

-ing form as noun

We sometimes use the *-ing* form of a verb as the subject of a sentence.

Parking is really difficult in Madrid.

We use singular verbs with *-ing* verb subjects.

Flying is expensive.

Present Perfect

We form the Present Perfect with *has/have* + the past participle, e.g. *been*.

I/You/We/They	He/She/It
+ 've (have) + past participle	's (has) + past participle
- haven't (have not) + past participle	hasn't (has not) + past participle
? Have + I/we/you/they + past participle	Has + he/she/it + past participle
Yes, I/we/you/they have.	Yes, he/she/it has.
No, I/we/you/they haven't.	No, he/she/it hasn't.

Have you been to New Zealand?

I've climbed a mountain but I haven't run a marathon.

She's flown in a hot-air balloon.

We usually use the contracted forms, but in formal writing we use the full forms.

The past participle of regular verbs is the same as the regular Past Simple form.

Infinitive	Past Simple	Past participle
<i>play</i>	<i>played</i>	<i>played</i>
<i>arrive</i>	<i>arrived</i>	<i>arrived</i>

But there are a lot of irregular past participles. Some of them are the same as the Past Simple form.

Infinitive	Past Simple	Past participle
<i>buy</i>	<i>bought</i>	<i>bought</i>
<i>have</i>	<i>had</i>	<i>had</i>

But many of them are different from the Past Simple form.

Infinitive	Past Simple	Past participle
<i>see</i>	<i>saw</i>	<i>seen</i>
<i>take</i>	<i>took</i>	<i>taken</i>

Note that the past participle *been* is the past participle of both *be* and *go*.

It's a nice day. → It's been a nice day.

I go shopping on Saturdays. → I haven't been shopping this week.

For more irregular verbs, look at page 149.

We use the Present Perfect to talk about actions and experiences in the past when:

- we are talking about any time up to now.

Have you been to Cuba?

- we don't say a definite time.

We've met the President.

We don't use the Present Perfect with a specific past time. We use the Past Simple.

I didn't have a holiday last year.

We saw her yesterday.

We use the Present Perfect to talk about a past experience for the first time.

We've been to Florida ...

But when we give more information, we use the Past Simple.

We went to Miami two years ago.

Key vocabulary

Travel and transport

Travel

commuting crowded cycling
departure destination journey
one-way/return ticket passenger
rollerblading rush hour traffic

Road

bicycle bus car to drive
(electric) tram garage motorbike
to park taxi

Rail

book a ticket direct
first class/standard class platform
station ticket (high speed) train
underground train (metro)

Water

boat jet ski water bus

Air

aircraft airport (long-haul) flight
plane

Activities

bullfight bungee jumping circus
crossing (the desert) flying
go on a camel/cruise hiking
horse-riding hot-air balloon
ice-skating (rock/mountain) climbing
rock concert rowing sailing
skateboarding walking



Listen to these words.

ACTIVE BOOK



see Writing bank page 144