

Lesson Plan:

Present simple vs. present perfect

LEVEL	TIME	FOCUS	TOPIC
Intermediate (B1)	60 minutes	grammar, speaking, and writing	Using present simple and present perfect tenses

Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Differentiate between the Present Simple and Present Perfect tenses.
- Use both tenses accurately in speaking and writing.
- Identify signal words for each tense.

Materials

- Whiteboard or digital board
- Handouts (provided below)
- Audio or video (optional)
- Flashcards with time expressions

Lesson Procedure

1. Warm-Up (10 minutes)

Activity: Quick Interview

In pairs, students ask each other basic questions using Present Simple:

- "Where do you live?"
- "What do you do every day?"

Then switch to Present Perfect questions:

- "Have you ever traveled abroad?"
- "Have you finished your homework yet?"

Purpose: Activate prior knowledge and introduce contrast between tenses.

2. Presentation (15 minutes)

Explanation & Examples:

Write and explain the two tenses on the board:

Tense	Structure	Use	Signal Words
Present Simple	Subject + base verb	Habit, fact, routine	always, every day, usually
Present Perfect	have/has + past participle	Life experience, result now	already, yet, just, ever, never, since, for

Examples:

- Present Simple: "She works in a bank."
- Present Perfect: "She has worked in a bank for 10 years."

3. Practice (15 minutes)

Activity 1: Gap Fill

Give students a worksheet where they choose the correct tense: e.g.,

1. I (live / have lived) in Paris since 2023.
2. He (goes / has gone) to the gym every Monday.

Activity 2: Match the Signal Word

Match time expressions with the correct tense.

4. Production (15 minutes)

Activity: Find Someone Who... (Speaking Practice)

Students walk around asking Present Perfect questions:

- "Have you ever eaten sushi?"
- "Have you finished a book this week?"

Afterwards, they report using Present Simple:

- "Anna reads a lot. She finishes a book every week."

5. Wrap-Up & Homework (5 minutes)

Quick Recap Quiz: True or False questions on the board.

Homework: Write 5 sentences using Present Simple and 5 using Present Perfect (about yourself).