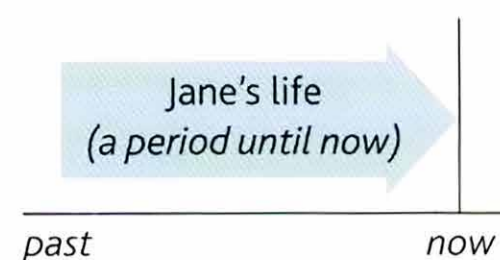# Present perfect 2 (I have done)

A Study this example conversation:

DAVE: **Have** you **travelled** a lot, Jane?
JANE: Yes, I**'ve been** to lots of places.
DAVE: Really? **Have** you ever **been** to China?
JANE: Yes, I**'ve been** to China twice.
DAVE: What about India?
JANE: No, I **haven't been** to India.

Jane's life
(a period until now)

past   now

When we talk about a period of time that continues from the past until now, we use the *present perfect* (**have been** / **have travelled** etc.). Here, Dave and Jane are talking about the places Jane has visited in her life, which is a period that continues until now.

Some more examples:
- ☐ **Have** you ever **eaten** caviar?
- ☐ We**'ve** never **had** a car.
- ☐ '**Have** you **read** *Hamlet?*' 'No, I **haven't read** any of Shakespeare's plays.'
- ☐ Susan really loves that film. She**'s seen** it eight times!
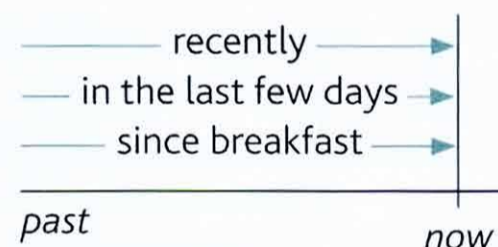- ☐ What a boring film! It's the most boring film I**'ve ever seen**.

Been (to) = visited:
- ☐ I**'ve** never **been to** China. Have you **been** there?

B In the following examples too, the speakers are talking about a period that continues until now (**recently / in the last few days / so far / since breakfast** etc.):
- ☐ **Have** you **heard** anything from Brian **recently**?
- ☐ I**'ve met** a lot of people **in the last few days**.
- ☐ Everything is going well. We **haven't had** any problems **so far**.
- ☐ I'm hungry. I **haven't eaten** anything **since breakfast**. (= from breakfast until now)
- ☐ It's good to see you again. We **haven't seen** each other **for a long time**.

recently
in the last few days
since breakfast

past   now

C In the same way we use the present perfect with **today / this evening / this year** etc. when these periods are not finished at the time of speaking (see also Unit 14B):
- ☐ I**'ve drunk** four cups of coffee **today**.
- ☐ **Have** you **had** a holiday **this year**?
- ☐ I **haven't seen** Tom **this morning**. **Have** you?
- ☐ Rob **hasn't worked** very hard **this term**.

today

past   now

D We say: It's the (first) time something **has happened**. For example:
- ☐ Don is having a driving lesson. It's his first one.
  It's the first time he **has driven** a car. (*not* drives)
or He **has never driven** a car **before**.

- ☐ Sarah has lost her passport again. This is the second time this **has happened**. (*not* happens)
- ☐ Bill is phoning his girlfriend again. That's the third time he**'s phoned** her **this evening**.

This is the first time
I've driven a car.

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