

# Present Perfect Simple vs Continuous

## Teacher's Notes

**Aim:** To practise using the Present Perfect Simple and the Present Perfect Continuous in a variety of individual and pair work activities.

**Procedure:** Give each student a copy of the two-page activity sheet.

**Exercise A:** Students begin by completing the sentences, writing 'PPS' for the Present Perfect Simple and 'PPC' for the Present Perfect Continuous.

answer key:

1. PPC, PPS    2. PPS    3. PPC    4. PPC    5. PPS

**Exercise B:** Next, students read the text and circle the correct form of the verb.

answer key:

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. have been         | 6. have just got         |
| 2. have been doing   | 7. have been working out |
| 3. have ever visited | 8. have become           |
| 4. have been staying | 9. have put on           |
| 5. have known        | 10. haven't been working |

**Exercise C:** Students then complete the sentences, putting the verbs in brackets in either the Present Perfect Simple or the Present Perfect Continuous form.

answer key:

- |                             |                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. have you had             | 5. has been living       |
| 2. have only been going out | 6. haven't had           |
| 3. have been married        | 7. haven't been sleeping |
| 4. has been baking          |                          |

**Exercise D:** Students go on to match each sentence with the correct follow-up sentence, choosing a verb and putting it in either the Present Perfect Simple or the Present Perfect Continuous form.

answer key:

- |                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. g, have known       | 6. i, have been trying  |
| 2. e, have been        | 7. d, have already seen |
| 3. j, has been living  | 8. f, have been arguing |
| 4. b, has been working | 9. h, have just had     |
| 5. c, haven't changed  | 10. a, have ever eaten  |

**Exercise E:** After this, students complete the sentences guessing whether they or their partner has been doing each thing the longest, putting the verb in brackets in either the Present Perfect Simple or the Present Perfect Continuous form. They then create a suitable 'how long' question to find out the information. Lastly, students take turns asking each other their questions to see how many of their guesses were correct.

answer key:

1. have been awake / have you been awake?
2. have been learning / have you been learning English?
3. have been living / have you been living in your home?
4. have been sitting / have you been sitting in this classroom?
5. have been alive / have you been alive?