

Vizma Berelis (Grammar)

- Description:** Students write in the correct verb forms in a gapped text.
- Use with or after:** *English Network Connection*, Unit 4.
- Skill:** Grammar
- Focus:** Present perfect simple and present perfect continuous.
- Time:** 10 minutes
- Preparation:**
- Print out the second page of this file.
 - Make a copy for each student and cut on the dotted line to remove the key.
- Procedure:**
- Students fill in the gaps individually and then compare with a partner.
 - Alternatively, you could also assign this worksheet as homework.
 - Distribute the key afterwards, and answer any questions. The answers in the key are given in the long form, but the short forms ('s for *has* and 've for *have*) would also be acceptable in all cases. In item 11, the American form *learned* could also be used instead of the British form *learnt*.
 - If necessary, refer the students back to unit 2 (page 15) of *English Network Connection* for the distinction between stative and dynamic verbs, and to unit 4 (page 25) for the usage of the present perfect simple and present perfect progressive tenses.

Fill in the gaps using the **present perfect simple** or the **present perfect continuous**.

One of the nicest people I know here in Cardiff is a young Latvian opera singer named Vizma Berelis. She (1) _____ (live) here for three years now, and I (2) _____ (know) her for most of that time. We met at a karate class at the fitness centre, and we (3) _____ (train) together ever since.

Vizma (4) _____ (sing) at the opera house here for nearly two years. She (5) _____ (sing) in four different operas so far, and I (6) _____ (see) her in all of them.

I never used to go to the opera, but I (7) _____ (learn) a lot about it since I met Vizma. Cardiff has a beautiful new opera house, and since it opened I (8) _____ (have) a great time going there and watching my friend perform.

For over a year now Vizma (9) _____ (have) a Welsh boyfriend named Bryn (no, not the one you're thinking of!), and for the past two months she (10) _____ (learn) Welsh so she can talk to his grandmother. She (11) _____ also _____ (learn) Italian, French and German because she sings in these languages, and (12) _____ (speak) Russian and English since her school days in Riga. She (13) _____ (teach) me five or six words of Latvian, but unfortunately I'm not as good at languages as she is!

How many times did you use the present perfect progressive? _____ times.

Why? Because these are _____ verbs and we are talking about how _____ .

Key: 1 has been living, 2 have known, 3 have been training, 4 has been singing, 5 has sung, 6 have seen, 7 have been learning, 8 have been having, 9 has had, 10 has been learning, 11 has also learnt, 12 has been speaking, 13 has taught.

You should have used the present perfect progressive seven times, because these are dynamic verbs and we are talking about how long.

