

UNIT 18 for since ago

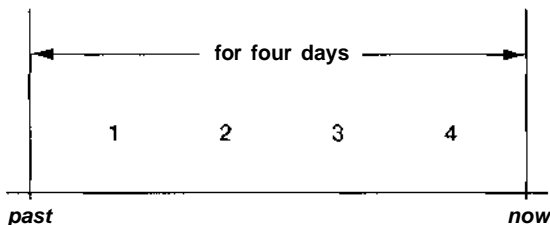
► Unit 17 How long have you ... ? (present perfect 3)

• for and since:

We use **for** and **since** to say *how long*:

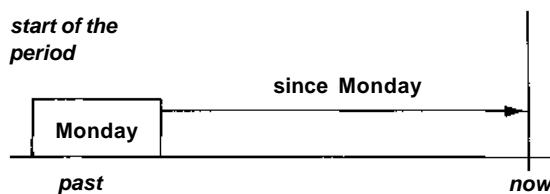
– Jill has been in London { for four days.
 { since Monday.

We use **for** + a period of time (four days / two years etc.):



for	four days	ten minutes
	an hour	two hours
	a week	three weeks
	a month	six months
	five years	a long time

We use **since** + the start of the period (Monday / 9 o'clock etc.):



since	Monday	Wednesday
	9 o'clock	12.30
	24 July	10 October
	December	Christmas
	1985	I got up

Compare:

- Barry has been in Canada **since January**. (= from January to now)
- Barry has been in Canada **for six months**, (*not* 'since six months')
- I've known her **since 1980**. (= from 1980 to now)
- I've known her **for a long time**, (*not* 'since a long time')

► Unit 92 from... to until since for

• ago = before now:

- Susan **started** her new job **two weeks ago**. (= two weeks before now)
- 'When **did Tom go out**?' 'Ten minutes **ago**.' (= ten minutes before now)
- **I had** dinner **an hour ago**. (= an hour before now)
- Life **was** very different **a hundred years ago**.

We use **ago** with the *past simple* (did/had/started etc.).

Compare **ago** and **for**:

- **When did she arrive** in London?
She **arrived** in London **four days ago**.
- **How long has she been** in London?
She **has been** in London **for four days**.

UNIT 18 Exercises

18.1 Write for or since.

- 1 She's been in London *since* Monday.
- 2 She's been in London *for* four days.
- 3 Mike has been ill a long time. He's been in hospital October.
- 4 My aunt has lived in Australia 15 years.
- 5 Nobody lives in those houses. They have been empty many years.
- 6 Mrs Harris is in her office. She's been there 7 o'clock.
- 7 India has been an independent country 1947.
- 8 The bus is late. We've been waiting 20 minutes.

18.2 When was ... ? Use ago in your answers.

- 1 your last meal? (i the last time you drank coffee?)
- 2 last December?
- 3 1984? 7 the last time you were in a car?
- 4 the last time you were ill?
- 5 the last time you went to the cinema? 8 the last time you read a newspaper?
.....

18.3 Answer the questions. Use the words in brackets () + for or ago.

- 1 (four days) When did she arrive in London? *four days ago*
- 2 (four days) How long has she been in London? *for four days*
- 3 (20 years) How long have they been married?
- 4 (20 years) When did they get married?
- 5 (ten minutes) When did Dan arrive?
- 6 (two months) When did you buy those shoes?
- 7 (two months) How long has she been learning English?
- 8 (a long time) How long have you known Jan?
- 9 (an hour) What time did you have lunch?

18.4 Complete the sentences with for ... or since ...

- 1 She is in London now. She arrived there four days ago. *She has been there for four days.*
- 2 Jack is here. He arrived here on Thursday. He has
- 3 It is raining. It started an hour ago. It's been
- 4 I know Sue. I first met Sue two years ago. I've
- 5 I have a camera. I bought it in 1985. I've
- 6 They are married. They got married six months ago. They've
- 7 Liz is studying medicine at university. She started three years ago.
She has

18.5 Write sentences about yourself. Begin with the words in brackets ().

- 1 (I've lived).....
- 2 (I've been)
- 3 (I've been learning)
- 4 (I've had).....
- 5 (I've known).....