+49 511 4739339
james@englisch-lehrer.com · www.englisch-lehrer.com

B2 TENSES ≈ 27 MIN

Present Perfect Continuous — *practice on paper*

You have built the lesson — now lock the tense in, brick by brick. New examples, same rule: activity up to now.

Activity up to now: **have/has** + been + verb-**ing** · for + span of time · since + starting point

NAME _____ DATE _____

YOUR BUILD — 1 · SORTING ○ | 2 · FILL-IN ○ | 3 · CORRECT ○ | 4 · WRITE ○

BRICK 1 · SORT: ACTIVITY OR RESULT? · APPROX. 4 MIN ●○○

Read each sentence. If it highlights the ongoing activity and its duration → left column. If it counts a finished result or describes a state → right column. Careful: state verbs stay in the simple even with for/since!

- We've been testing the new checkout all week.
- We've tested five versions of the checkout.
- She's been calling suppliers since nine o'clock.
- She's called three suppliers today.
- I've been drafting the workshop handouts all afternoon.
- I've finished the handouts for the workshop.
- They've been negotiating the contract for months.
- They've signed the contract at last.
- The interns have been sorting invoices all morning.
- I've known our accountant for years.

CONTINUOUS – ACTIVITY UP TO NOW	SIMPLE – RESULT OR STATE

BRICK 2 · FILL IN HAVE, HAS, BEEN, FOR OR SINCE · APPROX. 6 MIN ●●○

Fill in the missing word. Watch the subject (**have** or **has**?), the full verb chain (don't drop **been**!), and the time expression (span → **for**, starting point → **since**).

01 How long _____ you been handling the Müller account?
02 She _____ been travelling a lot lately, so her inbox is overflowing.
03 We've been chasing this invoice _____ Tuesday.
04 They've been rebuilding the knowledge base _____ six weeks.
05 I _____ been interviewing candidates all morning — I need a coffee.
06 He hasn't _____ joining the calls lately — is everything okay with him?
07 Everybody _____ been asking about the new hybrid policy.
08 _____ your team been using the new CRM for long?

YOUR BUILD · 1 · SORTING · 2 · FILL-IN · 3 · CORRECT · 4 · WRITE

BRICK 3 · FIND AND CORRECT THE MISTAKE · APPROX. 7 MIN

Each sentence hides exactly one mistake around the **present perfect continuous**. Underline it and write the whole sentence correctly.

01 I work on this project since January.

02 We've been using this tool since two years.

03 We've been knowing the auditors for years.

04 They have updating the pricing page all week.

05 I've been sending four quotes this morning.

06 The system has been crash every morning this week.

BRICK 4 · WRITE YOUR OWN SENTENCES · APPROX. 8 MIN

Write one sentence for each prompt in the **present perfect continuous**. Check the full chain have/has + been + -ing and your for/since.

01 Your project: "I've been working on …" — what are you working on, and since when? Use for or since.

02 Your team: "We've been … all week." — what has your team been busy with this week?

03 Fresh traces: "Sorry, I'm late — I've been …" — explain your lateness with a just-finished activity.

04 Your question: "How long have you been …?" — ask a colleague a question.

MINI-CHECK – CAN I DO THIS YET?

- ☐ I can build the form reliably: have/has + been + the -ing form of the verb.
- ☐ I never translate German present + "seit" with the English present: "I've been working on the quote since Monday."
- ☐ For goes before a span of time, since before a starting point: "for two weeks", "since Tuesday".
- ☐ State verbs like know, be, and like stay in the simple: "I've known my mentor since my internship."

Not every box ticked? Build the lesson once more and try this sheet again tomorrow.

Answer key

Check only when you have finished. Every answer comes with the **why** — the rule matters more than the result.

BRICK 1 · SORTING

01 We've **been testing** the new checkout all week.
"All week" = duration up to now — the activity is in focus.

02 We've **tested five** versions of the checkout.
"Five" counts a finished result — a quantity calls for the simple.

03 She's **been calling** suppliers since nine o'clock.
"Since nine" plus activity up to now → continuous.

04 She's **called three** suppliers today.
"Three" counts results — simple.

05 I've been **drafting** the workshop handouts all afternoon.
"All afternoon" describes the time spent, not a result.

06 I've **finished** the handouts for the workshop.
"Finished" reports a completed result.

07 They've been **negotiating** the contract for months.
"For months" = an ongoing process.

08 They've **signed** the contract at last.
The signature is one finished result.

09 The interns have been **sorting** invoices all morning.
"All morning" spotlights the activity and its duration.

10 I've **known** our accountant for years.
"Know" is a state verb — it stays in the simple even with "for years".

BRICK 2 · FILL-IN

01 How long **have** you been handling
In a question have moves before the subject; "you" takes have.

02 She **has** been travelling
Third person singular → has.

03 chasing this invoice **since** Tuesday
"Tuesday" is a starting point → since.

04 rebuilding the knowledge base **for** six weeks
"Six weeks" is a span of time → for.

05 I **have** been interviewing
"I" takes have — almost always contracted to "I've" in speech.

06 He hasn't **been** joining
The chain needs all three parts: hasn't + been + -ing.

07 Everybody **has** been asking
"Everybody" counts as singular → has.

08 **Has** your team been using
"Your team" = it → has; in a question has moves in front.

BRICK 3 · CORRECT

01 I **have been working** on this project since January.
Never use the present for a duration up to now: German "seit" + present becomes the present perfect continuous in English.

02 We've been using this tool **for** two years.
"Two years" is a span → for; since only introduces a starting point.

03 We've **known** the auditors for years.
"Know" is a state verb and does not take the continuous.

04 They have **been updating** the pricing page all week.
Without been the chain is broken: have/has + been + -ing.

05 I've **sent** four quotes this morning.
"Four quotes" counts finished results — quantities need the simple.

06 The system has been **crashing** every morning this week.
Been is always followed by the -ing form.

BRICK 4 · WRITE

Your sentences may differ — just check that your chain have/has + been + -ing is complete and that for/since matches the time expression.

01 "I've been **preparing** the board presentation since Monday."
Duration up to now; "since Monday" names the starting point. With a span: "… for two weeks."

02 "We've been **rehearsing** the demo all week."
"All week" = duration, activity in focus.

03 "Sorry, I'm late — I've been **fixing** the printer."
A just-finished activity explains the lateness — fresh traces.

04 "How long have you been **leading** the stand-up?"
How long + have + subject + been + -ing.

NEXT BRICKS — KEEP BUILDING FREE ONLINE

PAIR WITH THIS
Present Perfect
englisch-lehrer.com/en/lessons/present-perfect

NEXT STEP
Signal Words: Present Perfect
englisch-lehrer.com/en/lessons/signal-words-present-perfect

ALL LESSONS
45+ free lessons
englisch-lehrer.com/en/lessons

HANOVER
Schaufelder Straße 11 · 30167
englisch-lehrer.com/hannover

BERLIN
Kurfürstendamm 30 · 10719
englisch-lehrer.com/berlin

ONLINE COURSES
englisch-lehrer.com/online
worldwide on Zoom

CONTACT
+49 511 4739339
james@englisch-lehrer.com