

UNIT 6

6.1 Information questions

- 1 What and which can be followed by a noun.

What colour are your eyes?

What size shoes do you take?

What sort of music do you like?

Which part of town do you live in?

Which way do we go?

Which one do you want?

- ✓ We use *which* when there is a limited choice.

Which one do you want, the red one or the blue one?

Which restaurant shall we go to?

We use *what* when there is (almost) unlimited choice.

- ✓ **What language** do they speak in Brazil?

What car do you drive?

Sometimes there is no difference.

What/Which newspaper do you read?

What/Which channel is the football on?

- 2 Whose can be followed by a noun.

Whose book is this?

Whose is this book?

- 3 How can be followed by an adjective or an adverb.

How tall are you?

How big is the memory?

How far is it to the station?

How often do you go to the cinema?

How long does it take you to get ready?

- 4 How can be followed by *much* or *many*.

How many rooms are there?

How much money do you have?

6.2 What ... like? How ...?

- 1 *What ... like?* asks about the permanent nature of people and things. It asks for a general description.

What's Indian food like?

Really tasty.

What's Pete like?

He's a great guy.

- 2 *How ...?* asks about the present condition of something. This condition can change.

How's work these days?

It's better than last year.

How was the traffic this morning?

It was worse than usual.

To ask about the weather, we can use both questions.

How's the weather

What's the weather like

where you are?

- 3 *How ...?* asks about people's health and happiness.

How's Peter?

He's fine.

- 4 *How ...?* asks about people's reactions and feelings.

How's your meal?

How's your new job?

6.3 Relative clauses

- 1 Relative clauses identify which person or thing we are talking about. They make it possible to give more information about the person or thing.

The boy has gone to the beach. (Which boy?)

*The boy **who lives next door** has gone to the beach.*

The book is very good. (Which book?)

*The book **that I bought yesterday** is very good.*

There is a photo of the hotel. (Which hotel?)

*There is a photo of the hotel **where we stayed**.*

- 2 We use *who/that* to refer to people, and *which/that* to refer to things.

*This book is about a girl **who marries a millionaire**.*

*What was the name of the horse **that won the race**?*

- 3 When *who* or *that* is the object of a relative clause, it can be left out.

*The person **you need to talk to** is on holiday.*

*The film **I watched last night** was very good.*

But when *who* or *that* is the subject of a relative clause it must be included.

*I like people **who are kind and considerate**.*

*I want a computer **that's easy to use**.*

- 4 *Which* can be used to refer to the whole previous sentence or idea.

*I passed my driving test on the first attempt, **which was a surprise**.*

*Jane can't come to the party, **which is a shame**.*

- 5 We use *whose* to refer to someone's possessions.

*That's the man **whose wife won the lottery**.*

*That's the woman **whose dog ran away**.*

- 6 We can use *where* to refer to places.

*The hotel **where we stayed** was right on the beach.*

*We went back to the place **where we first met**.*

6.4 Participles

Participles after a noun define and identify in the same way as relative clauses.

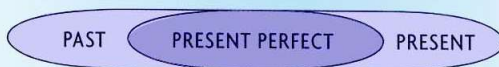
*That woman **driving** the red Porsche is my aunt.*

*The men **seen** outside were probably the thieves.*

UNIT 7

7.1 THE PRESENT PERFECT

- 1 The same form (*have* + past participle) exists in many European languages, but the uses in English are different. In English, the Present Perfect links past and present. It expresses the effect of the past on the present.



- 2 Present Perfect means 'completed before now'. The Present Perfect does not express when an action happened. If we say the exact time, we use the Past Simple.

*In my life, I **have travelled** to all seven continents.*

*I **travelled** around Africa in 1998.*

7.2 Present Perfect

Form

has/have + past participle

I've lived in Rome.

She's lived in London.

*He **hasn't lived** here long.*

*They **haven't bought** their flat.*

*How long **have they known** Peter?*

*How long **has she been married**?*

Short answer

Have you always lived in Budapest?

Yes, I have./No, I haven't.

Use

There are three main uses of the Present Perfect.

1 Unfinished past

The Present Perfect expresses an action that began in the past and still continues.

We've lived in the same house for 25 years.

How long have you known each other?

They've been married for 20 years.

- ❗ Be careful! Many languages express this idea with a present tense, but in English this is wrong.

Jan has been a nurse for ten years. NOT *Jan is a nurse for ten years.*

Time expressions

Notice the time expressions that are common with this use.

for	two years	since	1970
	a month		August
	a few minutes		8.00
	half an hour		I was a child
	ages		Christmas

We use *for* with a period of time and *since* with a point in time.

2 Experience

The Present Perfect expresses an experience that happened at some time in one's life. The action is finished, but the effects of the action are still felt.

I've been to the United States. (I still remember.)

Have you ever had an operation? (at any time in your life)

How many times has he been married? (in his life)

Exactly *when* the action happened is not important. Questions and answers about definite times are expressed in the Past Simple.

When did you go to the United States?

I broke my leg once.

Time expressions

The adverbs *ever*, *never*, and *before* are common with this use.

Have you ever been to Australia?

I've never tried bungee jumping.

I haven't tried sushi before.

3 Present result

The Present Perfect expresses a past action that has a present result. The action is usually in the recent past.

The taxi hasn't arrived yet. (We're still waiting for it.)

What have you done to your lip? (It's bleeding.)

We often announce news in the Present Perfect.

Have you heard? The Prime Minister has resigned.

Susan's had her baby!

Details will be in the Past Simple.

She resigned because she lost a vote of no confidence.

It's a boy. He weighed 3.5kg.

Time expressions

The adverbs *yet*, *already*, and *just* are common with this use.

I haven't done my homework yet. (negative)

Has the postman been yet? (question)

I've already done my homework.

She's just had some good news.

- ❗ Be careful with *been* and *gone*.

He's been to the United States. (experience – he isn't there now)

She's gone to the United States. (present result – she's there now)

7.3 Present Perfect or Past Simple?

- 1 The Present Perfect can express unfinished actions. The Past Simple expresses completed actions.

Present Perfect

I've lived in Texas for six years.

(I still live there.)

I've written several books.

(I can still write some more.)

Past Simple

I lived in Texas for six years.

(Now I live somewhere else.)

Shakespeare wrote 30 plays.

(He can't write any more.)

- 2 The Present Perfect refers to indefinite time. The Past Simple refers to definite time. Notice the time expressions used with the two tenses.

Present Perfect – indefinite

I've done it	for a long time.
	since July.
	before.
	recently.

I've already done it.

I haven't done it yet.

Past Simple – definite

I did it	yesterday.
	last week.
	two days ago.
	at eight o'clock.
	in 1987.

when I was young.
for a long time.

- ❗ Be careful with *this morning/afternoon*, etc.

Have you seen Amy this morning? (It's still morning.)

Did you see Amy this morning? (It's the afternoon or evening.)

7.4 Present Perfect Simple passive

Form

has/have been + past participle

It	has been	sold.
They	have been	

Use

The uses are the same in the passive as in the active.

Two million cars have been produced so far this year. (unfinished past)

Has she ever been made redundant? (past experience)

'Have you heard? Two hundred homes have been washed away by a tidal wave!' (present importance)

7.5 Present Perfect Continuous

Form

has/have + been + -ing

She's been studying for three years.

They haven't been working here long.

How long have they been living there?

Use

The Present Perfect Continuous expresses:

- 1 an activity that began in the past and is continuing now.

I've been studying English for three years.

How long have you been working here?

Sometimes there is no difference between the simple and the continuous.

I've played the piano since I was a boy.

I've been playing the piano since I was a boy.

The continuous can express a temporary activity, while the simple expresses a permanent state.

I've been living in this house for the past few months. (temporary)

I've lived here all my life. (permanent)

- ❗ Remember: State verbs are rarely used in the continuous (see 2.4 p134).

I've had this book for ages.

I've always loved sunny days.

- 2 a past activity that has caused a present result.
I've been working all day. (I'm tired now.)
Have you been crying? (Your eyes are red.)
Roger's been cutting the grass. (I can smell it.)
 The past activity might be finished or it might not. The context usually makes this clear.
Look out of the window! It's been snowing!
 (It has stopped snowing now.)
I've been writing this book for two years. (It still isn't finished.)
I'm covered in paint because I've been decorating the bathroom.
 (It might be finished or it might not. We don't know.)

7.6 Present Perfect Simple or Continuous?

- 1 The simple expresses a completed action.
I've painted the kitchen, and now I'm doing the bathroom.
 The continuous expresses an activity over a period of time.
I've got paint in my hair because I've been decorating.
 We use the simple if the sentence has a number or quantity, because the simple expresses completion. The continuous isn't possible.
I've been reading all day. I've read ten chapters.
She's been eating ever since she arrived. She's eaten ten biscuits already.
- 2 Some verbs have the idea of a long time, for example, *wait, work, play, try, learn, rain*. These verbs are often found in the continuous.
I've cut my finger. (One short action.)
I've been cutting firewood. (Perhaps over several hours.)
 Some verbs don't have the idea of a long time, for example, *find, start, buy, die, lose, break, stop*. These verbs are more usually found in the simple.
I've lost my passport.
Have you started your Christmas shopping yet?

UNIT 8

Verb patterns

The infinitive

- 1 The infinitive is used after some verbs.
We've decided to move abroad.
I want to go home.
I'm trying to phone Pete.
She'd love to meet you.
- 2 Some verbs are followed by a person + the infinitive.
They asked me to help them.
I want you to try harder.
He told me to apply for the job.
- 3 *Make* and *let* are followed by a person + the infinitive without *to*.
She'll make you feel welcome.
I'll let you know when I'm coming.
- 4 The infinitive is used after some adjectives.
It's impossible to save money.
It's great to see you.
Pleased to meet you.
It was good to hear your news.

The -ing form

- 1 The -ing form is used after some verbs.
I enjoy reading history books.
He's finished washing the car.
I don't mind helping you.
We like walking.
He goes fishing at weekends.

- 2 Some verbs are followed by an object + -ing.
I hate people telling me what to do.
You can't stop me doing what I want.
I can hear someone calling.
- 3 The -ing form is used after prepositions.
I'm good at finding things.
He's afraid of being mugged.
We're thinking of going to Sweden.
I'm looking forward to meeting you.

▶▶ Verb patterns p158

UNIT 9

9.1 CONDITIONALS

There are many different ways of making sentences with *if*. It is important to understand the difference between sentences that express:

- possible conditions = first conditional
- improbable conditions = second conditional
- impossible conditions = third conditional
- no condition = zero conditional

Possible conditions

If I see Dave, I'll tell him to call you.
 This is a sentence about reality.
If I see Dave ... = a real possibility
... I'll tell him to call you. = the result of a possible situation

Improbable conditions

If I had the money, I'd buy a Mercedes.
 This is a sentence which is contrary to reality.
If I had the money ... = not impossible. The reality is I don't have the money.
... I'd buy a Mercedes. = the result of an improbable situation

Impossible conditions

If I'd known you were coming, I'd have cooked you a meal.
 This is a sentence about an impossible situation. It didn't happen, and now it's too late to change the result.
If I had known ... = impossible, because I didn't know.
I'd have cooked ... = the result of an impossible situation.

No conditions

If I get a headache, I take an aspirin.
If metal is heated, it expands.
 These are sentences that are always true. They refer to 'all time', and are called zero conditionals. *If* means *when* or *whenever*.

9.2 Second conditional: improbable conditions

Form

if + Past Simple, would + verb

Positive

If I won some money, I'd go around the world.
My father would kill me if he could see me now.

Negative

I'd give up my job if I didn't like it.
If I saw a ghost, I wouldn't talk to it.

Question

What would you do if you saw someone shoplifting?
If you needed help, who would you ask?