

Present perfect simple and past simple 2

Give me your teeth!

Your teeth **have just fallen** out. You look terrible. What do you do? Easy! You go to a dentist and get some false teeth. You're lucky somebody **has invented** them. Do you know what people did in the seventeenth century? There were two choices:

They **found** a dead man and **borrowed** his teeth, or they **looked** for a walrus and used the ivory from its tusks to make some teeth.

It isn't very nice, is it? But that's what **happened** before the invention of false teeth.



1 Tick (✓) the correct boxes.

- In the seventeenth century, did false teeth exist?
Yes No
- Has somebody invented false teeth?
Yes No



GRAMMAR

A

Use the present perfect simple, NOT the past simple, to talk about things that happened a short time before now but that are still important now.

*My teeth **have just fallen** out!*

(It's important now. I haven't got any teeth.)

Use the past simple to talk about things that are finished.

*My baby teeth **fell** out when I was three.*

(This is a fact about the past. It isn't important now.)

2 Present perfect simple or past simple? Read the sentences and tick the boxes.

	Present perfect	Past simple
▶ That man has found a walrus.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 He's made some false teeth!	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 When did they invent false teeth?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 In 1675, false teeth didn't exist.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 Luckily somebody has invented them now.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMEMBER! 1

This is the present perfect simple:

*This is terrible! I've just **lost** all my teeth.
Nobody **has invented** false noses yet, have they?
Have you already **read** that book?*

This is the past simple:

*My teeth **fell** out when I was five.
False teeth **didn't exist** in 1675.
Did you **see** a walrus at the zoo yesterday?*

See pages 216 and 217.

3 Write two sentences of your own in the present perfect simple and two in the past simple.

▶ *Oh, no! My front tooth has just fallen out.*
I read a good book yesterday.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

REMEMBER! 2

You can use these words with the present perfect simple:

just, already, not yet, yet
*Oh, no! My teeth have **just** fallen out.
I'm only twenty and I've **already** lost my teeth!
Inventors **haven't** made flying cars **yet**.
Has anybody invented unbreakable glasses **yet**?*

4 Read the sentences. Tick the correct boxes.

▶ I've just dropped a glass.
Did I drop the glass ...
last week? a few seconds ago?

1 My friend has already read this book.
Has he read the book?
Yes No

2 Nobody has seen a real alien yet.
Has anybody seen a real alien up to now?
Yes No





**5 Choose the present perfect simple or the past simple.
Think very carefully!**

- ▶ Dentists **haven't developed** (develop) a way of saving bad teeth yet.
- 1 In 1675, nobody (know) about electricity.
- 2 Televisions and radios (not / exist) then either.
- 3 Luckily for us, inventors already (make) a lot of clever things.
- 4 your baby teeth (fall) out yet?
- 5 Mine (fall) out a long time ago.
- 6 Two hundred years ago people (steal) ivory from walruses!
- 7 They (make) false teeth out of the ivory.
- 8 Somebody just (discover)
a way of drilling teeth with a laser. It's great! It doesn't hurt.
- 9 When I was younger I (hate) going to the dentist.
- 10 I just (go) to the dentist and
he said my teeth were perfect.



6 Read the diary. Fill in the gaps. Use the present perfect simple and the past simple. Think carefully!

It's the 26th of October. This is the worst day of my life.

My teeth ► *have* just *fallen* (fall) out.

They (1) (fall) out an hour ago.

Some of my hair (2) (come) out too.

I (3) just (look) in the mirror. I look very ugly! Nobody (4) (advise) me what to do yet. My hairdresser (5) (leave) the town last year and I don't know any dentists.

My friend Hamish (6) just (tell) me that you can make false teeth from walrus tusks. He says people used to do it a long time ago.

I wonder if it's true. I (7) already (go) to the beach to look for a walrus.

Ten minutes ago, I (8) (notice) one on the rocks, but when it saw me, it (9) (swim) into the sea.

I don't think any of my neighbours (10) (see) me yet. I'm going to hide away forever. No teeth, not much hair, what a terrible day this is!

7 Work with a partner. Play this game. Partner A, say a sentence in the present perfect simple. Partner B, you're a show-off. You can do everything better than your friend. Say a sentence in the past simple. When you've each said five sentences, swap. Play the game like this:

- Partner A *I've just found some dinosaur bones.*
- Partner B *I found some dinosaur bones last week.*
- Partner A *I've discovered a new planet.*
- Partner B *I discovered a new planet three years ago.*
- Partner A *I've just met an alien.*
- Partner B *I met an alien when I was two.*

