

What have you been doing?

Present perfect simple or present perfect continuous?

A ANALYSIS



3 The sentences in exercise 1 focus on different aspects of the action – its duration, the result of the action or the number of times the action has been done. Look at the captions to the pictures and complete this chart (only four captions go here):

	caption
Duration	
Result	
Number	

Two captions are left which do not focus on any of these. Which are they? They focus on the action itself.

4 Now complete these sentences, using *present perfect simple* or *present perfect continuous*.

a When we want to focus on the action itself, we use the

b When we want to focus on the result of the action, we use the

c When we want to focus on the duration of the action, we use the

d When we want to focus on the number of times the action has been done, we use the

1 Match the captions with the pictures.

- a I've spent all my money. I'm broke.
- b That's the last one. I've typed twenty letters!
- c I've been eating those cakes you made. They're wonderful!
- d I've been typing letters since nine o'clock this morning.
- e I've been spending lots of money!
- f I've eaten all the cakes and I feel really ill!

picture

2 Now match the captions and pictures with these questions.

- a What have you been doing in the kitchen?
- b Why can't you afford to come with us tonight?
- c What have you been doing at the shops?
- d You look awful – what's wrong?
- e Have you finished those letters yet?
- f Haven't you done my report yet? What have you been doing all morning?

caption picture
