

Grammar Challenge

Present Perfect Continuous

Practice activities



GRAMMAR CHALLENGE

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BBC Learning English – Grammar Challenge

Present perfect continuous

Exercise 1:

Match the two halves of the conversations.

1.	A: You're covered in mud!
2.	A: your eyes are red. You look sad.
3.	A: Your clothes are all wet!
4.	A: What are you laughing about?
5.	A: Mmm! Something smells nice.
6.	A: Those bags look heavy.
7.	A: You're covered in paint!
8.	A: You smell of alcohol!

a.	B: I've been decorating the kitchen.
b.	B: I've been baking a cake.
c.	B: I've been crying.
d.	B: I've been shopping at the sales.
e.	B: Joe's been telling me a funny story.
f.	B: I've been drinking in the pub.
g.	B: I've been playing football.
h.	B: It's been raining.

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Present perfect continuous

Exercise 2:

Read the sentence and choose the one option a - c which best fits the space.

1. She's been ... in Seoul for five years.

- a. live
- b. living
- c. lives

2. I ... working in the garden.

- a. have
- b. 'm be
- c. 've been

3. He ... for ages.

- a. is been waiting
- b. 's been waiting
- c. has been wait

4. He ... since 7 o'clock.

- a. has been studying
- b. is been studying
- c. studying

5. I ..., honest!

- a. been haven't smoking
- b. 've been not smoking
- c. haven't been smoking

6. You ... What did you ...?

- a. been shopping / buy
- b. 've been shopping / buy
- c. have had shopping / buying

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Present perfect continuous - Answers

Exercise 1:

Match the beginnings of the sentences to the correct endings.

1.	A: You're covered in mud!
2.	A: your eyes are red. You look sad.
3.	A: Your clothes are all wet!
4.	A: What are you laughing about?
5.	A: Mmm! Something smells nice.
6.	A: Those bags look heavy.
7.	A: You're covered in paint!
8.	A: You smell of alcohol!

g.	B: I've been playing football.
c.	B: I've been crying.
h.	B: It's been raining.
e.	B: Joe's been telling me a funny story.
b.	B: I've been baking a cake.
f.	B: I've been shopping at the sales.
a.	B: I've been decorating the kitchen.
d.	B: I've been drinking in the pub.

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Present perfect continuous - Answers

Exercise 2:

Read the sentence and choose the one option a - c which best fits the space.

1. **She's been ... in Seoul for five years.**
 - a. live - Sorry, this verb is in the wrong form. You need the 'ing' form.
 - b. **living - Well done, we use the 'ing' form of the main verb in the present perfect continuous.**
 - c. lives - Sorry, this verb is in the wrong form. You need the 'ing' form.

2. **I ... working in the garden.**
 - a. have - Sorry, there is a word missing here. You need part of the verb 'to be'.
 - b. 've be - Sorry, the first word is correct but the second one should be a different form of the verb 'to be'.
 - c. **'ve been - Well done, we use have (or 've) plus 'been' in the present perfect continuous.**

3. **He ... for ages.**
 - a. is been waiting - Sorry, the first word is incorrect.
 - b. **'s been waiting - Well done, this is the correct form of the present perfect continuous.**
 - c. has been wait - Sorry, the first two words are correct but the final one should be an 'ing' form.

4. **He ... since 7 o'clock.**
 - a. **has been studying - Well done, this means he's been doing a lot of revision.**
 - b. is been studying - Sorry, the first word is incorrect. You need a form of the verb 'to have'.
 - c. studying - Sorry, you need two extra words here.

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5. I ..., honest!

- a. been haven't smoking - Sorry, the words are in the wrong order.
- b. 've been not smoking - Sorry, this is not how we make the negative form of the present perfect continuous.
- c. **haven't been smoking - Well done, this is the correct negative form of the present perfect continuous.**

6. You ... What did you ...?

- a. been shopping / buy - Sorry, the second answer is correct but in the first one there is a word missing
- b. **'ve been shopping / buy - Well done, the first answer is the present perfect continuous and the second one is the past simple.**
- c. have had shopping / buying - Sorry, in the first answer there is a wrong word and in the second one the form is not correct.