

We've been married *since* 1973.



We've been married *since* 1973.

PRESENT PERFECT

since / for

We've been married *since* 1973. (a point in time)

We've been married *for* 20 years. (a period of time from the past to the present)

PAST SIMPLE

in / ago / for

We got married *in* 1973. (a point in time)

We got married 20 years *ago*. (a point in time measured from the present)

We lived in Africa *for* seven years. (a period of time that ended in the past)

Using *since, for, in* and *ago*, write sentences from the prompts below.

Example: I meet/the Prime Minister/two years.

I met the Prime Minister two years ago.

1 Phyllis and Les/get married/25 years.

2 John/be a carpenter/30 years/until he retire.

3 Vanessa/work at the hospital/18 months now.

4 a) The 'Model T' Ford/be introduced/1909.

b) The 'Model T' Ford/be produced continuously/18 years.

5 a) Camille Pissarro/die/1903.

b) He/live/73 years.

c) His paintings/be popular/over 100 years.

d) They/increase in value/his death.

e) The French Impressionists/first get together/more than 100 years.

ANSWERS

- 1 Phyllis and Les got married 25 years ago.
- 2 John was a carpenter for 30 years until he retired.
- 3 Vanessa has been working at the hospital for 18 months now.
- 4 a) The 'Model T' Ford was introduced in 1909.
b) The 'Model T' Ford was produced continuously for 18 years.
- 5 a) Camille Pissarro died in 1903.
b) He lived for 73 years.
c) His paintings have been popular for over 100 years.
d) They have increased in value since his death.
e) The French Impressionists first got together more than 100 years ago.



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STILL	indicates a state which is continuing. <i>Examples:</i> I <i>still</i> love him. I <i>still</i> don't know where he lives. (<i>not</i> always follows <i>still</i>)
YET	indicates something anticipated but which may <i>not</i> have happened – it is therefore used with the <i>present perfect</i> tense (but never with a positive statement). <i>Examples:</i> I haven't met him <i>yet</i> . Have you seen the film <i>yet</i> ?
ALREADY	indicates something which <i>has</i> or <i>had</i> happened before the expected time – it is therefore used with the <i>present perfect</i> or <i>past perfect</i> tense (but never with a negative statement). <i>Example:</i> Do you want to come to the show? No thanks, I've <i>already</i> been.

Exercise A

Fill the gaps in the following dialogues with *still*, *yet* or *already*.

In the restaurant:

- Waiter: I'm sorry, sir, but your order isn't ready (1) _____. Do you (2) _____ want the same thing?
 George: Yes – you've (3) _____ asked us that. What about my cocktail? Haven't you got it (4) _____?
 Waiter: Oh, I'm terribly sorry, sir. The wine waiter is (5) _____ serving in the other bar.
 I've (6) _____ spoken to him but he hasn't come in here (7) _____.
 George: This really isn't good enough! I've (8) _____ complained to the manager once this week, and he
 (9) _____ hasn't done anything about it. He told me last time that he had (10) _____
 threatened to sack that wine waiter, but he obviously hasn't done it (11) _____.

On the phone:

- George: Mr Smith! I'm glad you're (12) _____ in the office. I thought you might (13) _____ have left.
 Smith: No such luck. I haven't finished all my paperwork (14) _____. I'm (15) _____ weeks behind,
 and it (16) _____ keeps piling up.
 George: Oh dear. I just want to check if you have sent my order (17) _____. It (18) _____ hasn't
 arrived, and you did say last week that you had (19) _____ posted it.
 Smith: I have, I have. If it (20) _____ hasn't turned up by tomorrow, give me a ring.

Exercise B

Do Exercise 10 on the cassette.