Children should be taught to use of the present perfect form of verbs instead of the simple past (for example, He has gone out to play contrasted with He went out to play)

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Dear diary,

Today has been one of the busiest days ever in Fairy Tale Town. My friend, the farmer, has hurt his back because he pulled a giant turnip out of the ground. The three bears have been angry since Goldilocks ate their porridge. The Mad Hatter has lost his clock but arrived at the tea party on time. The three pigs have made a house from bricks because the wolf blew their other houses down. The billy goats have felt happy because the ogre moved bridges. Little Red has got a new cloak because the wolf ripped the last one. The fox has slept since he ate the gingerbread man this morning, and I have got a new magical harp since I climbed the giant beanstalk.

Jack

Simple Past Tense is used for activities or events that started and finished in the past.

I went there yesterday.
He made a cake last week.
My mum got a new job so we moved house.

Present Perfect Tense is used for activities that started in the past but are still true now, or have an effect on what is happening now.

We haven’t been there yet.
He has taken the cow to market.
He has lived here for many years.
Humpty Dumpty’s Sentence Challenge
Year 3 Grammar: Present Perfect Tense

Stop Humpty Dumpty from falling off the wall by selecting the sentence with the correct verb form. Place a tick in the box by the correct sentence in each pair.

1. I went to the zoo yesterday.   □
   I have been to the zoo yesterday. □

2. When you have eaten your dinner, you can go out and play. □
   When you ate your dinner, you can go and play. □

3. Humpty Dumpty has broken into lots pieces when he fell. □
   Humpty Dumpty broke into lots of pieces when he fell. □

4. Wait for me! I haven’t tied my shoelaces yet! □
   Wait for me! I didn’t tie my shoelaces yet! □

5. Humpty Dumpty has been there since yesterday. □
   Humpty Dumpty been there since yesterday. □

6. When you completed the work, you can play with your toys. □
   When you have completed the work, you can play with your toys. □
Challenge: Write a simple past tense sentence and a present perfect tense sentence about the picture below

Simple Past Tense:  

Present Perfect Tense:  

Puss in Boots’ Auxiliary Verbs
Year 3 Grammar: Present Perfect Tense

Puss in Boots has set you a challenge. You must choose the correct form of the auxiliary verb ‘to have’ to complete these present perfect tense sentences. When making the present perfect tense of verbs, you use the auxiliary verb ‘to have’ before the main verb.

- Use ‘have’ when writing about: I, you, we, they
- Use ‘has’ when writing about: he, she, it

1. The miller _______ lived in town for many years.

2. The eldest son _______ been left a mill in the miller’s will.

3. “I _______ been left with a cat,” said the youngest son.

4. We _______ received gifts from our father.

5. Unfortunately, the cat _______ been poorly.

6. You _______ brought me some boots and a bag.

7. “What _______ happened?” asked the middle son.

8. They _______ caught a rabbit.

9. Puss in Boots _______ used his cunning to help his master.


11. Fortunately, it _______ been a great day for the youngest son.

12. “You _______ helped me so much,” the youngest son said to Puss in Boots.
Troll’s Present Perfect Sentences

Year 3 Grammar: Present Perfect Tense

Whilst the Troll is sat under his bridge waiting for the Billy Goats to cross above, he likes to complete puzzles. However, he is struggling to change the verbs in these sentences to their present perfect form. For example:

He (live) under the bridge for a long time.
He has lived under the bridge for a long time.

1. It’s time to line up! The bell (ring) already!

2. We (finish) the work so now we can play.

3. Who (eat) all the chocolates?

4. The pigs (make) a house out of strong bricks.

5. Little Bear is cross because somebody (break) his chair.

6. Grandma (catch) a cold and is poorly in bed.

7. The fox (trick) the gingerbread man and now he’s in danger.

8. Jack (climb) the beanstalk several times before.
Fairy Tale Present Perfect Story
Year 3 Grammar: Present Perfect Tense

Now it’s time to write your own Present Perfect Tense sentences. Write a story (or a number of separate sentences) about the characters in ‘Fairy Tale Town’ using the picture below. You must include **present perfect tense** verbs (have been, has hurt, has made, have called, etc.). Underline the present perfect tense you use in a coloured pencil.
A Parent’s Guide to the Present Perfect Tense

In the Year 3 National Curriculum for English, children are taught to identify and use the present perfect tense in addition to the simple past tense when completing written tasks. Please use the information below to help support your child’s understanding of the present perfect tense.

Simple Past Tense

The simple past tense is the basic form of the past tense in English. It is mostly formed by adding the suffix -ed to the end of verbs, such as: walked, talked, called, sailed, etc.

Irregular past tense verbs are ones with different forms in the simple past tense, such as: eat = ate, go = went, buy = bought, teach = taught, etc.

Present Perfect Tense

The present perfect tense is formed when you use the auxiliary verb ‘to have’ with the past participle of a verb. For example:

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<td>go</td>
<td>has/have been</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bring</td>
<td>has/have brought</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>finish</td>
<td>has/have finished</td>
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Auxiliary Verbs

Auxiliary verbs are ‘helping verbs’ because they help to make different tenses. For the present perfect tense, we use the auxiliary verb ‘to have’.

- Use ‘have’ when writing about: I, you, we, they.
- Use ‘has’ when writing about: he, she, it.
Dear diary,

Today has been one of the busiest days ever in Fairy Tale Town. My friend, the farmer, has hurt his back because he pulled a giant turnip out of the ground. The three bears have been angry since Goldilocks ate their porridge. The Mad Hatter has lost his clock but arrived at the tea party on time. The three pigs have made a house from bricks because the wolf blew their other houses down. The billy goats have felt happy because the ogre moved bridges. Little Red has got a new cloak because the wolf ripped the last one. The fox has slept since he ate the gingerbread man this morning, and I have got a new magical harp since I climbed the giant beanstalk.

Jack

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1. I went to the zoo yesterday.
   - I have been to the zoo yesterday.
2. When you have eaten your dinner, you can go out and play.
   - When you ate your dinner, you can go and play.
3. Humpty Dumpty has broken into lots pieces when he fell.
   - Humpty Dumpty broke into lots of pieces when he fell.
4. Wait for me! I haven’t tied my shoelaces yet!
   - Wait for me! I didn’t tie my shoelaces yet!
5. Humpty Dumpty has been there since yesterday.
   - Humpty Dumpty been there since yesterday.
6. When you completed the work, you can play with your toys.
   - When you have completed the work, you can play with your toys.
Year 3 Grammar: Present Perfect Tense Answers

page 4. Humpty Dumpty’s Sentence Challenge.

Challenge: Write a simple past tense sentence and a present perfect tense sentence about the picture below.

Simple past tense: Humpty Dumpty fell off the wall.
Present perfect tense: Humpty Dumpty has hurt himself.

page 5. Puss in Boots’ Auxiliary Verbs.

1. The miller has lived in town for many years.

2. The eldest son has been left a mill in the miller’s will.

3. “I have been left with a cat,” said the youngest son.

4. We have received gifts from our father.

5. Unfortunately, the cat has been poorly.

6. You have brought me some boots and a bag.

7. “What has happened?” asked the middle son.

8. They have caught a rabbit.

9. Puss in Boots has used his cunning to help his master.

10. “The ogre has changed into a mouse!” exclaimed Puss in Boots.

11. Fortunately, it has been a great day for the youngest son.

12. “You have helped me so much,” the youngest son said to Puss in Boots.
Year 3 Grammar: Present Perfect Tense Answers

page 6. Troll’s Present Perfect Sentences.

1. It’s time to line up! The bell (ring) already!
   It’s time to line up! The bell has rung already!

2. We (finish) the work so now we can play.
   We have finished the work so now we can play.

3. Who (eat) all the chocolates?
   Who has eaten all the chocolates?

4. The pigs (make) a house out of strong bricks.
   The pigs have made a house out of strong bricks.

5. Little Bear is cross because somebody (break) his chair.
   Little Bear is cross because somebody has broken his chair.

6. Grandma (catch) a cold and is poorly in bed.
   Grandma has caught a cold and is poorly in bed.

7. The fox (trick) the gingerbread man and now he’s in danger.
   The fox has tricked the gingerbread man and now he’s in danger.

8. Jack (climb) the beanstalk several times before.
   Jack has climbed the beanstalk several times before.