

## 4.2 Present Perfect with *for* and *since*

We use the Present Perfect to talk about states and actions that started in the past and still continue. We often use the words *since* and *for* when we use the Present Perfect in this way.

- **Since** refers to a moment or point in time when the activity started:

*since 2000 / Monday / last summer / my birthday / I was born*

- **For** refers to a time period between a time in the past and now:

*for five minutes / two weeks / a long time / ages*

Notice the example sentences:

*My parents **have had** this house **since** 1990.*

*I **have known** Carol **for** ten years.*

Questions about duration are formed using *How long ...?*

***How long** have you lived in this house?*

- 1 Look at today's date and time and complete the table with the correct time expressions.

| since                    |   | for            |
|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| 1 since December         | = |                |
| 2 since Saturday         | = |                |
| 3                        | = | for 45 minutes |
| 4 since breakfast        | = |                |
| 5                        | = | for 27 years   |
| 6                        | = | for five weeks |
| 7 since I started school | = |                |

- 2 Write questions with *How long ...?* Then write two answers to each question with *since* and *for*.

- you / live in your house or flat?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_?
- you / know your best friend?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_?
- you / be at this school?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_?
- you / have a mobile phone?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_?

- 3 Complete the sentences with the Present Perfect form of the verbs in brackets. Then choose *for* or *since*.

- We \_\_\_\_\_ (live) in this house *for / since* 2005.
- I \_\_\_\_\_ (not/see) Rob *for / since* my birthday six weeks ago.
- Birgit \_\_\_\_\_ (work) in Paris *for / since* ages.
- We \_\_\_\_\_ (not/visit) grandma *for / since* last winter.
- It looks like you \_\_\_\_\_ (not/clean) this kitchen *for / since* several weeks.
- My family \_\_\_\_\_ (stay) in this holiday villa in Spain every year *for / since* I was born.
- John and Magda \_\_\_\_\_ (not/speak) to each other *for / since* five days.
- Karen \_\_\_\_\_ (not/be) near the sea *for / since* a long time.

- 4 Correct the mistakes.

- How long has Marta and Ania owned this cottage?
- I have lived in the suburbs since three weeks.
- I love the countryside. How long you have been here?
- Charlie, have you did the ironing?
- Bob, look! Monica has came round to visit us.
- I haven't spent Christmas with my family for 2015.
- I have known her from ten years.
- Sarah hasn't got any money left because she has buy a new flat.

- 5 Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first. Use no more than five words including the word in capitals.

- We moved to Ankara two years ago. **FOR**  
We \_\_\_\_\_ two years.
- I last saw Mark in February. **SINCE**  
I \_\_\_\_\_ February.
- Annette bought the cooker last week. **HAD**  
Annette \_\_\_\_\_ last week.
- Dad stopped making furniture about five years ago. **NOT**  
Dad \_\_\_\_\_ about 2015.
- I met my neighbour a long time ago. **KNOWN**  
I \_\_\_\_\_ ages.

- 6 Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in the box. There are two extra gaps. Use *for* or *since* in the extra gaps.

(invite make move plan promise show)

I'm really happy because my family has just <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ near the sea. In fact, we've lived here <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ one month. Of course, I was sad to leave my friends back in Manchester, but I've <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ them to stay with me next summer and I've <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ to write to them often. I've been at my new school <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ last Monday and I have already <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ some new friends. They're really nice and have <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ me the best places to see. I'm sure they've <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ something interesting for this weekend too. I think I'm going to really enjoy living here.