

INTEGRATED DIDACTIC PROJECT

Title: **PRESENT PERFECT VERSUS PAST SIMPLE**

Curricular Area: Language and Communication

Grade: VIIth

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Lesson link: <https://library.livresq.com/details/62cb039c5f8ca9000993b8d5>

General Objective:

The aim of this lesson is to help students clearly understand the difference between the Present Perfect and Past Simple tenses, both in form and function, and to use them accurately in communication. Through guided discovery, practical examples, and interactive tools, students move beyond memorization to real-life application.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Identify the structure and usage of both tenses
- Choose and apply appropriate time expressions for each tense
- Create accurate sentences in both spoken and written form
- Reflect on their thinking when selecting the correct tense (metacognitive skill)

Teaching Methods:

- Expository teaching (brief input from the teacher)
- Visual and audio support for input and pronunciation
- Problem-based learning (contextual grammar application)
- Guided discovery (students identify patterns)
- Collaborative learning (pair and group work)
- Metacognitive reflection (thinking about how we learn)

Class Organization:

- Whole-class instruction
- Individual work
- Pair and small-group work
- Technology-enhanced learning via LIVRESQ and LearningApps

Material/Digital Resources:

- video projector
- smartphones
- whiteboard, markers
- LIVRESQ platform (<https://livresq.com/>) for interactive grammar content
- LearningApps (<https://learningapps.org/>) for games, quizzes, matching tasks

Bibliography:

- Eastwood, John. *Oxford practice grammar*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999.
- Harmer, Jeremy. *The practice of English language teaching* (4th ed). Pearson Longman, 2007.
- Swan, Michael, Catherine Walter. *Oxford English grammar course*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011.
- Thornbury, Scott. *How to teach grammar*. Longman, 1999.

- Anexa nr. 2 la Ordinul Ministrului Educației Naționale nr. 3393 / 28.02.2017
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Description

The LIVRESQ lesson **Present Perfect versus Past Simple** is a structured, interactive digital lesson designed for 7th-grade English learners. Its main objective is to help students clearly distinguish between the present perfect and past simple tenses through a combination of grammar explanations, example sentences, and engaging interactive activities.

Procedure

1. Warm-up (5 min)

The lesson begins with a few light, engaging questions to spark curiosity and set the tone:

"Have you ever eaten sushi?"

"Did you eat pizza yesterday?"

These questions aren't just for fun, they're carefully chosen to bring the two tenses into focus without explicitly naming them yet. As students share their answers, the teacher jots them on the board, highlighting the verbs and inviting quick reactions:

"What do you notice?"

"Is there a difference between 'have you ever' and 'did you'?"

Without diving into grammar rules, students start noticing patterns, time references, structure, how each one feels different. This guided exploration lays the groundwork for the lesson ahead. Curiosity leads, grammar follows.

2. Presentation (10 min)

Using a digital board or projector, the teacher presents side-by-side grammar charts for Present Perfect and Past Simple. Timelines are shown to demonstrate when we use each tense:

Present Perfect → connections to the present

Past Simple → finished actions in the past

To bring the tenses to life, the class listens to example sentences through audio recordings. Students repeat each sentence aloud, focusing on pronunciation and rhythm. As they do, the teacher highlights signal words: just, already, never (for Present Perfect) and yesterday, last week (for Past Simple). These time clues help students start making sense of when and why each tense is used.

3. Guided Practice (15 min)

Students practice verb tenses using the LIVRESQ platform through two interactive exercises:

1. Gap-fill activity: Students select the correct verb form to complete sentences accurately.
2. Drag-and-drop task: Students match time expressions with the corresponding verb tense, reinforcing their understanding of tense usage in context.

The lesson shifts to pair work. Students are given conversation prompts such as:

"Have you ever visited another country?"

"When did you go?"

They take turns asking and answering, practicing both tenses in natural, real-world exchanges. The teacher moves around, offering guidance and gently correcting where needed — always encouraging students to think about why a particular tense fits.

4. Consolidation and Reflection (10 min)

Students open their notebooks and write two sentences:

1. One using *Present Perfect* about a life experience.
2. One using *Past Simple* about a specific past event.

A brief group discussion follows where students are asked:

“Why did you choose that tense?”

“What does it tell us about the time of the action?”

As they explain their choices, they start to think more deeply about the meaning behind each tense, not just the structure and why they chose each tense for their sentences. This reflection helps deepen understanding and encourages students to verbalize their thought process (metacognitive reflection). It’s not just about getting it right—it’s about understanding why it’s right.

5. Assessment & Wrap-up (5 min)

The lesson wraps up with a short quiz via LIVRESQ, where students receive instant feedback on their answers. Following the quiz, the teacher summarizes the key grammar points:

- Use past simple for completed actions in the past with a specific time.
- Use present perfect for experiences, recent actions, or when the time is not specified.

The teacher quickly reviews the results, highlighting frequent mistakes: *“Remember, you can’t use ‘yesterday’ with Present Perfect.”*

Students are praised for their participation and are invited to write a short paragraph about their life experiences using both past simple and present perfect tenses..

Differentiation Strategies:

- Support for weaker learners: Sentence starters, verb lists, vocabulary aids.
- Extension for advanced learners: Write a short story combining both tenses or create a dialogue.
- Peer and self-correction: Encourage students to check and correct each other’s sentences.

Final Notes:

This lesson is part of the LIVRESQ library and has been adapted and shared as an Open Educational Resource. It is designed to be flexible, inclusive, and teacher-friendly whether used in a classroom, online, or in a hybrid setting.

Available at: <https://library.livresq.com/details/62cb039c5f8ca9000993b8d5>
