

Unit 10, Exercise 3

Practising the simple past and present perfect

1 Write down all the signal words you know.

signal words for the simple past	signal words for the present perfect

2 Which of the two sentence is correct?

- 1 **A** I haven't seen the boss since yesterday. Is she ill?
B I didn't see the boss since yesterday. Is she ill?
- 2 **A** Five customers complained about the quality of the chairs so far.
B Five customers have complained about the quality of the chairs so far.
- 3 **A** There was a fire alarm in the store last night. Is everything okay?
B There has been a fire alarm in the store last night. Is everything okay?
- 4 **A** I have just replaced the damaged goods. All products are impeccable now.
B I just replaced the damaged goods. All products are impeccable now.

3 Choose the correct tense and fill in the gaps. **[[Bitte Wörter in Klammern kursiv]]**

- 1 I _____ (*throw away*) all goods that were past the use-by date yesterday.
- 2 So far 2,000 customers _____ (*cash in*) a voucher this year.
- 3 The new tennis shoes _____ (*be*) out of stock for a month now.
- 4 Paul _____ (*complain about*) the heat in the store two days ago.
- 5 A lot of customers _____ (*already look*) for a different store.
- 6 Veronica _____ (*apologize*) to the customer for being unfriendly.
- 7 I _____ (*call*) the police after I had caught the thief.

4 Find a classmate to work with. Fold the worksheet down the middle. Partner A completes the first five sentences and partner B checks if the answers are correct. Then it is partner B's turn and partner A will correct the answers.

Partner A	Partner B
Last week a very unfriendly customer _____ (<i>come</i>) into my shop.	Last week a very unfriendly customer <i>came</i> into my shop.
He _____ (<i>complain</i>) about something he had bought in my shop – an espresso machine.	He <i>complained</i> about something he had bought in my shop – an espresso machine.
This week, he _____ (<i>try</i>) several times to make it work – but without success.	This week, he <i>has tried</i> several times to make it work – but without success.
His wife _____ (<i>tell</i>) him to return it, but he kept trying.	His wife <i>told</i> him to return it, but he kept trying.
A couple of days later a part _____ (<i>come</i>) off.	A couple of days later a part <i>came off</i> .
I <i>told</i> him that I was very sorry about his problem.	I _____ (<i>tell</i>) told him that I was very sorry about his problem.
But I <i>had</i> to tell him that since he destroyed the machine, we cannot check whether it was working in the first place.	But I _____ (<i>have</i>) to tell him that since he destroyed the machine, we cannot check whether it was working in the first place.
He <i>got</i> angry.	He _____ (<i>get</i>) angry.
He <i>has never had</i> any problems returning goods before.	He _____ (<i>never, have</i>) any problems returning goods before.
He <i>tried</i> to give it back yesterday – without luck.	He _____ (<i>try</i>) to give it back yesterday – without luck.

Lösungen

1

signal words for the simple past: ... ago, last ..., yesterday, in ...

signal words for the present perfect: for, since, already, never, ever, so far, yet, just

2

1 A

2 B

3 A

4 A

3

1 threw away

2 have cashed in

3 have been

4 complained about

5 have already looked

6 apologized

7 called