Present perfect continuous and simple
(I have been doing and I have done)

Study this example situation:

There is paint on Kate’s clothes. She has been painting her bedroom. Has been painting is the present perfect continuous.

We are thinking of the activity. It does not matter whether it has been finished or not. In this example, the activity (painting the bedroom) has not been finished.

Her bedroom was green. Now it is yellow. She has painted her bedroom. Has painted is the present perfect simple.

Here, the important thing is that something has been finished. Has painted is a completed action. We are interested in the result of the activity (the painted bedroom), not the activity itself.

Compare these examples:

- My hands are very dirty. I’ve been repairing my bike.
- Joe has been eating too much recently. He should eat less.
- It’s nice to see you again. What have you been doing since we last met?
- Where have you been? Have you been playing tennis?

We use the continuous to say how long (for something that is still happening):
- How long have you been reading that book?
- Lisa is writing emails. She’s been writing emails all morning.
- They’ve been playing tennis since 2 o’clock.
- I’m learning Arabic, but I haven’t been learning it very long.

We use the simple to say how much, how many or how many times:
- How much of that book have you read?
- Lisa is writing emails. She’s sent lots of emails this morning.
- They’ve played tennis three times this week.
- I’m learning Arabic, but I haven’t learnt very much yet.

Some verbs (for example, know/like/believe) are not normally used in the continuous:
- I’ve known about the problem for a long time. (not I’ve been knowing)
- How long have you had that camera? (not have you been having)

For a list of these verbs, see Unit 4A. For have, see Unit 17.

But note that you can use want and mean in the present perfect continuous:
- I’ve been meaning to phone Jane, but I keep forgetting.
Exercises

10.1 Read the situation and complete the sentences. Use the verbs in brackets.

1 Tom started reading a book two hours ago. He is still reading it and now he is on page 53.
   He __has been reading__ for two hours. (read)
   He __has read__ for two hours. (read)

2 Rachel is from Australia. She is travelling round Europe at the moment. She began her trip three months ago.
   She __has travelled__ for three months. (travel)
   She __has visited__ six countries so far. (visit)

3 Patrick is a tennis player. He began playing tennis when he was ten years old. This year he won the national championship again – for the fourth time.
   He __has won__ the national championship four times. (win)
   He __has played__ since he was ten. (play)

4 When they left college, Lisa and Sue started making films together. They still make films.
   They __have made__ films since they left college. (make)
   They __have made__ five films since they left college. (make)

10.2 For each situation, ask a question using the words in brackets.

1 You have a friend who is learning Arabic. You ask:
   (how long / learn / Arabic?) __How long have you been learning Arabic?__

2 You have just arrived to meet a friend. She is waiting for you. You ask:
   (wait / long?) __Have you been waiting long?__

3 You see somebody fishing by the river. You ask:
   (catch / any fish?) __Have you caught any fish?__

4 Some friends of yours are having a party next week. You ask:
   (how many people / invite?) __How many people have you invited?__

5 A friend of yours is a teacher. You ask:
   (how long / teach?) __How long have you been teaching?__

6 You meet somebody who is a writer. You ask:
   (how many books / write?) __How many books have you written?__
   (how long / write / books?) __How long have you been writing books?__

7 A friend of yours is saving money to go on a world trip. You ask:
   (how long / save?) __How long have you been saving money?__
   (how much money / save?) __How much money have you been saving?__

10.3 Put the verb into the more suitable form, present perfect simple (I have done) or continuous (I have been doing).

1 Where have you been? __Have you been playing__ (you / play) tennis?

2 Look! __Have you been breaking__ (somebody / break) that window.

3 You look tired. __Have you been working__ (you / work) hard?

4 ‘Liz is away on holiday.’ ‘Is she? Where __has she gone__ (she / go)?’

5 ‘My brother is an actor.’ __Has he appeared__ (he / appear) in several films.

7 ‘Sorry I’m late.’ ‘That’s all right. __Has it stopped__ (I / not / wait) long.’

8 ‘Is it still raining?’ ‘No, __has it stopped__ (it / stop).’

9 __Have you lost__ (I / lose) my phone. __Have you seen__ (you / see) it anywhere?

10 __Have you read__ (I / read) the book you lent me, but __have not finished__ (I / not / finish) it yet. It’s very interesting.

11 __Have you read__ (I / read) the book you lent me, so you can have it back now.

12 This is a very old book. __Have you read__ (I / read) it since I was a child.
How long have you (been) ...?

Study this example situation:

Dan and Jenny are married. They got married exactly 20 years ago, so today is their 20th wedding anniversary. They **have been married for 20 years**.

We say: They **are married**. (*present*)

**but** How long have they **been** married? (**present perfect**) (not How long are they married?)

They **have been married for 20 years**. (not They are married for 20 years)

---

We use the **present perfect** to talk about something that began in the past and still continues now.

**Compare the present** and the **present perfect**:

- Paul is in hospital.
  - **but** He’s **been** in hospital since Monday. (= He *has* been ...)

- Do you know each other well?
  - **but** Have you known each other for a long time?

- She’s waiting for somebody.
  - **but** She’s **been waiting** all morning.

- Do they have a car?
  - **but** How long have they **had** their car?

---

I have known/had/lived etc. is the **present perfect simple**.

I have been learning / been waiting / been doing etc. is the **present perfect continuous**.

When we ask or say ‘how long’, the continuous is more usual (see Unit 10):

- I’ve been learning English for six months.
- It’s been raining since lunchtime.
- Richard **has been doing** the same job for 20 years.
- ‘How long have you **been driving**?’ ‘Since I was 17.’

Some verbs (for example, know/like/believe) are not normally used in the continuous:

- How long have you known Jane? (not have you been knowing)
- I’ve had a pain in my stomach all day. (not I’ve been having)

See also Units 4A and 10C. For **have**, see Unit 17.

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You can use either the present perfect continuous or simple with **live** and **work**:

- Julia **has been living / has lived** here for a long time.
- How long **have you been working / have you worked** here?

But use the simple (I’ve lived / I’ve done etc.) with **always**:

- I’ve **always lived** in the country. (not always been living)

---

We say ‘I haven’t done something since/for ...’ (**present perfect simple**):

- I haven’t seen Tom since Monday. (= Monday was the last time I saw him)
- Sarah hasn’t phoned for ages. (= the last time she phoned was ages ago)

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Exercises

11.1 Are the underlined verbs right or wrong? Correct them where necessary.

1 Ben is a friend of mine. I know him very well. OK
2 Ben is a friend of mine. I know him for a long time. I've known him
3 Sarah and Adam are married since July.
4 The weather is awful. It's raining again.
5 The weather is awful. It's raining all day.
6 I like your house. How long are you living there?
7 Gary is working in a shop for the last few months.
8 I don't know Tom well. We've only met a few times.
9 I gave up drinking coffee. I don't drink it for a year.
10 That's a very old bike. How long do you have it?

11.2 Read the situations and write questions from the words in brackets.

1 A friend tells you that Paul is in hospital. You ask him:
   (how long / be / in hospital?) How long has Paul been in hospital?
2 You meet a woman who tells you that she teaches English. You ask her:
   (how long / teach / English?)
3 You know that Jane is a good friend of Katherine's. You ask Jane:
   (how long / know / Katherine?)
4 Your friend's brother went to Australia some time ago and he's still there. You ask your friend:
   (how long / be / in Australia?)
5 Tom always wears the same jacket. It's a very old jacket. You ask him:
   (how long / have / that jacket?)
6 You are talking to a friend about Joe. Joe now works at the airport. You ask your friend:
   (how long / work / at the airport?)
7 A friend of yours is having guitar lessons. You ask him:
   (how long / have / guitar lessons?)
8 You meet somebody on a plane. She says that she lives in Chicago. You ask her:
   (always / live / in Chicago?)

11.3 Complete B's answers to A's questions.

A

1 Paul is in hospital, isn't he? Yes, he has been in hospital since Monday.
2 Do you see Ann very often? No, I haven't seen her for three months.
3 Is Amy married? Yes, she has been married for ten years.
4 Are you waiting for me? Yes, I have been waiting for the last half hour.
5 You know Mel, don't you? Yes, we have been friends for a long time.
6 Do you still play tennis? No, I have been playing tennis for years.
7 Is Joe watching TV? Yes, he has been watching TV all evening.
8 Do you watch TV a lot? No, I have been watching TV for ages.
9 Do you have a headache? Yes, I have been having a headache all morning.
10 Adrian is never ill, is he? No, he has been ill since I've known him.
11 Are you feeling ill? Yes, I have been feeling ill all day.
12 Sue lives in Berlin, doesn't she? Yes, she has been living in Berlin for the last few years.
13 Do you go to the cinema a lot? No, I have been going to the cinema for ages.
14 Would you like to go to New York one day? Yes, I have always wanted to go to New York.

B

(use always / want)
We use **for** and **since** to say how long something has been happening.

### For + a period of time

- I've been waiting **for two hours**.
- Sally has been working here **for six months**. *(not since six months)*
- I haven't seen Tom **for three days**.

### Since + the start of a period

- I've been waiting **since 8 o'clock**.
- Sally has been working here **since April**. *(= from April until now)*
- I haven't seen Tom **since Monday**.

It is possible to leave out **for** (but not usually in negative sentences):

- They've been married *(for)* **ten years**. *(with or without for)*
- They **haven't had** a holiday *(for)* **ten years**. *(you must use for)*

We do **not use** + **all** (all day / all my life etc.):

- I've lived here **all my life**. *(not for all my life)*

You can use **in** instead of **for** in negative sentences (I haven't ... etc.):

- They **haven't had** a holiday **in ten years**. *(= for ten years)*

### Compare when ... ? (+ past simple) and how long ... ? (+ present perfect):**

**A.** When did it start raining?
**B.** It started raining **an hour ago** / **at 1 o'clock**.

**A.** How long has it been raining?
**B.** It's been raining **for an hour** / **since 1 o'clock**.

**A.** When did Joe and Carol first meet?
**B.** They first met **a long time ago**. *(= they met long ago)*

**A.** How long have they known each other?
**B.** They've known each other **for a long time**. *(= they've known each other a long time)*

We say:

- **It's** *(= It is)*
- **It's been** *(= It has been)*
- a long time
- six months *(etc.)*
- since something happened

- **It's two years since** I last saw Joe. *or* **It's been two years since** ...
  *(= I haven't seen Joe for two years)*
- **It's ages since** we went to the cinema. *or* **It's been ages since** ...
  *(= We haven't been to the cinema for ages)*
- **How long is it since** Mrs Hill died? *or* **How long has it been since** ...
  *(= When did Mrs Hill die?)*

How long have you *(been)* ...? ➜ Unit 11
Exercises

12.1 Write for or since.
1 It's been raining _______ since _______ lunchtime.
2 Sarah has lived in Paris _______________ 1995.
3 Paul has lived in Brazil _______________ ten years.
4 I'm tired of waiting. We've been sitting here _______ an hour.
5 Kevin has been looking for a job _______________ he left school.
6 I haven't been to a party _______ ages.
7 I wonder where Joe is. I haven't seen him _______ last week.
8 Jane is away. She's been away _______ Friday.
9 The weather is dry. It hasn't rained _______ a few weeks.

12.2 Write questions with how long and when.
1 It's raining.  
  (how long?)  _______ How long has it been raining?  
  (when?)  _______ When did it start raining?
2 Kate is learning Japanese.  
  (how long / learn?)  _______ When did Kate start learning Japanese?
3 I know Simon.  
  (how long / you / know?)  _______ How long have you known Simon?
  (when / you / first / meet?)  _______ When did you first meet Simon?
4 Rebecca and David are married.  
  (how long?)  _______ How long have Rebecca and David been married?
  (when?)  _______ When did they get married?

12.3 Read the situations and complete the sentences.
1 It's raining. It's been raining since lunchtime. It _______ at lunchtime.
2 Ann and Jess are friends. They first met years ago. They've _______ each other for _______ years.
3 Mark is ill. He became ill on Sunday. He has _______ Sunday.
4 Mark is ill. He became ill a few days ago. He has _______ a few days.
5 Sarah is married. She's been married for a year. She got _______.
6 You have a headache. It started when you woke up. I've _______.
7 Sue has been in Italy for the last three weeks. She went _______.
8 You're working in a hotel. You started six months ago. I've _______.

12.4 Write B's sentences using the words in brackets.
1 a: Do you often go on holiday?  
   b: No, I haven't had a holiday for _______ five years.
2 a: Do you often see Laura?  
   b: No, I haven't seen Laura _______ about a month.
3 a: Do you often go to the cinema?  
   b: No, I haven't been to the cinema _______ a long time.
4 a: Do you often eat in restaurants?  
   b: No, I haven't eaten in restaurants _______ ages.

Now write B's answers again. This time use It's _______ since _______.
5 (1) No, it's five years since I had a holiday.
6 (2) No, it's _______
7 (3) No, it's _______
8 (4)
Present perfect and past 1 (I have done and I did)

Study this example situation:

Tom is looking for his key. He can’t find it.

He has lost his key. (present perfect)

This means that he doesn’t have his key now.

Ten minutes later:

Now Tom has found his key. He has it now.

Has he lost his key? No, he has found it.

Did he lose his key? Yes, he did.

He lost his key (past simple)

but now he has found it. (present perfect)

The present perfect (something has happened) is a present tense. It always tells us about the situation now. ‘Tom has lost his key’ = he doesn’t have his key now (see Unit 7).

The past simple (something happened) tells us only about the past. If somebody says ‘Tom lost his key’, this doesn’t tell us whether he has the key now or not. It tells us only that he lost his key at some time in the past.

Do not use the present perfect if the situation now is different. Compare:

- They’ve gone away. They’ll be back on Friday. (they are away now)
- They went away, but I think they’re back at home now. (not They’ve gone)

- It has stopped raining now, so we don’t need the umbrella. (it isn’t raining now)
- It stopped raining for a while, but now it’s raining again. (not It has stopped)

You can use the present perfect for new or recent happenings:

- I’ve repaired the washing machine. It’s working OK now. ‘Oh, that’s good.’
- Sally has had a baby! It’s a boy. ‘That’s great news.’

Usually, you can also use the past simple:

- I repaired the washing machine. It’s working OK now.

Use the past simple (not the present perfect) for things that are not recent or new:

- Mozart was a composer. He wrote more than 600 pieces of music. (not has been … has written)
- My mother grew up in Italy. (not has grown)

Compare:

- Did you know that somebody has invented a new type of washing machine?
- Who invented the telephone? (not has invented)

We use the present perfect to give new information (see Unit 7). But if we continue to talk about it, we normally use the past simple:

- A: Ow! I’ve burnt myself.
- B: How did you do that? (not have you done)
- A: I picked up a hot dish. (not have picked)

- A: Look! Somebody has split something on the sofa.
- B: Well, it wasn’t me. I didn’t do it. (not hasn’t been … haven’t done)
Exercises

13.1 Complete the sentences using the verbs in brackets. Use the present perfect where possible. Otherwise use the past simple.

1. I can't get in. I've lost my key.
2. The office is empty now. Everybody (go) home.
3. I meant to call you last night, but I forgot.
4. Helen (go) to Egypt for a holiday, but she's back home in England now.
5. Are you OK?

13.2 Are the underlined parts of these sentences right or wrong? Correct them where necessary.

1. Did you hear about Sue? She's given up her job. OK
2. My mother has grown up in Italy. grew
3. How many poems has William Shakespeare written? has
4. Ow! I've cut my finger. It's bleeding.
5. Drugs have become a big problem everywhere.
6. Who has invented paper?
7. Where have you been born?
8. Ellie isn't at home. She's gone shopping.
9. Albert Einstein has been the scientist who has developed the theory of relativity.

13.3 Put the verb into the correct form, present perfect or past simple.

1. It stopped raining for a while, but now it's raining again. (it / stop)
2. The town where I live is very different now. It has changed a lot. (it / change)
3. I studied German at school, but lost most of it now. (I / forget)
4. The police arrested three people, but later they let them go. (arrest)
5. What do you think of my English? Do you think it's improved? (it / improve)
6. A: Are you still reading the paper?
   B: No, I've finished with it. You can have it. (I / finish)
7. I applied for a job as a tourist guide, but I wasn't successful. (I / apply)
8. Where's my bike? It's outside the house, but it's not there now. (it / be)
9. Quick! We need to call an ambulance. He's in an accident. (there / be)
10. A: Have you heard about Ben? He's broken his arm. (he / break)
    B: Really? How did that happen?
    A: He fell off a ladder. (he / fall)
### Present perfect and past 2 (I have done and I did)

Do not use the present perfect (I have done) when you talk about a *finished* time (for example, yesterday / ten minutes ago / in 2005 / when I was a child). Use a past tense:

- It was very cold yesterday. *(not has been)*
- Paul and Lucy arrived ten minutes ago. *(not have arrived)*
- Did you eat a lot of sweets when you were a child? *(not have you eaten)*
- I got home late last night. I was very tired and went straight to bed.

Use the past to ask *When …?* or *What time …?:*

- When did your friends arrive? *(not have … arrived)*
- What time did you finish work?

**Compare:**

- **Present perfect** *(have done)*
  - Tom has lost his key. He can’t get into the house.
  - Is Carla here or has she left?

- **Past simple** *(did)*
  - Tom lost his key yesterday. He couldn’t get into the house.
  - When did Carla leave?

We use the present perfect *(have done)* for a period of time that continues *until now*. For example: today / this week / since 2007.

- It hasn’t rained this week.
- Have you seen Anna this morning? (it is still morning)
- Have you seen Tim recently?
- I don’t know where Lisa is. I haven’t seen her. (= I haven’t seen her recently)
- We’ve been waiting for an hour. (we are still waiting now)
- Jack lives in Los Angeles. He has lived there for seven years.
- I have never played golf. (in my life)
- It’s the last day of your holiday. You say: It’s been a really good holiday. I’ve really enjoyed it.

We use the past simple *(did)* for a *finished* time in the past. For example: yesterday / last week / from 2007 to 2010.

- It didn’t rain last week.
- Did you see Anna this morning? (it is now afternoon or evening)
- Did you see Tim on Sunday?
  - A: Was Lisa at the party on Sunday?
  - B: I don’t think so. I didn’t see her.
- We waited *(or were waiting)* for an hour. *(we are no longer waiting)*
- Jack lived in New York for ten years. Now he lives in Los Angeles.
- I didn’t play golf last summer.
- After you come back from holiday you say: It was a really good holiday. I really enjoyed it.

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**B**

**Present perfect** *(have done)*

- I’ve done a lot of work today.

We use the present perfect for a period of time that continues *until now*. For example: today / this week / since 2007.

- Unfinished
- Past
- Now
- Today

**Past simple** *(did)*

- I did a lot of work yesterday.

We use the past simple for a *finished* time in the past. For example: yesterday / last week / from 2007 to 2010.

- Unfinished
- Past
- Now
- Yesterday
Exercises

14.1 Are the underlined parts of these sentences right or wrong? Correct them where necessary.

1. I’ve lost my key. I can’t find it anywhere.  
   OK

2. Have you eaten a lot of sweets when you were a child?  
   Did you eat

3. I’ve bought a new car. You must come and see it.  

4. I’ve bought a new car last week.

5. Where have you been yesterday evening?

6. Lucy has left school in 1999.

7. I’m looking for Mike. Have you seen him?

8. ‘Have you been to Paris?’  ‘Yes, many times.’

9. I’m very hungry. I haven’t eaten much today.

10. When has this book been published?

14.2 Make sentences from the words in brackets. Use the present perfect or past simple.

1. (it / not / rain / this week)  
   It hasn’t rained this week.

2. (the weather / be / cold / recently)  
   The weather

3. (it / cold / last week)  
   It

4. (I / not / read / a newspaper yesterday)  
   I

5. (I / not / read / a newspaper today)

6. (Emily / earn / a lot of money / this year)

7. (she / not / earn / so much / last year)

8. (you / have / a holiday recently?)

14.3 Put the verb into the correct form, present perfect or past simple.

1. ‘What’s Madrid like?’   ‘I don’t know.  I haven’t been there.’

2. When (I / get) home last night, (I / be) very tired and (I / go) straight to bed.

3. a: (you / see) Lisa recently?  
   b: Yes, (I / saw) her a few days ago.

4. I’m tired. (I / not / sleep) well last night.

5. The bus drivers were on strike last week. (there / be) no buses.

6. Mr Lee (work) in a bank for 15 years. Then (he / give) it up. Now he works as a gardener.

7. Mary lives in Dublin. (she / live) there all her life.

8. a: (you / go) to the cinema last night?  
   b: Yes, but (it / be) a mistake. The film (be) awful.

9. My grandfather (die) before I was born. (I / never / meet) him.

10. I don’t know Karen’s husband. (I / never / meet) him.

11. It’s nearly lunchtime, and (I / not / see) Martin all morning.  
   I wonder where he is.

12. ‘Where do you live?’   ‘In Boston.’  
   ‘How long (you / live) there?’   ‘Five years.’

   ‘Where (you / live) before that?’   ‘In Chicago.’

   ‘And how long (you / live) in Chicago?’   ‘Two years.’

14.4 Write sentences about yourself using the ideas in brackets.

1. (something you haven’t done today)  
   I haven’t eaten any fruit today

2. (something you haven’t done today)

3. (something you didn’t do yesterday)

4. (something you did yesterday evening)

5. (something you haven’t done recently)

6. (something you’ve done a lot recently)
Past perfect (I had done)

Study this example situation:

Sarah went to a party last week. Paul went to the party too, but they didn’t see each other. Paul left the party at 10.30 and Sarah arrived at 11 o’clock. So:

When Sarah arrived at the party, Paul wasn’t there.

He had gone home.

Had gone is the past perfect (simple):

\[ \text{had} + \text{past participle (gone/seen/finished etc.)} \]

The past perfect simple is had + past participle (gone/seen/finished etc).

Sometimes we talk about something that happened in the past:

- Sarah arrived at the party.
- This is the starting point of the story. Then, if we want to talk about things that happened before this time, we use the past perfect (had ...):
  - When Sarah arrived at the party, Paul had already gone home.

Some more examples:

- When we got home last night, we found that somebody had broken into the flat.
- Karen didn’t want to go to the cinema with us because she’d already seen the movie.
- At first I thought I’d done the right thing, but I soon realised that I’d made a big mistake.
- The man sitting next to me on the plane was very nervous. He hadn’t flown before.
  or ... He had never flown before.

Compare the present perfect (have seen etc.) and the past perfect (had seen etc.):

Present perfect

- have seen

Past perfect

- had seen

Who is that woman? I’ve seen her before, but I can’t remember where.

We aren’t hungry. We’ve just had lunch.

The house is dirty. They haven’t cleaned it for weeks.

I wasn’t sure who she was. I’d seen her before, but I couldn’t remember where.

We weren’t hungry. We’d just had lunch.

The house was dirty. They hadn’t cleaned it for weeks.

Compare the past simple (left, was etc.) and the past perfect (had left, had been etc.):

- A: Was Tom there when you arrived?
  B: Yes, but he left soon afterwards.
- Kate wasn’t at home when I phoned. She was at her mother’s house.

- A: Was Tom there when you arrived?
  B: No, he had already left.
- Kate had just got home when I phoned. She had been at her mother’s house.

Past perfect continuous ➔ Unit 16 Irregular verbs (gone/seen etc.) ➔ Appendix 1
Exercises

15.1 Read the situations and write sentences from the words in brackets.

1 You went to Sue’s house, but she wasn’t there.
   (she / go / out) ____________________________
   She had gone out.

2 You went back to your home town after many years. It wasn’t the same as before.
   (it / change / a lot) ____________________________

3 I invited Rachel to the party, but she couldn’t come.
   (she / arrange / to do something else) ________________________________________________________

4 You went to the cinema last night. You got to the cinema late.
   (the film / already / start) ____________________________

5 It was nice to see Daniel again after such a long time.
   (I / not / see / him for five years) __________________________________________________________

6 I offered Sue something to eat, but she wasn’t hungry.
   (she / just / have / breakfast) ____________________________

15.2 For each situation, write a sentence ending with never ... before. Use the verb in brackets.

1 The man sitting next to you on the plane was very nervous. It was his first flight.
   (fly) He’d never flown before.

2 Somebody sang a song. I didn’t know it.
   (hear) I’d never heard it before.

3 Sam played tennis yesterday. He wasn’t very good at it because it was his first game.
   (play) He’d never played before.

4 Last year we went to Mexico. It was our first time there.
   (be there) We’d never been there before.

15.3 Use the sentences on the left to complete the paragraphs on the right. These sentences are in the order in which they happened – so (a) happened before (b), (b) before (c) etc. But your paragraph begins with the underlined sentence, so sometimes you need the past perfect.

1 (a) Somebody broke into the office during the night.
   (b) We arrived at work in the morning.   I found that somebody had broken into the office during the night. So (c) We called the police.

2 (a) Laura went out this morning.
   (b) I rang her doorbell.   I rang her doorbell, but there was no answer. (c) There was no answer.

3 (a) Jim came back from holiday a few days ago.
   (b) I met him the same day.   I met him the same day. (c) He looked very well.

4 (a) Kevin sent Sally lots of emails.
   (b) She never replied to them.   Yesterday Kevin sent Sally lots of emails, but she never replied to them. (c) Yesterday he got a phone call from her.

15.4 Put the verb into the correct form, past perfect (I had done) or past simple (I did).

1 ‘Was Paul at the party when you arrived?’ ‘No, he had gone home.’

2 I felt very tired when I got home, so I went straight to bed.

3 The house was very quiet when I got home. Everybody went straight to bed.

4 Sorry I’m late. The car broke down on my way here.

5 We were driving along the road when we saw a car which had broken down, so we stopped to help.