

13 The Highlights of My Life

Date : _____

Grade : _____



Grammar Notes

Tenses: Present Perfect / Simple Past



It's game time!

Max **came** to our family four years ago. Since then, it **has been** my best friend and partner in crime.



We use the **present perfect tense** to talk about actions that began in the past and have continued up to the present. We also use it to talk about the past actions that still have connections to the present. The exact time when the past event took place is not important.

Grammar Tip

We usually use the present perfect tense with these adverbs and prepositions:

In questions:	'ever', 'before'
In negative sentences:	'yet'
In positive sentences:	'just', 'already', 'for', 'since'

Jasper **has been** a member of the football team since 2018.

We use the **simple past tense** to talk about actions that happened in the past. We use it when the actions ended in an exact time in the past.

Grammar Tip

We usually use the simple past tense with the time phrases that tell the exact time. e.g. 'this morning', 'yesterday', 'last week', 'a year ago', 'in 2021', etc.

Ellie **joined** the school choir in 2018.



Common Errors

- ✓ I **lived** in London **in 2019**. I don't live there any more.
- ✗ I **have lived** in London **in 2019**.
- ✓ I **have lived** in London **since 2019**. I live in London now.

1. Queenie **went / has gone** to the library this morning. She has just returned home.
2. The children **didn't sleep / haven't slept** since last night. They are studying hard for the exams.
3. Jack and his parents **visited / have visited** the Hong Kong Space Museum yesterday. They had a lot of fun!

Warm-up

- A** Ellie is reading the yearbooks. Match the correct adverbs and time phrases to the correct tenses. Write the correct answers in each book.

already before ever for 12 years in 1980 just last Friday
since 2010 this morning two months ago yesterday yet

Simple Past Tense



Present Perfect Tense



- B** Jasper is filling in a questionnaire. Circle the correct answers.

Cub Scouts Questionnaire

- When **1** did you join / have you joined the Cub Scouts?
I **2** joined / have joined the Cub Scouts in Primary One.
- How long **3** were you / have you been a Cub Scout?
I **4** was / have been a Cub Scout for three years.
- Why **5** did you sign up / have you signed up for Cub Scouts?
It was because I enjoy doing outdoor activities with my friends.
- How many activities **6** did you take / have you taken part in since you joined the Cub Scouts?
I **7** attended / have attended ten activities since then.



Thank you for completing the questionnaire!

Practice



Mr Fan is updating his social media profile. Complete his profile with the correct form of the given verbs.



Bob Fan ① _____ (update) his profile 2 hours ago.

- I ② _____ (be) born in 1982.
- I ③ _____ (live) in Hong Kong for 38 years.
- I ④ _____ (know) my wife Sarah for many years. The two of us ⑤ _____ (be) classmates in secondary school.
- Sarah and I ⑥ _____ (get) married in 2008.
- I ⑦ _____ (work) in Tomato & Cheese Italian Restaurant since 2000. I ⑧ _____ (be) a chef for decades.
- Last year, I ⑨ _____ (win) the Hong Kong Top Chef Competition.
- Cooking 🕒 ⑩ _____ always _____ (be) my greatest passion.



Hint: Q10

Which tense do we use to talk about a past action that has continued up to the present?

Proofreading



There is one mistake in each numbered line. Correct the underlined mistakes for Questions 1-2. Underline and correct the mistakes for Questions 3-8.

1. Do you like listening to music? My friend Hailey has be a music lover since she was young. When she was a child, she has listened to Cantopop music. However, she become a fan of K-pop music three years ago. She has been a part of the K-pop Fan Club since more than two years. She have started collecting posters of K-pop idols for last year. She likes to exchange them with other club members. Yesterday, she gotten a new poster and she puts it on the wall of her bedroom.
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

Grammar in Context

Text Type:
Biography

E Mrs Fan is reading the biography of a famous actress. Complete the biography with the correct form of the given verbs.

be get not think offer play receive see
star start teach turn want win work

 Hint: Part E

Pay attention to the time phrases. They help you decide which tense to use.

Hilary Kwan — The Face of Hong Kong Films


Hilary Kwan is a legendary Hong Kong actress, and one of the most iconic actresses in Hong Kong film industry. Many Hong Kong people **1** _____ her films before.



Hilary was born in 1980. She **2** _____ her first role in the film *Joyful Holidays* in 1988. She **3** _____ a character named Suzy, the daughter of the main character.


 Hint: Q4

The writer is talking about the film released in 1988.

Her performance  **4** _____ a lot of praise from different film critics. Since then, she **5** _____ in almost 50 films, both local and international. In 1998, Hilary **6** _____ her first Best Actress Award at the Hong Kong Film Awards.

Ever since she **7** _____ young, Hilary **8** _____ to be a teacher, if not an actress. Therefore, six years ago, she **9** _____ her own acting school for young acting talents. The school **10** _____ countless acting classes to young people aged 10 and 25 since then. Last year, she **11** _____ more than 50 students from 14 of these classes.



Recently, Hilary **12** _____ her attention to international films. She **13** _____ with the British director, Andrew Smith, for a few years. She  **14** _____ of slowing down and has been eager to achieve higher goals.

 Hint: Q14

Does this action continue up to the present?