

# How long...

60 mini-dialogues to practice present perfect continuous

**The card says...**

use Instagram

be interested in fashion

**Dialogue**

**A:** Do you use Instagram?

**B:** Yes, I do

**A:** How long have you been using it?

**B:** I've been using it for about 3 years.

**A:** Are you interested in fashion?

**B:** No, I'm not.

**A:** Never mind.

do your job

go to English lessons

live in your home\*

watch sports on TV

use Instagram

know your English teacher\*

**1**

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use your favourite social network

know your best friend\*

have a wallet or purse

have the shoes you are wearing now\*

try to learn English

be interested in fashion

**2**

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have a car

be able to boil an egg

sit in this seat

be able to drive

listen to pop music

watch films on the internet

**3**

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learn English

be able to ride a bicycle

be awake today

have a phone

drink coffee regularly

know how to use a computer

**4**

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use WhatsApp

go to a beauty salon

use Skype

go to a health clinic

be interested in football

be able to swim

**5**

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listen to classical music

listen to rap

watch funny videos on YouTube

play a musical instrument

pay tax

do sports

**6**

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listen to hip-hop  
 go to the gym regularly  
 support a football team  
 have a watch  
 go to English lessons  
 read the book you are reading now

7

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be interested in history  
 have the coat you are wearing today  
 know about how babies are made  
 know the truth about Santa Claus  
 go to the dentist regularly  
 do fitness

8

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do dance  
 be trying to get fitter  
 live in your town/city\*  
 watch American TV shows  
 go to school  
 play computer games

9

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know the person sitting next to you\*  
 be able to count to 10 in English  
 have an Instagram account  
 wear earrings  
 live in your district\*  
 have a passport

10

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\* When there is a star, you don't need to ask the first question. You start with the "How long..." question.

Remember - If it's an **active verb**, use present perfect continuous. If it's a **state**, use present perfect. You can answer with for, since or all.

Active verbs		State verbs
How long <b>have</b> you <b>been waiting</b> ?	<b>how long</b>	How long <b>have</b> you <b>had</b> your watch?
How long <b>have</b> you <b>been learning</b> English?	<b>how long</b>	How long <b>have</b> you <b>known</b> about it?
<b>I've been driving</b> for more than 20 years.	<b>for</b>	We've <b>known</b> each other for 30 years.
<b>It's been snowing</b> for three hours.	<b>for</b>	They've <b>been</b> married for 62 years.
<b>I've been cooking</b> since I got home.	<b>since</b>	<b>I've believed</b> in God since I was young.
<b>I've been working</b> there since I left school.	<b>since</b>	<b>I've had</b> this car since I was 18.
You've <b>been lying</b> on the sofa all day!	<b>all</b>	<b>I've been</b> ill all week.
<b>I've been looking</b> for my keys all morning.	<b>all</b>	We've <b>known</b> each other all our lives.
<b>I've been forgetting</b> everything recently.	<b>recently</b>	<b>I've had</b> a lot of headaches recently.

# Answers

1	How long have you been doing your job?
	How long have you been going to English lessons?
	How long have you been living in your home?
	How long have you been watching sports on TV?
	How long have you been using Instagram?
	How long have you known your boss?
2	How long have you been using your favourite social network?
	How long have you known your best friend?
	How long have you had your wallet or purse?
	How long have you had the shoes your wearing now?
	How long have you been trying to learn English?
	How long have you been interested in fashion?
3	How long have you had your car?
	How long have you been able to boil an egg?
	How long have you been sitting in this seat?
	How long have you been able to drive?
	How long have you been listening to pop music?
	How long have you been watching films on the internet?
4	How long have you been learning English?
	How long have you been able to ride a bicycle?
	How long have you been awake today?
	How long have you had your phone?
	How long have you been drinking coffee regularly?
	How long have you known how to use a computer?
5	How long have you been using WhatsApp?
	How long have you been going to your current beauty salon?
	How long have you been using Skype?
	How long have you been going to your health clinic?
	How long have you been interested in football?
	How long have you been able to swim?
6	How long have you been listening to classical music?
	How long have you been listening to rap?
	How long have you been watching funny videos on Youtube?
	How long have you been playing a musical instrument?
	How long have you been paying tax?
	How long have you been doing sports?

7	How long have you been listening to hip-hop?
	How long have you been going to the gym regularly?
	How long have you been supporting your football team?
	How long have you had your watch?
	How long have you been going to English lessons?
	How long have you been reading the book you are reading now?
8	How long have you been interested in history?
	How long have you had the coat you are wearing today?
	How long have you known how babies are made?
	How long have you known the truth about Santa Claus?
	How long have you been going to your dentist?
	How long have you been doing fitness?
9	How long have you been doing dance?
	How long have you been trying to get fitter?
	How long have you lived in your town/city?
	How long have you been watching American TV shows?
	How long have you been going to school?
	How long have you been playing computer games?
10	How long have you known the person sitting next to you?
	How long have you been able to count to 10 in English?
	How long have you had an Instagram account?
	How long have you been wearing earrings?
	How long have you lived in your district?
	How long have you had a passport?