**Speaking about experiences**

In English, when we speak about what we have experienced in our life, we often use various tenses. Today’s **aim** is to learn **how to speak about experiences correctly using different tenses**.

experience

1. UNCOUNTABLE – knowledge and skills you gain from life or **from doing a job** (skúsenosti / **pracovné skúsenosti**) *I have a lot of* ***experience*** *in the pharmaceutical industry.* not ~~experiences~~
2. COUNTABLE – something that happened to you (in past), e.g. childhood **experiences (zážitok, zážitky)**

Today we’re focusing on meaning 2, you should speak about things that have happened to you until now.

In your Student’s book, go to p. 47, go through exercises 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and all the Look out! and Learn this! boxes carefully. After doing the exercises, you should be able to figure out the correct use of the different tenses.

Here’s another example: (ever = in your life, sometime between your birth and now)

*-Have you ever had any injury?*

*+Yes I have. I once had concussion. It was when I was about 8 years old. I was playing with my friend, we were spinning around rapidly and I lost control and banged my head against the table. I had to go to the hospital, but I was fine after a couple of days.*

Focus on the use of the present perfect, past simple and past continuous.

We only use the **present perfect** to say **IF** something has or hasn’t happened (yes/no). The only important thing is THAT it happened/didn’t happen some day in the past but we don’t know or care when.

We use **the past simple** to say **the details**: **WHERE, WHEN, HOW** etc. it happened. We also use **the past continuous** to describe **the setting, the circumstances**, what I was doing when it happened.

You can not say:

I~~’ve had~~ stomachache three days ago.

BUT I had stomachache **three days ago**.

~~I’ve seen~~ the film last year.

BUT I saw the film **last year**.

We never use the Present Perfect with an exact time when something happened. We use the Past Simple.

Now it’s your turn to speak about your experiences. Answer the questions and give details (if the answer is yes – describe how, when, where etc. it happened. If the answer is no – say why do you think it’s never happened) like in the example above.

*-Have you ever broken your phone?*

*+Answer: Yes, I have. No, I haven’t.*

*+Details: (see example above)*

*-Have you ever missed a bus/train/plane?*

*+Answer:*

*+Details:*

*-Have you ever felt embarrassed in school?*

*+Answer:*

*+Details:*

*-Have you ever lost something?*

*+Answer:*

*+Details:*

*-Have you ever spoken in English in “real life”? (on the street, in town, at the airport etc.)*

*+Answer:*

*+Details:*

*-Have you ever been on a seaside holiday?*

*+Answer:*

*+Details:*

*-Have you ever done an extreme/unusual sport?*

*+Answer:*

*+Details:*

*-Have you ever cried watching a film?*

*+Answer:*

*+Details:*

*-Have you ever won anything?*

*+Answer:*

*+Details:*

*-Have you ever sold anything online?*

*+Answer:*

*+Details:*

*-Have you ever got lost ?*

*+Answer:*

*+Details:*

*-Make your own question here and answer it :)*

*+Answer:*

*+Details:*

More questions:

1. What is the best book you’ve read? Why?

**Answer:**

1. What is the most beautiful place you’ve visited? (city, mountain, anything on Earth)

**Answer:**

1. What is the best food you’ve tried? (Add when, where it was and who made it)

**Answer:**

**Copy these two pages with your answers into an email and send them to** **englishsosban@gmail.com** **by Tuesday 19th May, 11:59 pm.**

Further homework: Grammar Builder p. 112/6, 7 and in the Workbook, p. 53/ex. 1, 2 and 3

## Answer key, p. 47:

Ex. 1

1. false
2. true

Ex. 4

1. I bought
2. I’ve lost it
3. she’s written (we don’t know when or which, only THAT she has written bad ones)
4. gave (we know when exactly, on my birthday last month)
5. haven’t tried
6. she’s seen

Ex. 5

1. example
2. Have you ever found I once found...
3. Have you ever seen I saw...
4. Have you ever drunk I drank...
5. Have you ever forgotten/forgot I forgot...
6. Have you ever taken part I took part in...