**GRAMMAR**

**Past Simple Tense Vs Present Perfect Tense**

**We use the past tense whenever we want to talk about the past.**

We use it in the following cases:

***Finished actions, states or habits in the past. A***

: We use it with finished actions, states or habits in the past when we have a finished time word (yesterday, last week, at 2 o'clock, in 2003).

Ex. I went to the cinema yesterday.

**B. We use it with finished actions, states or habits in the past when we know from general knowledge that the time period has finished.**.

Leonardo painted the Mona Lisa.Ex

C. For stories or lists of events, we often use the past simple for the actions in the story and the past continuous for the background.

Ex. He went to a café. People were chatting and music was playing. He sat down and ordered a coffee**.**

**We use the present Perfect Tense for :**

1. **Unfinished Actions : We use this tense when we want to talk about unfinished actions or states or habits that started in the past and continue to the present. Usually we use it to say 'how long' and we need 'since' or 'for'. We often use stative verbs.**

**I've known Karen since 1994.**

**She's lived in London for three years.**

1. **We use it with Since' and 'For'**

**We use 'since' with a fixed time in the past (2004, April 23rd, last year). The fixed time can be another action, which is in the past simple (since I was at school, since I arrived).**

**I've known Sam since 1992.**

**She's had a cold for a week.**

**C: Life experience. These are actions or events that happened sometime during a person's life. We don't say when the experience happened, and the person needs to be alive now. We often use the words 'ever' and 'never' here.**

**I have been to Tokyo.**

**They have visited Paris three times.**

**We have never seen that film.**

1. **With an unfinished time word (this month, this week, today). The period of time is still continuing.**

**I haven't seen her this month.**

**She's drunk three cups of coffee today.**