PICTURE GRAMMAR

Ready yet?

Present perfect with just, already and yet • Everyday English

1 Look. What is different?

The café opens at 10.00. It is 9.30 now. Read the captions and compare the pictures.



JUST

Mia has **just received** the cups.
They arrived a moment ago.

done

earlier — **now**



ALREADY

Leo has **already laid** the table.
It is ready before opening time.

done

earlier — **now**



NOT YET

The cake **hasn't arrived yet**.
We are still waiting for it.

still waiting

earlier — **now**

Build it: have / has + past participle

I / you / we / they **have** finished. He / she / it **has** finished.
Negative: I **haven't** finished. She **hasn't** finished.
Question: **Have** you finished? **Has** she finished?

2 Keep the word in the right place

just = a very short time ago. I have **just** arrived.
already = before now, often earlier than expected. I have **already** eaten.
yet = up to now. Put it at the end of questions and negatives.
Have you eaten **yet**? No, I **haven't** eaten **yet**.

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NOTICE AND PRACTISE

What's done?

Use the pictures and the time clues to choose the language you need.

3 Picture check

Write a sentence below each picture. Use the words in brackets.



She finished the washing-up a moment ago.
(she / just / finish)



The plants have water.
The guests are coming later.
(he / already / water)



The chairs are still on the tables.
(they / not / put down / yet)

Useful past participles
finish → finished, water → watered, put → put, bring → brought, lay → laid, receive → received, send → sent, eat → eaten, do → done

4 Choose just, already or yet

Use each word twice. The time clues help you choose.

1 The taxi arrived a moment ago. It has _____ arrived.

2 "Would you like lunch?" "No, thanks. I've _____ eaten."

3 We're still waiting. The guests haven't arrived _____.

4 I finished a second ago. I've _____ sent the message.

5 It's only 9.00, but we've _____ done all the jobs!

6 Is the room ready? Have you put the chairs down _____?

Remember: I've = I have, she's finished = she has finished.

READ AND RESPOND

The café group chat

Use short, natural messages to ask about progress and share news.

5 Complete the replies

It is 9.30. The café opens at 10.00. Complete each reply with the present perfect. Use the verb and the word in brackets. Use contractions where possible.

CAFÉ CREW / Opening morning

MIA → LEO

Have you laid the tables yet?

Yes, _____ them.

1 lay / already

LEO → ASHA

Is the cake here?

No, it _____. I'll call the baker.

2 arrive / not … yet

ASHA → MIA

Can you help me carry these cups?

Sure! _____ my hands.

3 wash / just

Make it yours
Read the chat in threes. Then change the jobs and read it again.
Try: make the tea, buy the milk, clean the kitchen.

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ASK, LISTEN AND DECIDE

Can we open?

A speaking challenge for two people. Keep your information secret.

6 Find the missing information

You and your partner are getting the café ready. It is 9.50. You must finish **all six jobs** before you open. Read only your own card.

How to play
Ask about the three jobs on your partner's card. Use "Have you … yet?"
Write each job and mark Done or Still to do. Then decide: can you open now?

STUDENT A

Your jobs
Buy the milk: done at 9.00
Make the sandwiches: not done
Clean the tables: done at 9.49

Answer B's questions.
Use **already** for the milk,
not … yet for the sandwiches,
just for the tables.

STUDENT B

Your jobs
Bring the cake: done at 9.15
Put the chairs down: done at 9.49
Choose the music: not done

Answer A's questions.
Use **already** for the cake,
just for the chairs,
not … yet for the music.

A asks about: bring the cake, put the chairs down, choose the music.
B asks about: buy the milk, make the sandwiches, clean the tables.

Job	Done / Still to do	Job	Done / Still to do

Decide together: "We can / can't open because…"
Finish the story: Imagine you finish the last jobs. Share the news with **just**.

7 Your day + homework
Tell a partner two things you've already done and two you haven't done yet.
At home, draw or photograph three moments. Write one caption for each:
just (a moment ago), **already** (before now), **not … yet** (still waiting).

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TEACHER NOTES AND ANSWERS

Make the meaning clear

PJ1 | A2 | Present perfect: just, already and yet

→ Teach from the pictures

Ask “What can you see?” before reading the captions. The photos show the result now; the captions and timelines explain when the action happened. Point to “now” and ask: Is it done? Did it happen a moment ago? Are we still waiting?

For **just**, emphasise a very short time ago. For **already**, emphasise completion before now, sometimes earlier than expected. For **not yet**, the action has not happened up to now, but we expect it later.

A finished job can take **just** or **already**: the speaker chooses what to emphasise. A photograph alone cannot show that difference, so use the time clues. Teach **yet** in questions and negatives first.

✓ Answer key

1 Mia: cups received; Leo: table laid; Cake: not arrived.
2 Grammar reference: no written answers required.
3 She has just finished. / She has just finished the washing-up.
He has already watered the plants.
They haven’t put the chairs down yet.
4 1 just, 2 already, 3 yet, 4 just, 5 already, 6 yet.
5 1 I’ve already laid, 2 hasn’t arrived yet, 3 I’ve just washed.
6 Model questions: Have you bought the milk yet? Have you made the sandwiches yet? Have you cleaned the tables yet? Have you brought the cake yet? Have you put the chairs down yet? Have you chosen the music yet?
A: I’ve already bought the milk. I haven’t made the sandwiches yet. I’ve just cleaned the tables.
B: I’ve already brought the cake. I’ve just put the chairs down. I haven’t chosen the music yet.
Decision: We can’t open because we haven’t made the sandwiches or chosen the music yet.
Final news: We’ve just made the sandwiches / chosen the music.
7 Personal answers. Check have/has + past participle and word position.

Support and stretch
Support: let learners use the participle bank and underline have/has.
Stretch: ask a follow-up question, e.g. “What did you buy?” Explain that we use the past simple with a finished time: “I bought it yesterday.”
Homework check: Is the action done? Is the time meaning clear?