

Present Perfect or Past Simple Exercises

Complete the sentences with the correct tense (present perfect or past simple).
Use short forms where possible.

Frank _____ at 11 am. (not get up) → Frank didn't get up at 11 am.

Frank _____ asleep now for twelve hours. (be) → Frank 's been asleep now for twelve hours.

Remember: "Frank's been" = Frank has been

1. I _____ my grandparents last weekend. (visit)
2. She _____ for this company since 2021. (work)
3. This is the second time that we _____ to this restaurant. (come)
4. They _____ each other for more than ten years. (know)
5. He _____ his keys last week. (lose)
6. My parents _____ to India twice. They would like to go again. (go)
7. I _____ that movie when it first came out. (watch)
8. They _____ to the beach because the weather was bad. (not go)
9. How much coffee _____ you _____ today? It's only 2 pm. (drink)
10. Alberto _____ breakfast an hour ago. (have)
11. My wife and I _____ in this house since we got married. (live)
12. I _____ my phone, so I can't call anyone. (break)
13. She _____ him at the party last Friday. (not see)
14. _____ you _____ your teacher yet? (email)
15. My brother _____ university in 2022. (start)
16. They _____ all the chocolates already. (eat)
17. I _____ my best friend when I was six years old. (meet)
18. She _____ to the supermarket after work yesterday. (go)
19. How many plays _____ Shakespeare _____ ? (write)
20. _____ you ever _____ a horse in your life? (ride)
21. They _____ married for fifteen years. (be)
22. The train _____ ten minutes ago. (leave)
23. I _____ this song many times before. (hear)
24. When _____ he _____ his arm? (break)
25. They _____ the report yet. (not finish)

Answers

1. I **visited** my grandparents last weekend.
2. She's **worked** for this company since 2021.
3. This is the second time that we've **come** to this restaurant.
4. They've **known** each other for more than ten years.
5. He **lost** his keys last week.
6. My parents **have been** to India twice. They would like to go again.
(NB: We do not contract nouns and **have** when we write, so we do not write "parents've".)
See: <https://learnenglishgrammar.com/been-and-gone/>
7. I **watched** that movie when it first came out.
8. They **didn't go** to the beach because the weather was bad.
9. How much coffee **have** you **drunk** today? It's only 2 pm.
10. Alberto **had** breakfast an hour ago.
11. My wife and I **have lived** in this house since we got married.
(NB: The contraction of "I have" is "I've", but we do not usually contract it if it is with another subject, so we do not usually write "My wife and I've watched".)
12. I've **broken** my phone, so I can't call anyone.
(Also in US English: I **broke** my phone,)
13. She **didn't see** him at the party last Friday.
14. **Have** you **emailed** your teacher yet?
(Also in US English: **Did** you **email** your teacher yet?)
15. My brother **started** university in 2022.
16. They've **eaten** all the chocolates already.
(Also in US English: They **ate** all the chocolates already.)
17. I **met** my best friend when I was six years old.
18. She **went** to the supermarket after work yesterday.
19. How many plays **did** Shakespeare **write**?
20. **Have** you ever **ridden** a horse in your life?
21. They've **been** married for fifteen years.
22. The train **left** ten minutes ago.
23. I've **heard** this song many times before.
24. When **did** he **break** his arm?
25. They **haven't finished** the report yet.
(Also in US English: They **didn't finish** the report yet.)