Grammar

We use the present perfect and the present perfect continuous to say that an action started in the past and continue to the present, or which finished recently.

1   Present perfect form

+	*has / have* + past participle	She **has sold** his business.
-	*has / have not* + past participle	We **haven't sold** our business.
?	*has / have...* + past participle?	**Has** he **sold** his business?

! Many commonly used verbs have irregular past participles.

Go → gone
fall → fallen   **write → written**

2   Present perfect continuous form

+	*has / have been* + verb -ing	He **has been offering** a discount.
-	*has / have not been* + verb -ing	He **hasn't been offering** any discounts.
?	*has / have ... been* + verb -ing?	**Have** you **been offering** any discounts?

3   Comparing present perfect and present perfect continuous

We use the present perfect or present perfect continuous when we talk about:

* an action that happened at a time that is not specified

  *Mr. Allen's **gone** to the bank. He hasn't returned yet.*

  *Oh, look! It's **been raining.***
  *I've **been wondering** why nobody came.*

* an action that happened recently

  *I've just **returned** from my trip.*
  *It's getting warm in here. **Have** you **closed** the window?*
  *I'm very exhausted because I've **been working** at the check-out counter during the annual sale.*

* an action that began in the past and continues to the present (often with **for** or **since)**

  *Mrs. Villamor's **been** the manager of a department store for 15 years.*
  *I've **been** here since 9 A.M.!*
  ***Haven't** you **been waiting** on customers all afternoon? Take a break.*

* an action that happened a number of times
  *I've **reorganized** the items on the case five times today already.*
  *I've **only been** to the London fashion market once.*
  *Greg's **been stopping** for gas at the same station since he bought his new car.*