

Adapted from: Elementary Language Practice by Michael Vince

Explanations

- We often explain a present situation by saying what happened before it. We do not mention an exact time.

Why are you walking home?

I've broken my bike.

The past action (breaking the bike) has a result in the present (I'm walking home).

Why are you late?

I've lost my watch.

The past action (losing the watch) has a result in the present (I'm late).

- We use the present perfect when we talk about our experiences in the past and do not mention an exact time.

Regular verbs

I've lived in fifteen different countries.

Forming the present perfect: have/has + past participle

The film has started .

I've finished my homework.

Statements

With regular verbs, the past participle is the same as the past simple.

<i>I have started</i>	<i>he has started</i>	<i>we have started</i>
<i>I've started</i>	<i>he's started</i>	<i>we've started</i>
<i>you have started</i>	<i>she has started</i>	<i>they have started</i>
<i>you've started</i>	<i>she's started</i>	<i>they've started</i>
	<i>it has started</i>	
	<i>it's started</i>	

Irregular verbs

Each irregular verb has its own past participle. Sometimes the participle is the same as the past simple, sometimes it has a different form.

<u>Verb</u>	<u>Past simple</u>	<u>Past participle</u>
<i>eat</i>	<i>ate</i>	<i>eaten</i>
<i>leave</i>	<i>left</i>	<i>left</i>
<i>drink</i>	<i>drank</i>	<i>drunk</i>