

## a past simple or present perfect ?

the **past simple** is used to describe actions in a complete time period . what does that mean? It simply means that the action happened in the past and it's over now .

### Example:

I **ate** an apple yesterday . ( the action happened **yesterday** and **it's over** , I ate my apple yesterday and now I'am not eating it ).

{ time phrases used with the past simple refer to a particular point in the past example: yesterday, last month , a few years ago, in 2010 }

The **present perfect** is used to describe an action that **started in the past** and **continues until now** .

### Example:

I've **lived** in Algeria since 2000. ( the situation started in the **past** (in 2000) and **stills happening until now** (I still live in Algeria )).

{time phrases used with the present perfect link  
the past to the present examples : this month, ever,  
already, just, recently, since) .