



First Reading and Use of English Part 4 – Key word transformation: Time expressions

Teacher's notes and answer key

Ready for Use of English worksheets focus on particular areas of vocabulary and grammar that may be tested in the Cambridge First examination. They provide extension and/or extra practice of areas covered in the *Ready for First Certificate Coursebook*. They are designed to be used in class or as homework.

Grammar: Time expressions with the present perfect

1

- a. ever/just
- b. yet
- c. since
- d. just/already
- e. still
- f. for
- g. never
- h. already
- i. always

2

- a. for
- b. since
- c. just
- d. ever
- e. never/always
- f. still
- g. yet
- h. already

3

- a. I don't think I've **ever** thanked you for all your help.
- b. Peter's **just** lost his watch. He's outside looking for it.
- c. Sally hasn't passed her driving test **yet**. But she's only eighteen, so there's plenty of time.
- d. Don't worry about booking seats. I've **already** done it.
- e. Richard **still** hasn't returned my call, you know. I rang him yesterday. If he doesn't call soon, then our relationship is over.

What to expect in the exam

1. haven't seen Tim for
2. haven't phoned Jill yet
3. first time I've eaten
4. have already finished
5. last time I was home
6. has just fallen



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Grammar: Time expressions with the present perfect

1 Complete the sentences with a time expression from the box.

for	yet	still	never	already
just	since	ever	always	

- Have you _____ been to Canada?
- I'm afraid I haven't done my homework _____.
- I've worked for MKG _____ 1998.
- Will has _____ told me the news. Congratulations!
- I _____ haven't heard from Jo. I hope she's all right.
- Detectives have been investigating the murder _____ six weeks.
- You've _____ given me any encouragement. I've had to do it all myself.
- Just don't worry. I've _____ texted her. She knows we're coming.
- I've _____ wondered what happened to Peter. Perhaps we'll find out one day.

2 Match the time expressions from exercise 1 to the rules below.

- It is followed by a period of time (for example, five minutes, ten years). _____
- It is followed by a point in time (for example, 1987, five o'clock). _____
- It means very recently and usually goes between *have* and the past participle. _____
- It is often used in questions and means *at any time*. _____
- These words usually go between *have* and the past participle. They mean *at no time* and *all the time*. _____
- This word means *I expected this to happen before now, but it hasn't*. _____
- This word means *This hasn't happened before now, but I expect it will*. _____
- This word means *This has happened, sooner than expected*. _____

3 Insert the time expression in the correct place in the sentence.

Example:

for

I've been here ten minutes.

I've been here for ten minutes.

a. ever

I don't think I've thanked you for all your help.

b. just

Peter's lost his watch. He's outside looking for it.



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c. yet

Sally hasn't passed her driving test. But she's only eighteen, so there's plenty of time.

d. already

Don't worry about booking seats. I've done it.

e. still

Richard hasn't returned my call, you know. I rang him yesterday. If he doesn't call soon, then our relationship is over.

What to expect in the exam

Part 4 of the Reading and Use of English Paper focuses on sentence completion. This is an area of the exam where uses of the present perfect and time expressions might be checked. Try the example of Part 4 of the exam below.

Part 4

For questions 1–6, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between two and five words, including the word given. Here is an example (0).

Example:

0 I've been waiting here for two hours.

SINCE

I've *been waiting here since* three o'clock.

1 The last time I saw Tim was four years ago.

FOR

I _____ four years.

2 So far I haven't phoned Jill.

YET

I _____.

3 I haven't eaten Mexican food before.

TIME

This is the _____ Mexican food.

4 It would seem that he has finished earlier than expected.

ALREADY

He appears to _____.

5 I haven't been home since Christmas.

LAST

The _____ was Christmas.

6 The baby fell asleep two minutes ago.

JUST

The baby _____ asleep.