**Lesson Plan: Past Simple vs. Present Perfect**

### Level: Upper-Intermediate

\*\*Duration:\*\* 60 minutes

\*\*Objective:\*\*

Students will understand and apply the differences between the Past Simple and Present Perfect tenses in various contexts.

### Materials Needed:

- Whiteboard and markers

- Worksheets with fill-in-the-blank exercises

- Sample conversation prompts

- A timeline diagram for tenses

- Handouts of rules and examples for the Past Simple and Present Perfect

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### Lesson Outline:

#### 1. \*\*Warm-Up\*\* (10 minutes)

 - \*\*Activity:\*\* Quick discussion on memorable experiences.

 - \*\*Instructions:\*\* Ask students to share one memorable experience, including both what happened and how it has impacted them today.

 - \*\*Purpose:\*\* Activates students' prior knowledge and highlights the difference in tense use.

#### 2. \*\*Introduction and Review\*\* (10 minutes)

 - \*\*Explanation of Past Simple:\*\* Use for actions completed at a specific time in the past (e.g., “I visited Paris in 2019.”).

 - \*\*Explanation of Present Perfect:\*\* Use for actions that have an effect on the present or for unspecified time (e.g., “I have visited Paris.”).

 - \*\*Board Activity:\*\* Write key sentences on the board, and under each sentence, specify the time-related context (specific vs. non-specific) to reinforce understanding.

#### 3. \*\*Controlled Practice\*\* (15 minutes)

 - \*\*Worksheet Activity:\*\* Students complete sentences by choosing the correct form (Past Simple or Present Perfect).

 - \*\*Peer Check:\*\* Students compare answers with a partner, discussing reasons for their choices.

 - \*\*Feedback:\*\* Go through answers as a class to reinforce rule application.

#### 4. \*\*Guided Practice\*\* (10 minutes)

 - \*\*Timeline Activity:\*\* Draw a timeline on the board with different events, some having ongoing effects.

 - \*\*Exercise:\*\* Students create sentences using Past Simple and Present Perfect based on the timeline.

 - \*\*Example:\*\* “In 2015, I started learning French.” (Past Simple) and “I have improved my French.” (Present Perfect)

#### 5. \*\*Free Practice\*\* (10 minutes)

 - \*\*Role-Play Activity:\*\* Students role-play a scenario, such as a job interview, where they discuss their past achievements (Past Simple) and relevant skills for the present (Present Perfect).

 - \*\*Pairs/Groups:\*\* Students take turns asking and answering questions, focusing on the correct use of tense.

#### 6. \*\*Wrap-Up and Recap\*\* (5 minutes)

 - \*\*Review Key Points:\*\* Recap when to use Past Simple vs. Present Perfect.

 - \*\*Quick Quiz:\*\* Ask 2–3 questions to check comprehension, such as “Have you ever tried a new sport?” and “When did you start?”

#### 7. \*\*Homework\*\*

 - Assign a worksheet with sentences requiring students to decide between Past Simple and Present Perfect.

 - Write a short paragraph about a memorable event, emphasizing the tense differences discussed in class.

Use https://hix.ai/ai-writer for more ESL lesson plan ideas and resources.