

What's the Difference? Present Perfect and Past Simple

Present Perfect Simple	Past Simple
<p>Unfinished actions that started in the past and continue to the present: Μία πράξη ξεκίνησε στο παρελθόν και συνεχίζεται στο παρόν.</p> <p>• I ve known Julie for ten years (and I still know her).</p>	<p>Finished actions: Η πράξη τελείωσε στο παρελθόν.</p> <p>• I knew Julie for ten years (but then she moved away and we lost touch)</p>
<p>A finished action in someone's life (when the person is still alive: life experience): Μιλάμε για ανθρώπους ζωντανούς.</p> <p>• My brother has been to Mexico three times.</p>	<p>A finished action in someone's life (when the person is dead): Μιλάμε για ανθρώπους που δεν ζουν πια.</p> <p>• My great-grandmother went to Mexico three times.</p>
<p>A finished action with a result in the present: Η πράξη τελείωσε στο παρελθόν και το αποτέλεσμα φαίνεται στο παρόν.</p> <p>• I ve lost my keys! (The result is that I can't get into my house now).</p>	<p>A finished action with no result in the present: Το αποτέλεσμα δεν συνδέεται με το παρόν.</p> <p>• I lost my keys yesterday. It was terrible! (Now there is no result. I got new keys yesterday).</p>
<p>With an unfinished time word (this week, this month, today): Με επιρρήματα ή χρονικές εκφράσεις που δείχνουν ότι το χρονικό διάστημα δεν έχει αλλάξει.</p> <p>• I ve seen John this week.</p>	<p>With a finished time word (last week, last month, yesterday): Με επιρρήματα ή χρονικές εκφράσεις που δείχνουν ότι το χρονικό διάστημα έχει αλλάξει.</p> <p>• I saw John last week.</p>

Remember:

1. We use the past simple for past events or actions which have no connection to the present.
2. We use the present perfect for actions which started in the past and are still happening now OR for finished actions which have a connection to the present.
3. We CAN'T use the present perfect with a finished time word: **NOT: I've been** to the museum **yesterday**.

Have gone to = έχω πάει κάπου και δεν έχω γυρίσει.

Where is your mum? – She **has gone** to the supermarket.

Have been to = έχω πάει κάπου και έχω γυρίσει.

I **have been to** the USA twice.

Have been in = ζω ακόμα εκεί.

Mary **has been in** London for two years. (She is still there)

<https://www.englishcurrent.com/grammar/study-present-perfect-review-exercises/>