

Simple past or present perfect?

This grammar exercise tests your understanding of past simple and present perfect tenses. Complete the following sentences using an appropriate tense form. Each question is followed by two suggested answers. Choose the most appropriate one.

1. I in this city when I was a child.

lived

have lived

2. Nobody him since yesterday.

saw

has seen

3. 'Where is John?' 'He here ten minutes ago.'

was

has been

4. He last year.

died

has died

Simple past or present perfect?

5. She since she left school.

was unemployed
has been unemployed

6. They the contract last week.

signed
have signed

7. The film yet.

has not been released
was not released

8. She ill since she returned from Malaysia.

has been
was

9. I your brother yesterday.

met

Simple past or present perfect?

have met

10. Look. Somebody their umbrella behind.

left

has left

Answers

1. I lived in this city when I was a child.
2. Nobody has seen him since yesterday.
3. 'Where is John?' 'He was here ten minutes ago.'
4. He died last year.
5. She has been unemployed since she left school.
6. They signed the contract last week.
7. The film has not been released yet.
8. She has been ill since she returned from Malaysia.
9. I met your brother yesterday.

Simple past or present perfect?

10. Look. Somebody has left their umbrella behind.