**Unit Thirteen / The Present Perfect Continuous**

**The Present Perfect Continuous** – (also known as the present perfect progressive tense) shows that something started in the past and is continuing at the present time. It is used to refer to an unspecified time between 'before now' and 'now'.

The Structure of the sentence according to this tense is:

S. + [(**has / have ) been + the present participle** ] + complement.

e.g.I**have been reading***War and Peace* for a month now.

e.g. I **haven’t been feeling** well lately. (i.e. I am still sick now)(negative) نفي

e.g.**Has** Mona **been competing** in flute competitions recently**?**(i.e., she will

continue to do so.) استفهام

e.g. He **has been playing** football for an hour.

**Difference between present perfect and present perfect continuous tenses**

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| **present perfect continuous** | **present perfect** |
| **1. The present perfect continuous** tense is usedto talk about a continuous, but not necessarilyfinished action or situation. أفعال مسنمرة  **e.g**. I **have been gardening** since morning.  (Focus on continuity)  **e.g.**I have been reading since morning.  (Focus on continuity) | **1. The present perfect** tense is used to talk about a **finished action** or situation. أفعال تامة منتهية  **e.g.**I **have planted** several new saplings**.**  (Focus on completion) |
| **2.** The present perfect continuous tense is used to talk about more temporary actions and situations.  اعمال او افعال مؤقتة | **2.The present perfect** tense is used to talk about longer-lasting or permanent situations. أفعال دائميّة / طويلة الأمد  e.g. The temple has stood on the hill for hundreds of years. |

**Q.**Put the verbs in brackets in the present perfect continuous or present perfect.

1. What have you been doing since morning?

I ………………………………………………….… my lessons.**(learn)**

2.Sorry about the mess! I ………………………….…………. .**(bake)**

3.The students ………………………….…their exams. They're very happy.**(finish)**

4.Layla is exhausted these days. She………………………….…………… .**(work)**

5.I ………………………………………………………three hours already. **(wait)**

6. How long ……………………………………………… a lawyer?**(you / be)**