

## PRESENT PERFECT CONTINUOUS

Subject	has/have been	base+ing
She	has been	swimming

### Affirmative

She has been / She's been running

### Negative

She hasn't been running

### Interrogative

Has she been running?

### Interrogative negative

Hasn't she been running?

Example: *to live*, present perfect continuous

Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative
I have been living	I haven't been living	Have I been living?
You have been living	You haven't been living	Have you been living?
He, she, it has been living	He hasn't been living	Has she been living?
We have been living	We haven't been living	Have we been living?
You have been living	You haven't been living	Have you been living?
They have been living	They haven't been living	Have they been living?

### Present perfect continuous, function

The present perfect continuous refers to an **unspecified time** between 'before now' and 'now'. The speaker is thinking about something that started but perhaps did not finish in that period of time. He/she is interested in the

**process as well as the result**, and this process may still be going on, or may have just finished.

Examples:

**1. Actions that started in the past and continue in the present.**

a. She *has been waiting* for you all day (=and she's still waiting now).

b. *I've been working* on this report since eight o'clock this morning (=and I still haven't finished it).

c. *They have been traveling* since last October (=and they're not home yet).

**2. Actions that have just finished, but we are interested in the results:**

a. *She has been cooking* since last night (=and the food on the table looks delicious).

b. *It's been raining* (= and the streets are still wet).

c. *Someone's been eating* my chips (= half of them have gone).

**I. Comment on an imaginary situation using the present perfect continuous:**

Ex: What might you say if...

. . . your scissors didn't cut properly?????

*Someone has been using my scissors!!! Who has been using my scissors???*

. . . Your new box of chocolates was empty?????

. . . Your new computer didn't work!!!! Your little brother has a guilty face...?

. . . There were dirty glasses all over your house??

. . . The gas tank of your car was empty and you haven't used it!??!!

. . . The cookie jar was empty and opened

. . . Your tuxedo had ketchup stains and you haven't used it??!!

**II. A friend you have looks terrible lately. Try to find out what is wrong with him asking questions:**

Ex. *Have you been sleeping well??*

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