

Present Perfect Simple or Continuous Exercise

SUBJECT + HAVE/HAS + BEEN + VERB+ING + THE REST <i>She has been reading a lot recently</i>

TENSE	USE	EXAMPLE
Present Perfect Simple	1 when the result of the action is important	<i>I've written a play</i>
Present Perfect Continuous	2 to describe how somebody or something has been occupying his/her or its time	<i>I have been writing a play</i>
	3 for repeated actions and actions of a continuous nature	<i>I've been going to a new café a lot</i>

Decide on the use for each sentence and then fill the gaps with either the **present perfect simple** or the **present perfect continuous** tenses using the verb in brackets.

USE

- 1 I'm exhausted. I..... in the garden all day. (work)
- 2 That old house now looks fantastic. The owners completely it. (restore)
- 3 My garden's a jungle. I any gardening for months. (do NEGATIVE)
- 4 I think Maggie and Max are dating. They..... a lot of each other recently. (see)
- 5 We've discovered this great pub and we..... there a lot. (go)
- 6 I the report yet. (finish NEGATIVE)
- 7 You're covered in hay, Max. What you ? (do)
- 8 Maggie's gone to the doctor's. She too well lately. (feel NEGATIVE)
- 9 Where have you been? I..... for ages. (wait)
- 10 I have to write a 300 word essay. I..... about half so far. (write)
- 11 I've phoned you about 10 times today. I..... to get through to you all day. (try)
- 12 You look great. you to the hairdresser's? (be)
- 13 I..... in a lot recently to try and save a bit of money. (stay)
- 14 Where's my chocolate mousse? Who..... it? (eat)
- 15 Half of my chocolate is gone. Who it? (attack)





Answers

- 1 2 I'm exhausted. I've been working in the garden all day.
- 2 1 That old house now looks fantastic. The owners have completely restored it.
- 3 1 My garden's a jungle. I haven't done any gardening for months.
- 4 2 I think Maggie and Max are dating. They've been seeing a lot of each other recently.
- 5 3 We've discovered this great pub and we've been going there a lot.
- 6 1 I haven't finished the report yet.
- 7 2 You're covered in hay, Max. What have you been doing?
- 8 3 Maggie's gone to the doctor's. She hasn't been feeling too well lately.
- 9 2 Where have you been? I've been waiting for ages.
- 10 1 I have to write a 300 word essay. I've written about half so far.
- 11 3 I've phoned you about 10 times today. I've been trying to get through to you all day. (try)
- 12 1 You look great. Have you been to the hairdresser's?
- 13 1 I've been staying in a lot recently to try and save a bit of money.
- 14 1 Where's my chocolate mousse? Who's eaten it?
- 15 3 Half of my chocolate is gone. Who the heck has been attacking it?

