

# Present Perfect Verbs (Part 1)

Intermediate English, Week 4, Spring 2021

# Present perfect verbs

- The *present perfect* is used in a few different ways
- It is a present tense verb, but we can use it to talk about the present and the past
- Today, we'll talk about one use – to discuss **something that started in the past that continues now**

# How to make the present perfect

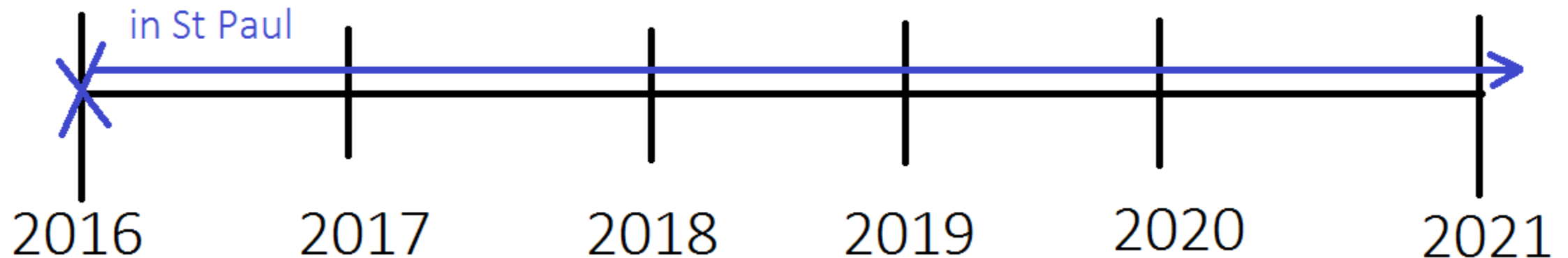
- A present perfect verb has two parts: **have/has + past participle**
- The past participle is a verb form. Sometimes it is the same as the simple past, but sometimes it is completely different
  - I **have played** basketball for three years.
  - She **has spoken** Korean since she was a child.
- If the past tense is regular (-ed), the past participle will also use –ed
  - We **have visited** our grandparents every summer.
- For irregular verbs, there is no rule
  - You **have eaten** the same meal for lunch.

# For and Since

- Remember – the present perfect is for something that started in the past but is still happening now
- We often use it with the words *for* and *since*
- Use *for* to say the duration – **how long** you have been doing that thing
  - I **have lived** in Minnesota **for** ten years.
  - She **has studied** English **for** nine months.
- *Since* tells us when you started doing it
  - He **has worked** here **since** August.
  - They **have had** a dog **since** 2018.

I have lived in St Paul **since** 2016. (*point in time*)

I have lived in St Paul **for** five years. (*duration*)



# Be careful!

- Don't use the present perfect for something that is completely finished in the past. Use the past simple
  - ~~Yesterday they have watched a movie.~~ Yesterday they **watched** a movie.
- Remember, you need two words – have/has + past participle
  - ~~I have this job since 2019.~~ I **have had** this job since 2019.
- The past participle is not always the same as the past tense
  - ~~I have wrote letters to him for a year.~~ I **have written** letters to him for a year.
- Use *for* with a length of time. Use *since* with a point in time
  - ~~We have lived here since five years.~~ We have lived here **for** five years.

Let's practice! Add the verbs and answer the questions

1. I have lived (live) in Minnesota since \_\_\_\_\_.
2. I have gone (go) to class at Neighborhood House for \_\_\_\_\_.
3. We have had (have) online class since \_\_\_\_\_.
4. I have studied (study) English for \_\_\_\_\_.