

Present Perfect Continuous

Intermediate

Here are some ideas you can use to practice the topic Present Perfect Continuous with your Intermediate students. The tasks are adaptable for higher levels as well. These activities can be used for semi-controlled and freer practice. First, the students speculate what the people in the pictures have been doing to get such a result. Then, they create and practice a role-play using the target language and other grammar structures.



What have you been doing? (Explanations)

Work in small groups. Come up with as many ideas as possible to explain the pictures. What have these people been doing to get such a result?



What's happened to the china set?



You're all muddy!



What's happened to your fingers?!



You're all wet!



The yard's full of feathers!



Why is your room such a terrible mess?!

Useful language:

*As I see it... As far as I can see... I'm pretty sure that...
It seems to me that... I'm not sure, but...*

Variation: This can be done as an Accusation game. Each student is assigned a card. They are being accused of something. They need to come up with an explanation of the situation (e.g. *What has happened to the vase? - I've been cleaning the room and knocked it down*).

An interview with Robinson Crusoe

Stage 1.

Work in groups. You are going to meet Robinson Crusoe and you can ask him about his experiences on the desert island. Come up with as many questions to ask him as possible (at least 6) and ideas for how to answer these questions. Use Present Perfect Continuous.

e.g. How long have you been living here?

What have you been eating for all these years?

Stage 2.

Work in pairs. Role-play the dialogue between the rescuer and Robinson. Use questions you have prepared. Ask follow-up questions to get more information. Change parts.

Variation: The role-play can be built around other people as well, e.g. an interview with a visitor of the hotel, an interview with a sportsman, etc.

