation of the book

100 units, divided into modules of five

Each module examines a particular area of grammar.
The grammar is set in short, everyday conversations.

Students examine the form, meaning and use of language

Grammar is then practised in a variety of activity types.

A Review section concludes each module and Progress Tests at the back of the book

Students' progress is regularly checked.

Appendices

1. Punctuation
2. Spelling rules
3. Irregular verbs
4. Summary of main verb forms

Answer key

Tapescript

Also packaged in the book are the two audio CDs and the pin code for accessing MyPG*

*MyPG offers extensive additional online practice.

Grammar in real contexts

The rules of grammar are important but it's also important to see the grammar being used in a real-life situation. For this reason, each unit introduces grammar through a short conversation or text. After the presentation of the grammar, there are exercises that practise the new language in authentic contexts with recordings on the CDs to hear the language in use.

Practical Grammar is for self-study or classroom use.

The series takes students through key aspects of English grammar from elementary to upper intermediate levels.

Level 1 – Elementary to Pre-intermediate A1 to A2 (KET)

Level 2 – Low Intermediate to Intermediate A2 to B1 (PET)

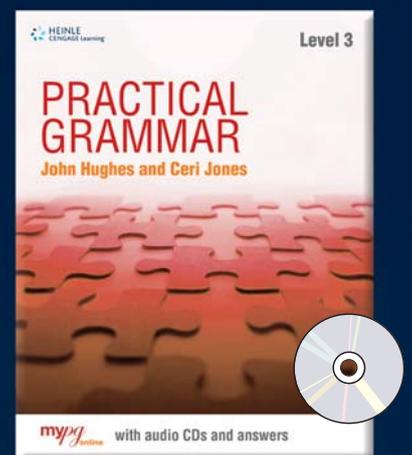
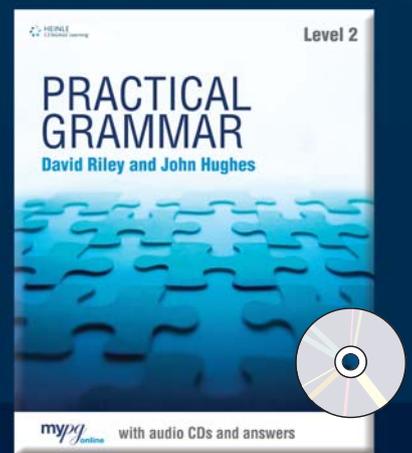
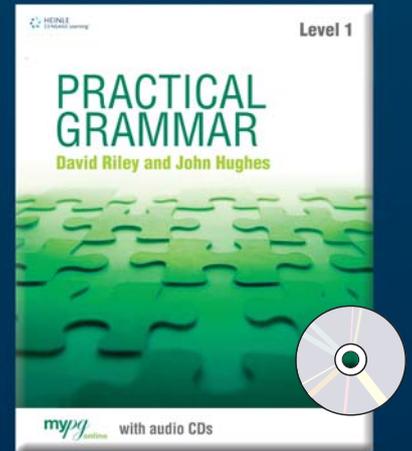
Level 3 – Intermediate to Upper Intermediate B1 to B2 (FCE)

Key features

- **Real Language in natural situations**
Dialogues, short texts, emails, pictures and diagrams present the grammar in a familiar context and at the appropriate language level.
- **Listening and pronunciation**
Two audio CDs provide listen and check support and key pronunciation of the grammar items.
- **Tips**
Common errors and characteristics of English grammar are highlighted.
- **Review and Progress Tests**
A two-page review after every 4 units and a progress test for every 10 units gives students the opportunity to check their learning.

Each level of Practical Grammar is available with or without answers:

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