

SINCE vs FOR

for + two years, five minutes, three hours / since + last week, September, 2009

1. I have lived here for one year.
2. Akiko and Marcus have been married _____ two and a half years.
3. My family has lived in Florida _____ 2002.
4. _____ 2011, I've been studying Portuguese.
5. The lights have been on _____ a few hours.
6. _____ she began playing the guitar, she's been really happy.
7. I have been feeling tired _____ a couple days.
8. We've been in this class _____ eight forty five.
9. I haven't slept well _____ three days.
10. I've had a cold _____ Tuesday.

EX: I had three cups of coffee since yesterday. **X**
I had three cups of coffee yesterday.

1. Since this morning, I've been busy.

2. I've exercised every day since two weeks.

3. Yesterday I have had a doughnut.

4. This year I went to Tokyo twice.

5. 1994, I have gone to Hawaii three times.

6. I have gone to the gym last week.

7. Bob and Marie have gotten married last week.

8. For January, I have been working at my company.

9. The movie has been in production for August.

10. I've been to Disneyland twice this year.

Since vs For

This is a great sheet which basically has a lot of examples of sentences for you to drill with your students. This can be given as homework or done in class with the students orally on the board or individually.

How to use the worksheet.

1. **Drill** or elicit some examples with the students. Say them again and again so they recognize the patterns.
2. Give the worksheet to students to try the first part. Check their answers and repeat them in a drill over and over again.
3. The second part of the worksheet asks students to recognize and correct any errors they spot. By now, students should recognize the patterns and know when something isn't correct.
4. Check their answers and drill the patterns again.

Note:

This sheet should NOT take a long time. It's essentially an extended drill. To save time, try giving it to the students as homework the night before.

The second part is great for practicing the difference between **simple past**: "I went there last week" and **present perfect**: "I've been there twice this week."

These are actually very easy to distinguish if practiced correctly.
I went there twice last week, last month, last year, in 2009, in December.
(These are all **finished** times.)

I've been there twice this week, this month, this year, since 2009, since December
(These are all **unfinished** times.)