



Present Perfect Tense

1. The present perfect tense is created from the present tense of the verb "haber" and the past participle. The present perfect tense describes an action recently completed in the past. This tense translates as "to have done something." (i.e. I have eaten, you have seen, etc.)

2. The present tense of the verb "haber" is as follows.

Haber - to have

he	hemos
has	-----
ha	han

3. To form the past participle for regular verbs, do the following.

- 1) For "-ar" verbs, drop the "-ar" of the infinitive and add "**-ado.**"
- 2) For regular "-er" and "-ir" verbs, drop the "-er" or "-ir" of the infinitive and add "**-ido.**"

Examples.

-AR Verbs

verb	past participle	translation
hablar (to speak, talk)	hablado	spoken, talked
comenzar (to start, begin)	comenzado	started, begun

-ER and -IR Verbs

verb	past participle	translation
comer (to eat)	comido	eaten
subir (to climb)	subido	climbed

Examples.

I have talked with her.

Yo he hablado con ella.

We have eaten the hamburgers.

Nosotros hemos comido las hamburguesas.

Practice

a) Hector has prepared the food.

b) The students have listened to the music.

4. There are several common verbs that have irregular past participles.

5. These verbs, and their irregular past participles, must be memorized.

Verb	Translation	Past Participle
caer	to fall	caído (fallen)
creer	to believe	creído (believed)
leer	to read	leído (read)
oír	to hear	oído (heard)
traer	to bring	traído (brought)
abrir	to open	abierto (opened)
cubrir	to cover	cubierto (covered)
descubrir	to uncover	descubierto (uncovered)
escribir	to write	escrito (written)
morir	to die	muerto (died)
poner	to put, place	puesto (put, placed)
romper	to break	roto (broken)
ver	to see	visto (seen)
decir	to say, to tell	dicho (said, told)
hacer	to do, make	hecho (done, made)

Examples.

I have seen that movie.

Yo he visto aquella película.

Practice

a) Maria has opened the window.

b) We have heard the news.

6. When using a direct object pronoun, indirect object pronoun, or reflexive pronoun with this tense, it is placed before the conjugated form of "haber."

Examples.

I have seen it (the movie).

Yo la he visto.

Practice

a) My father has gone to bed. (reflexive verb)

b) Our friends (m.) have told us the truth. (indirect object pronoun)

c) My mother has written it. (the letter) (direct object pronoun)

Answer Key

3.

a) Hector ha preparado la comida.

b) Los estudiantes han escuchado la música.

5.

a) Maria ha abierto.

b) Nosotros hemos oído la noticia.

6.

a) Mi padre (papá) se ha acostado.

b) Nuestros amigos nos han dicho la verdad.

c) Mi madre (mamá) la ha escrito.