



He's worked here for over fifty-five years.



## Presentation

You use the present perfect with *how long*, *for* and *since* to talk about an action or a situation that started in the past and continues in the present.

*He's worked here **for** over fifty-five years.* (He started working here fifty-five years ago – he still works here.)

*I haven't played tennis **since** I left school.*

***How long** have you known Steve?*

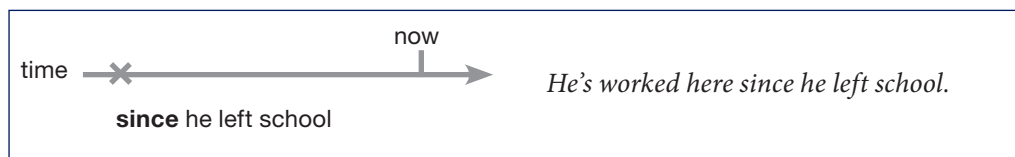
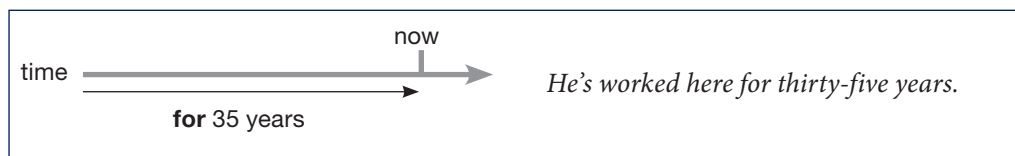
You do not use the present simple. (don't say *He ~~works~~ here for over fifty-five years.*)

### *for* and *since*

You use *for* to talk about **a period of time**:

*He's worked here **for** fifty-five years / a long time.*

You use *since* with **the point in time when the action started**:



**TIP** You use the past simple in time expressions with *since*:

*He's worked for his father **since** he **left** school.*

*I've made a lot of friends **since** I **moved** here.*

*I've known Jim **since** I **was** a child.*

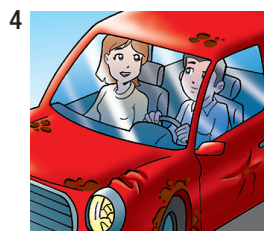
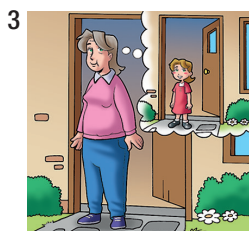
# Exercises

1 Look at the pictures. Write sentences with the present perfect form of the verbs in brackets and time expressions with *for* or *since*.



1 He ..... (be) here  
..... fifteen years.

2 She ..... (not play) tennis  
..... four years.



3 I ..... (live) here  
..... child.

4 They ..... (have) the same car  
..... a very long time.

5 They ..... (know) each other  
..... at university.



6 We ..... (not see) John  
..... weeks and weeks.

2 Correct the mistake in each sentence.

1 I haven't heard from Tom ~~for~~ the day of your birthday party. since

2 We work really hard on this project for the last six months. ....

3 Dave hasn't been very happy since the last few days. Has anything happened between you two?  
.....

4 They're living in the same house for as long as I can remember. ....

5 She's had a bad back for the baby was born. ....

6 I've always been interested in music, ever since I've been a small child. ....

7 He doesn't speak to his mother since he left home. ....

8 I've waited since a long time for this opportunity. ....

3 Complete the questions using *you* and the verbs in brackets. Then answer the questions for you. Give two answers each time, one with *for* and one with *since*.

1 How long have you lived (live) in your present home?

For ..... Since .....

2 How long ..... (know) your best friend?

For ..... Since .....

3 How long ..... (study) English?

For ..... Since .....

4 How long ..... (have) this grammar book?

For ..... Since .....