

Lesson Plan: Present perfect continuous tense

Level: Intermediate (B1/B2)

Time: 60 minutes

Objective:

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to understand and use the present perfect continuous tense to talk about actions that started in the past and are still continuing or have recently finished, with a focus on time expressions.

Materials:

- Whiteboard & markers
- Projector or computer (if available)
- Handouts with practice exercises
- Flashcards or images (optional)

Lesson Outline:

1. Warm-Up / Introduction (10 minutes)

Objective: Activate prior knowledge and introduce the topic.

Activity: Ask students to talk about ongoing actions or recent activities.

- Example questions:
 - "What are you doing right now?" (Present continuous)
 - "What have you been doing today?" (Present perfect continuous)

- **Discussion:** Explain briefly that the lesson will cover the present perfect continuous, and it is used to describe actions that started in the past and are still continuing or just finished.

2. Presentation of the Present Perfect Continuous (15 minutes)

Objective: Introduce the structure and use of the present perfect continuous.

1. Form:

- **Positive:**

Subject + has/have + been + verb-ing

Example: She **has been reading** for two hours.

- **Negative:**

Subject + has/have + not + been + verb-ing

Example: They **haven't been studying** for long.

- **Questions:**

Has/Have + subject + been + verb-ing?

Example: **Has** he **been working** all day?

2. Usage:

- We use the present perfect continuous for:

- **Actions that started in the past and continue to the present.**

Example: "I **have been waiting** for 30 minutes."

- **Actions that have recently finished but have an effect on the present.**

Example: "She **has been crying**."

- Use time expressions like:

- for, since, recently, all day/week, lately

3. Example sentences on the board:

- Write a few example sentences and underline the structure.
 - "I **have been studying** English for 3 years."

- "He **hasn't been feeling** well lately."
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3. Guided Practice (15 minutes)

Objective: Provide practice with immediate feedback.

1. Activity 1: Fill-in-the-Blanks

- Give students sentences with missing verbs and have them complete them using the correct form of the present perfect continuous.

- Examples:

"They _____ (wait) for an hour."

"I _____ (try) to call you all morning."

- After students complete the sentences, go over the answers together.

2. Activity 2: Sentence Correction

- Give students incorrect sentences, and have them correct them.

- Examples:

"She has studying English for 5 years."

"We have been not watching TV all day."

- Students correct the sentences individually, then share answers as a class.

4. Communicative Practice (10 minutes)

Objective: Let students use the tense in a more natural setting.

1. Activity 1: Pair Work – Personal Questions

- Have students work in pairs and ask each other questions using the present perfect continuous.

- Examples:

"What have you been doing this week?"

"How long have you been learning English?"

2. **Activity 2: Information Gap**

- Prepare a set of information gap exercises where each student has part of the information. They need to ask questions using the present perfect continuous to find out what their partner has been doing.

Example:

Student A: "Have you been exercising lately?"

Student B: "Yes, I've been jogging every morning."

5. **Review and Production (10 minutes)**

Objective: Review key points and give students a chance to produce language independently.

1. **Activity 1: Group Discussion**

- Have students work in small groups. Give them topics to discuss where they must use the present perfect continuous.
 - Example topics:
 - "What have you been doing this month?"
 - "How has your routine changed in the past year?"

6. **Wrap-Up and Homework (5 minutes)**

Objective: Summarize the lesson and assign a task for reinforcement.

1. **Summary:**

- Review the main points of the lesson: form, use, and time expressions.

2. **Homework:**

- Ask students to write a short paragraph (5-6 sentences) about what they have been doing lately or their routine this week. They should use the present perfect continuous as much as possible.

3. **End the lesson by answering any final questions.**

Assessment:

- Observe students' participation in guided and communicative activities.
- Evaluate their understanding through the fill-in-the-blanks and sentence correction exercises.
- Check for correct use of the tense in the pair and group discussions.