

Activity Type

Grammar Exercises: gap-fill, matching, rewriting sentences, answering questions

Focus

For and *since*

Aim

To identify and practice the use of *for* and *since* to express the duration of an unfinished action or event.

Preparation

Make one copy of the two-page worksheet for each student.

Level

Pre-intermediate (A2)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

In this *for* and *since* worksheet, students identify and practice the use of *for* and *since* to express the duration of an unfinished action or event.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the two-page worksheet.

Students start by writing *for* or *since* beside time expressions.

Exercise A - Answer key

For: 1, 2, 5, 8, 10, 13, 14, 17, 20

Since: 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 19

Next, students match *for* and *since* sentence halves together.

Exercise B - Answer key

1. e 2. f 3. d 4. a 5. b 6. c

Students then complete sentences with *for* or *since*.

Exercise C - Answer key

1. since	5. for
2. for	6. for
3. since	7. since
4. since	8. for

Students then move on to rewrite sentences, changing present perfect sentences with *for* to present perfect sentences with *since*, or vice-versa.

The answers will vary, depending on when the students do the worksheet.

In the last exercise, students answer questions using *for* or *since*.

When the students have finished, review their answers.

A. Write *for* or *since* next to each time expression.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. two hours | 11. Christmas |
| 2. a long time | 12. that day |
| 3. this morning | 13. six months |
| 4. nine o'clock | 14. five weeks |
| 5. one month | 15. July |
| 6. last night | 16. we got married |
| 7. 2001 | 17. 30 minutes a day |
| 8. half an hour | 18. my sister called |
| 9. I was a child | 19. yesterday |
| 10. 20 minutes | 20. a moment |

B. Match the *for* and *since* sentence halves together.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. I've lived in my | a. winter. |
| 2. I haven't seen my sister for | b. to the cinema since last month. |
| 3. I've studied English since I | c. for ten years. |
| 4. I've had this bag since last | d. was 7 years old. |
| 5. I haven't been | e. house since I was a child. |
| 6. I have worn glasses | f. two months. |

C. Complete the sentences with *for* or *since*.

- I haven't had an ice cream last summer.
- I've listened to rock music a long time.
- We've been busy this morning.
- I've drunk coffee I was a teenager.
- She has been in Paris two weeks.
- I've been working out an hour a day.
- I've loved you ever I met you.
- I haven't seen you ages.



D. Change the sentences from *for* to *since*, or vice-versa.

For example: I haven't eaten for one day. I haven't eaten since yesterday.

1. I've had this shirt since August.

.....

2. I haven't spoken to my father since last night.

.....

3. I've lived in my house for a year.

.....

4. I've played the piano since I was a child.

.....

5. I've studied English for two years.

.....

6. I've been awake since 8:00 a.m.

.....

7. I've watched this TV show for four years.

.....

8. I've had my car since January.

.....

E. Answer the questions using *for* or *since* in each response.

1. How long have you lived in your town or city?

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2. How long have you had your phone?

.....

3. How long have you studied English?

.....

4. How long have you known your best friend?

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