Present Perfect with “For / Since”

I have lived in Canada for 3 years.
I have lived in Canada since 2012.
She has studied with me for 3 months.
She has studied with me since October.

Why do we use “For / Since” [FUNCTION]
- to measure time (usually with the present perfect sentences)
- to show how long the action (that is not finished) has happened

How do we use “For / Since” [FORM]

[ Subject + have/has + past participle + for/since ]
I have lived here for ten years.
He has worked there for three months.

I have lived here since 1996.
He has worked there since October.

Quick Grammar Exercise
Put either for or since into the following sentences.

[1] I have lived in LG Metro City Apartments since 2006.
[2] He has been in my class 2 years.
[3] They have owned that restaurant I was 10 years old.
[4] We have played soccer on Sunday morning June.
[5] My brother has been stronger than me 3 years.
[6] She has been here 8am this morning.
[7] American soldiers have been in Korea 1950.
[8] Christmas has been celebrated 700 years.
Change It

If the sentence uses “for” change it to “since” and finish the sentence. If the sentence uses “since” change it to “for” and finish the sentence.

[1] I’ve lived in Busan for 6 years.
   → I’ve lived in Busan since 2009.

[2] He’s played soccer since he was 5. (He is 15 years old now.)
   → He’s played soccer for 10 years.


[4] We’ve played Minecraft for 3 hours today.

[5] You’ve sat in that seat since Tuesday.

[6] His mom has driven us to school every day for 3 days.

[7] I’ve gone jogging every morning since March.

[8] I have boiled this pasta for 20 minutes.

[9] He hasn’t seen his family for 10 years.

[10] It has smelt bad in this room for one hour.


[12] We haven’t played computer games for 2 weeks.

Many Questions

Ask your partner some of the following questions. Make sure you answer using both “for” and “since” to communicate the same information with each.

[1] How long have you lived in Busan?
   → I have lived in Busan for my whole life.
   → I’ve lived in Busan since 1998.

[2] How long have you had your hairstyle?

[3] How long have you swum for?

[4] How long has your family had your car.

[5] How long have we studied the lesson for?

[6] How long has your brother/sister gone to their school?

[7] How long has your dog/cat been with your family?

[8] How long have you studied...

[9] How long have you worn...

[10] How long have you been...

Ask your classmates about their hobbies. Ask them how long they have done them.
If you don’t have any hobbies you can pretend that you have some.

- play candy crush
- paint pictures
- write stories
- grow plants (garden)
- build models
- write a diary
- play guitar/piano/etc.
- practice Tae-Kwon-Doe
- dance ballet/jazz
- cook new foods
- take photos
- make a blog website
- try new restaurants
- surf the internet
- read comic books
- read novels
- use Facebook
- make jewelry
- volunteer your time
- collect coins/cards
- play X-box

Example

[A] How long have you __painted pictures__?
[B] I have painted pictures for 10 years. My mom taught me when I was young.

[A] How long have you __had your You Tube Channel__?
[B] I have had my YouTube Channel since July. It just started to get popular.
What I Usually Use

Talk about the things that you usually use every day. Talk about how long you have used those things for by using the present perfect with for or since.

   - How long have you had your phone? I've had it since 2013.

[2] How do you get to school/work?
   - How long have you used that kind of transportation?

[3] Are you single or in a relationship (boyfriend or girlfriend)?
   - How long have you been together/single?

[4] How do you get your exercise?
   - How long have you been doing that?

[5] What is your favorite app to chat with friends?
   - How long have you used that app?


A Great Introduction

Prepare an introduction for yourself. Make sure you use present perfect and “for/since” to help you.

[A] Talk about these things in your introduction.
   - Your family
   - Your pets
   - Your school
   - Your home
   - Your hobbies
   - Your skills

[B] With a partner give your introduction to each other.
   - Remember what your partner tells you about themselves.
   - Take some quick notes if you need to.

[C] Tell a the class about your partner.
   - Introduce them to the class.
   - Make sure you don’t forget any information.

[ Subject + have/has + past participle + for/since ]
Homework

[1] Fill in the blanks in the sentences with either "for" or "since"

[1] I haven't seen my uncle __since__ last Christmas.
[2] We have been in the same class ________ 2 years.
[4] He has been my teacher ________ May.
[5] They have studied web design ________ 3 months.
[6] Facebook has been popular ________ 5 years.
[7] I have had my iPhone ____________ February 14'th.
[8] My city has had a subway system ________ 3 decades.
[10] That song has been #1 on the charts ________ 3 weeks.


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[1] How long have you ____used____ your smart phone?
[2] How long has your mom ___________ that car?
[3] How long has he ______________ President of America?
[4] How long have they _____________ English at this school?
[5] How long have you ______________ Candy Crush Saga phone game?
[6] How long has your little sister _________ her money for a new bike?
[7] How long have you ______________ me?
[8] How long have you ______________ your pet dog?
[9] How long has he ______________ Taekwondo (martial art)?
[10] How long have we _____________ together at this job?

Writing Assignment:
Write a paragraph explaining what your three favorite hobbies or free time activities are. Make sure you explain how long you have done them for, why you started, and why you like them so much.
PRESENTATION:
[1] -Introduce the idea that we use the present perfect to talk about actions that start in the past and continue to today and will likely keep going into the future. (ex. I have been married...)
-Also show that "for" and "since" both measure the length of time the action has happened. They both communicate the same information really but "since" starts with a past moment (since 2009) whereas "for" will count units of time backward from the present (for 6 years).
-Review the units of time you can use with "for" (second, minute, year, day, week, month, year, decade, century, millennium)

ANSWERS:
[1] I have lived in LG Metro City Apartments ___since___ 2006.
[2] He has been in my class ___for___ 2 years.
[3] They have owned that restaurant ___since___ I was 10 years old.
[4] We have played soccer on Sunday morning ___since___ June.
[5] My brother has been stronger than me ___for___ 3 years.
[6] She has been here ___since___ 8am this morning.
[7] American soldiers have been in Korea ___since___ 1950.
[8] Christmas has been celebrated ___for___ 700 years.

PRACTICE:
[1] -have s/s in pairs or small groups using "Change It" activity.
-s/s should speak first then write their answer, if examples uses for then change to since and if the example uses since then change to for.

ANSWERS:  
[1] I’ve lived in Busan ___for___ 6 years. → I’ve lived in Busan ___since___ 2009.
[2] He’s played soccer ___since___ he was 5. → He’s played soccer ___for___ 10 years.
[3] They’ve lived in Canada ___since___ June. → They’ve lived in Canada ___for___ months.
[4] We’ve played Minecraft ___for___ 3 hours today. → We’ve played Minecraft ___since___ a time.
[5] You’ve sat in that seat ___since___ Tuesday. → You’ve sat in that seat ___for___ days.
[6] His mom has driven us to school every day ___for___ 3 days. → .... ___since___ weekday___
[7] I’ve gone jogging every morning ___since___ March. → ... ___for___ months.
[8] I have boiled this pasta ___for___ 20 minutes. → ... ___since___ a time___.
[9] He hasn’t seen his family ___for___ 10 years. → ... ___since___ 200#.
[10] It has smelt bad in this room ___for___ one hour. → ... ___since___ a time___.
[11] I haven’t seen you ___since___ 2013. → ... ___for___ years.
[12] We haven’t played computer games ___for___ 2 weeks. → .... ___since___ a date___.

PRODUCTION:
[1] -have s/s in pairs or small groups using "Many Questions" activity.
-one s/s asks a "How long have you...?" question and the other s/s answer using both for/since to get some practice understanding the different grammar of both.
-after completing speaking for questions 1-10 s/s can make their own questions for each other using the prompts provided (or think of some of their own) and continue with the activity the same way.

[2] -have s/s in pairs or small groups using "What I Usually Use" activity.
-s/s take turns asking each other questions from 1-5 then they can use the categories listed in #6 to think about some questions of their own to ask each other & continue activity the same way.

[3] -have s/s in pairs or small groups using "A Great Introduction" activity.
-first students come up with a short introduction of themselves (about 10 sentences) including some present perfect with for/since to say how long have done some things.
-s/s A speaks their introduction to s/s B (a partner) who records some notes while listening. They switch roles and repeat. Next they use their not and introduce each other to the class.
-first they use (I have collected coins for 3 years.) then would change to (He has collected..) when they introduce that partner to the class.
PRODUCTION:
[1] ANSWERS:
[1] I haven't seen my uncle ___ since ___ last Christmas.
[2] We have been in the same class ___ for ___ 2 years.
[3] We have lived here ___ since ___ March of 2010.
[4] He has been my teacher ___ since ___ May.
[5] They have studied web design ___ for ___ 3 months.
[6] Facebook has been popular ___ for ___ 5 years.
[7] I have had my iPhone ___ since ___ February 14'th.
[8] My city has had a subway system ___ for ___ 3 decades.
[9] Humans have travelled in space ___ since ___ 1964.
[10] That song has been #1 on the charts ___ for ___ 3 weeks.

[2] ANSWERS:
[1] How long have you ___ used ___ your smart phone?
[2] How long has your mom ___ driven ___ that car?
[3] How long has he ___ been ___ President of America?
[4] How long have they ___ studied ___ English at this school?
[5] How long have you ___ played ___ Candy Crush Saga phone game?
[6] How long has your little sister ___ saved ___ her money for a new bike?
[7] How long have you ___ known ___ me?
[8] How long have you ___ had ___ your pet dog?
[9] How long has he ___ practiced ___ TaeKwonDoe (martial art)?
[10] How long have we ___ worked ___ together at this job?

Writing Assignment:
- make sure they have a good topic sentence to begin the paragraph and use linking words within the text.