GRAMMAR: **'JUST', 'YET', 'STILL**' and '**ALREADY**'

Hello Dear Students! Do you know how to use **just**, **yet**, **still** and **already** with the **present perfect**? Test what you know with interactive exercises and read the explanation to help you.

Look at these examples to see how **just**, **yet**, **still** and **already** are used.

I've **just** seen Thomas. He's studying English.
We haven't decided what to do **yet**.
I **still** haven't finished the homework.
I've **already** had lunch, but I'll join you for coffee.

Read the following explanation to learn and understand.

We often use **just**, **yet**, **still** and **already** with the **present perfect,** because **they are related to the present time.** This page focuses on the meaning and use of these words when they are used with the present perfect.

1. JUST

Just is used with the present perfect means '**a short time before**'.
It is used to talk about things that happened **a short time before now**.
Here, '**just**' means '**a short time ago**'.

I've **just had** breakfast.
Has he **just arrived**?

EXAMPLES

I've **just seen** Ephrata coming to the class.
She **has just** called. Can you ring him back, please?
Have you **just taken** my pen?!
Elsabet **has just arrived** from Addis Ababa.

¶ **Just** comes between the **auxiliary verb (have/has)** and **the past participle**.

2. YET: means until now

Yet is used with the **present perfect** means '**at any time up to now**'. We use it **to emphasise that we expect something to happen soon**. **Yet** (in this context) is **only used in negative sentences and questions.**
It is used with a **negative verb to say that something has not happened, but we think or expect it will happen**.

EXAMPLES

Have you **finished** your homework **yet**?
I **haven't finished** it **yet**. I'll do it after dinner.
Abdi: Where's Sam?
Bethelhem: He **hasn**'t **arrived yet**.
They **haven't finished** their work **yet**.

We use **yet** in **questions to ask if something, that we expect to happen, has happened**.

EXAMPLES

Have you **finished** your work **yet**?
Has she **posted** the letter **yet**?

Notice that we usually put **yet** **at the end of a negative statement or question**.
¶ **Yet comes at the end of the sentence or question**.

3. STILL

Still is used with the **present perfect** means that **something hasn't happened**. We use it to emphasise that **we expected the thing to happen earlier**. **Still** (in this context) is **only used in negative sentences**.
We use ‘**still**’ **to talk about things which have not happened or finished as we expected**.

I’ve been here for twenty minutes but the bus **still hasn’t come**.
You **still haven’t washed** the dishes.

EXAMPLES

I've been waiting for an hour and the bus **still hasn't come**.
They promised me to report yesterday but they **still haven't finished** it.
She **still hasn't replied** to my SMS. Maybe she's in class.

¶ **Still** comes between **the subject** (the bus, they, etc.) and **auxiliary verb** (haven't/hasn't).

4. ALREADY

Already is used with the **present perfect** means '**before now**'. We use it **to emphasise that something happened before something else or earlier than expected.**
It is used to talk about something happened before now, or before it was expected to happen.
We use ‘already’ to say that something happened early, or earlier than we expected.

EXAMPLES

I’ **ve already finished** my homework.
Really? That was quick!
Would you like something to eat?
No, thanks. We’ **ve already had** lunch.
I'**ve already finished** my classwork.
He wanted to visit Unity Park, but I'**ve already visited** it.
The train **has left already**!
She **has already studied** for the test.
We **have already eaten** our lunch.

¶ **Already** can come between the **auxiliary verbs** and the **main verb** or **at the end of the clause**.

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