

Simple Past Tense and Present Perfect Tenses

The simple past tells us something that has started and finished in the past.

The present perfect tells us something has started in the past but might still be continuing into the present. They use a past tense verb.

The present perfect uses have/has and a past participle verb (these usually end in -ed or -en if they are regular verbs).

Simple Past Tense

I drove to work today.

Sam ate the last piece of cake.

Farhan travelled to Dover for the meeting.

We trained for the match.

Troy fell off his chair.

Carl saw the new Harry Potter film.

The birds flew south for the winter.

The children went to the fair.

Mrs. Jones spoke to Tim about his behaviour.

Nasreen did a beautiful painting.

James bought a fancy car.

I worked hard today.

Graham showed Jill his new computer game.

Present Perfect Tense

I have driven to work today.

Sam has eaten the last piece of cake.

Farhan has travelled to Dover for the meeting.

We have trained for the match.

Troy has fallen off his chair.

Carl has seen the new Harry Potter film.

The birds have flown south for the winter.

The children have gone to the fair.

Mrs. Jones has spoken to Tim about his behaviour.

Nasreen has done a beautiful painting.

James has bought a fancy car.

I have worked hard today.

Graham has shown Jill his new computer game.