

## Have you ever ...? (Grammar)

**Description:** An exercise contrasting questions in the present perfect and the simple past.

**Use with or after:** *English Network 1 (New Edition)*, Unit 5, Step 3.

**Skill:** Grammar

**Focus:** Questions and answers in the present perfect and the simple past, using the irregular verbs *build, buy, drink, drive, go* (contrasted with *been*) *have, eat, meet, see* and *speak*.

**Time:** 10–15 minutes

**Preparation:**

- Print out the two work sheets for groups A and B (second and third pages of this file). Make enough copies so that each student can have one of the work sheets, but not both.

**Procedure:**

- Write this example on the board:

*Have you ever flown to New York? – Yes, I have.  
When did you fly there? – I flew there in 2004.*

- Remind the students that a general question with *ever* is usually in the present perfect, but if the answer is Yes and they start talking about a particular case, then the questions and answers are in the simple past.
- Divide the class into two groups, A and B, and give each person a copy of the work sheet for his or her group. Each worksheet has ten pairs of questions, as in the example, but one of the questions in each pair is gapped out.
- Working individually or with someone else from their own group, each student should write the ten missing questions on his or her work sheet.
- When everybody has written the questions, ask them to stand up and find a new partner from the other group.
- The new partners put their work sheets side by side and compare the questions. Group A has the questions that Group B was supposed to have written, and visa versa.
- Then the new partners ask each other all the *Have you ever ...?* questions. In case of a positive answer, they also ask the *When ...?* questions and note down their partner's answers.
- While they are doing this, you should circulate and check that they are using the proper tenses.
- If anyone has given an interesting answer, ask that person's partner to report on it to the class.





Group A

**Your questions:**

**Your partner's answers:**

1 \_\_\_\_\_ ever \_\_\_\_\_?

When did you eat Vietnamese food?

2 Have you ever built a house?

When \_\_\_\_\_?

3 \_\_\_\_\_ ever \_\_\_\_\_?

When did you see an opera?

4 Have you ever bought a new car?

When \_\_\_\_\_?

5 \_\_\_\_\_ ever \_\_\_\_\_?

When did you drink Australian wine?

6 Have you ever driven a sports car?

When \_\_\_\_\_?

7 \_\_\_\_\_ ever \_\_\_\_\_?

When did you speak English for your job?

8 Have you ever been to California?

When \_\_\_\_\_?

9 \_\_\_\_\_ ever \_\_\_\_\_?

When did you have lunch on the train?

10 Have you ever met a famous person?

When \_\_\_\_\_?

(What was that person's name?)





Group B

**Your questions:**

**Your partner's answers:**

1 Have you ever eaten Vietnamese food?

When \_\_\_\_\_?

2 \_\_\_\_\_ ever \_\_\_\_\_?

When did you build a house?

3 Have you ever seen an opera?

When \_\_\_\_\_?

4 \_\_\_\_\_ ever \_\_\_\_\_?

When did you buy a new car?

5 Have you ever drunk Australian wine?

When \_\_\_\_\_?

6 \_\_\_\_\_ ever \_\_\_\_\_?

When did you drive a sports car?

7 Have you ever spoken English for your job?

When \_\_\_\_\_?

8 \_\_\_\_\_ ever \_\_\_\_\_?

When did you go to California?

9 Have you ever had lunch on the train?

When \_\_\_\_\_?

10 \_\_\_\_\_ ever \_\_\_\_\_?

When did you meet a famous person?

(What was that person's name?)

