Teacher notes and answers

B1 • Adults and teens • 40-50 minutes • Share student pages 1-3 only

Ready to teach

Aim: ask how long an activity or state has continued up to now; answer with for/since and follow the answer with a natural question. **Preparation:** print or share the three student pages. Keep this key separate. No recording or cutting needed.

Start with a picture (3 min). Before the grammar, ask which scene feels familiar. Elicit what the people are doing and what learners would like to know.

Notice and check (8-10 min). Read the brief guide. Complete task 1. Model one question and a full answer, then let pairs ask each other. Repeat only as much as helps; attend to the contraction I've and keep the meaning clear.

For or since? (4-5 min). Check task 2 and use the same facts in full answers. The activity or state continues now; the continuous form does not mean every moment without a break.

Ask and guess (8-10 min). Both learners see all six cards. A secretly chooses one; B asks duration questions without asking the name, job type or language. Switch roles after a guess. Ask a third question if two characters still fit. Add one invented follow-up answer.

Finish with speaking (15-20 min). Use page 3. Choose questions that suit the learners and follow interesting answers. Allow invented answers or a pass. Give short feedback, then ask a fresh question and report one fact about the partner.

Online / one-to-one: screen-share each page; take the partner role. **Support:** keep two frames visible: How long have you been ...? / How long have you had ...? **Stretch:** ask about a third person with has; use both for and since where the starting point is known.

Answers and useful alternatives

Task 1, 1. How long has Sam been working at the café? Sam has been working there for three months.

Task 1, 2. How long has Lee been playing the guitar? Lee has been playing it since last spring.

Task 1, 3. How long has Amina had this phone? Amina has had it for two years.

Task 1, 4. How long has Ben been learning Spanish? Ben has been learning Spanish since 2022.

Task 1, 5. How long has Nia been waiting for the bus? Nia has been waiting for twenty minutes.

Task 1, 6. How long have they known each other? They have known each other since 2015.

Task 2: 1 for; 2 since; 3 for; 4 since; 5 for; 6 since. **Task 3:** the model answers identify Alex. Personal and invented answers vary.

Grammar notes: present perfect simple can also describe some continuing situations: How long has Sam worked there? / How long has Lee played the guitar? Accept natural alternatives with the intended meaning. For possession and knowing people, use have had / have known, not been having / been knowing. Have been interested uses be + adjective. Full answers help practise the form; short answers are natural in later conversation.