

# The Present Perfect

*has/have* + past participle\*

Study these examples of the present perfect tense:



**Has** she **worked** here a long time?

Yes, she has.

**Have** you **been** here a long time, too?

No, I haven't. In fact, I **have** just **started**; I **have come** to take her job!

\*The past participle is the 3<sup>rd</sup> verb form you learn when you learn past tense verbs -- example: go, went, gone.

# Use the present perfect for

## ◆ An action that began in the past and is still important to the present

- I 've come to take her job. (I am still here now.)
- He has heard from the employment agency.  
(This is very recent news.)

NOTE: Contractions are often used in statements: I've come. . .  
He's heard. . .

## ◆ An action that happened at an unspecified time in the past

- She 's worked at several restaurants.

## ◆ A repeated action in the past

- He has seen her many times before.

## ◆ An incomplete action

- Have you applied for that job yet?

# Study these verb patterns:

present

past

past participle

<b>All 3 forms are</b> begin	<b>different:</b> began	begun
<b>2 forms are the</b> tell	<b>same: past and</b> told	<b>past participle</b> told
<b>All 3 forms are</b> hit	<b>the same:</b> hit	hit