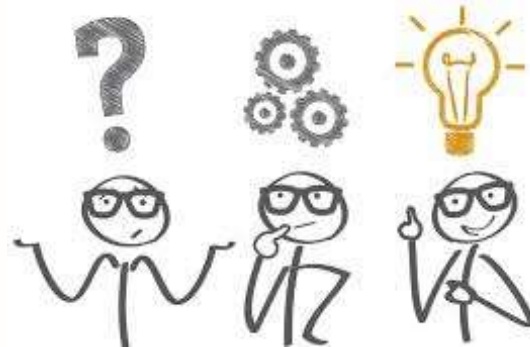


**Touchstone 3**  
**Unit 2-B**  
**Present Perfect vs. Simple Past**  
**A class by Mr. Jean Paul Quiñonez**





# Do you remember the present perfect?

- We have tried to travel to Lima several times.
- My family has bought a new car this year.
- Have you ever visited Machu Picchu?



Events referring to  
the indefinite past or  
a period of time  
until now



# Let's focus on the previous example



- Have you ever visited Machu Picchu?

No, I haven't. I have never been there.



Since the time you were born, you haven't visited Machu Picchu

That means that the situation remains the same for a period of time, generally since a person was born, or in other cases since the situation started to be like that.

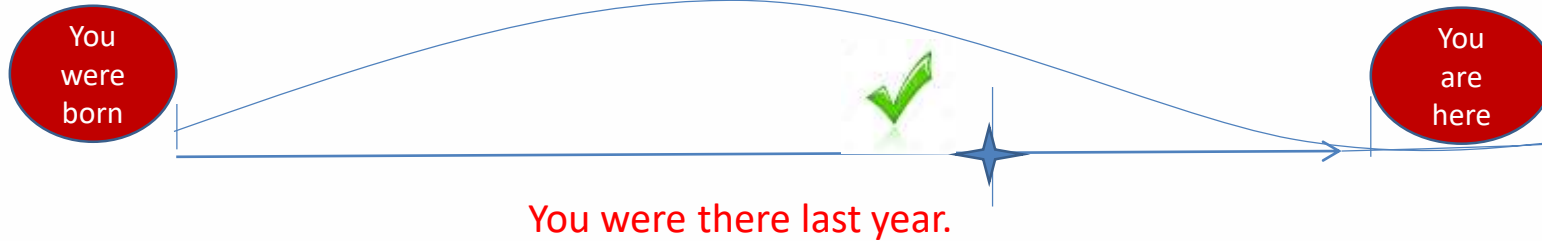


# However



- Have you ever visited Machu Picchu?

Yes, I have. I went with my family last year.



That means that the situation had a time reference and a specific moment in the past. So you have to refer to it using simple past.



# Talking about the past

- My father worked for Interbank **20 years ago**.
- You didn't like fruit **when you were a kid**.
- Life was easier **in the sixties**.
- Why did José leave the company **last year**?  
Because he has other job opportunities.

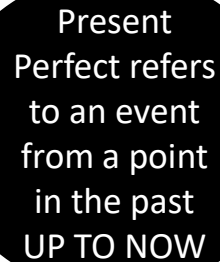


Simple past is  
used with a  
specific PAST  
TIME  
EXPRESSION



# Using the present perfect

- I have never danced Marinera.
- Has your mother ever cooked «Gaspacho» for you?  
No, she hasn't. She hasn't had the time.
- Peruvians have never surrendered on their purposes.
- Have you ever drunk «Tequila»?  
No, I haven't drunk any liquor.



Present  
Perfect refers  
to an event  
from a point  
in the past  
UP TO NOW



# Have you ever. . . ?

These question is used for getting information about something or someone you don't know.

- Have you ever written a poem?

No, I haven't. I don't know how to write poetry.

Yes, I have. I **wrote** a poem for my wife when I met her **in 2010**.

If the answer is positive, we have to use simple past for default to specify when that event took place.



## Some more examples

- Have you ever **traveled** to Europe?

Yes, I went there for a business meeting in 2000 .

- Has Tom's family ever come by for dinner?

No, they haven't. We have never had them home.

- Have your grandparents ever gone snorkeling?

Yes, they have. They went snorkeling when they visited the Mayan Riviera in 1998. They were young then.



*Thank  
you*



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