

**1 Write sentences from the prompts with the present perfect and the past simple.**

1 A you / ever / win / a competition?

Have you ever won a competition?

B Yes, I have.

A what / you / win?

What did you win?

B I / win / a gold medal at a singing competition.

I won a gold medal at a singing competition.

2 A you / ever / meet / a famous person?

\_\_\_\_\_

B Yes, I have.

A who / you / meet?

\_\_\_\_\_

B I / meet / Emma Watson at a film premiere.

\_\_\_\_\_

3 A you / ever / be / in a helicopter?

\_\_\_\_\_

B Yes, I have.

A where / you / go?

\_\_\_\_\_

B I / fly / over Cape Town.

\_\_\_\_\_

4 A you / ever / break / your leg?

\_\_\_\_\_

B Yes, I have.

A what / happen?

\_\_\_\_\_

B I / fall / off my bike.

\_\_\_\_\_

5 A you / ever / lose / your phone?

\_\_\_\_\_

B Yes, I have.

A how / you / lose / it?

\_\_\_\_\_

B I / leave / it / on the train.

\_\_\_\_\_

**2 Complete the text with the correct present perfect or past simple form of the verbs in brackets.**

I <sup>1</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (travel) to a lot of interesting places and I <sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (meet) some amazing people. I <sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (walk) across deserts and I <sup>4</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (sail) down the Nile, but I <sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (be) on a plane. Why? Because I'm really scared of flying. Last year, I <sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (want) to fly from London to Madrid. I <sup>7</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (arrive) at the airport, but I <sup>8</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (feel) too scared to get on the plane!

**3 SPEAKING Work in pairs.**

- Look at the time expressions below. Decide if we use them with the present perfect or the past simple.

ever for a month last weekend last year  
never on Saturday since last week yesterday

- Write three true sentences and two false sentences about yourself. Use time expressions.
- Read out your sentences to your partner. Can they guess the false sentences?

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## 6D Contrast: past simple and present perfect

**Aims:** To practise using the past simple and the present perfect and to understand which tense should be used.

**Time:** 10–15 minutes

**Materials:** 1 handout for each student

### Exercise 1

- Give each student a handout and tell them to look at the example sentences and questions. Ask students to identify the present perfect question (*Have you ever won a competition?*) and the past simple question and answer (*What did you win? I won a gold medal at a singing competition.*). Remind students, if necessary, that we use the present perfect to talk about general experience, and the past simple to give more detailed information. Students then write the other sentences from the prompts.

#### KEY

- 2 Have you ever met a famous person?  
Who did you meet?  
I met Emma Watson at a film premiere.
- 3 Have you ever been in a helicopter?  
Where did you go?  
I flew over Cape Town.
- 4 Have you ever broken your leg?  
What happened?  
I fell off my bike.
- 5 Have you ever lost your phone?  
How did you lose it?  
I left it on the train.

### Exercise 2

- Students complete the text with the present perfect or past simple. Remind them to read the text carefully and think about whether each sentence describes a general experience, or gives more detailed information.

#### KEY

- 1 've / have travelled
- 2 've / have met
- 3 've / have walked
- 4 've / have sailed
- 5 haven't been
- 6 wanted
- 7 arrived
- 8 felt

### Exercise 3

- Give student a minute, in pairs, to categorise the time expressions. Check their answers quickly before they go on to write their true and false sentences. You could demonstrate the activity by writing and reading out your own sentences and asking the class to identify the false sentences.

#### KEY

**Present perfect:** ever, never, since last week

**Past simple:** last weekend, last year, on Saturday, yesterday

**Both:** for a month