

Four Different Careers

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Herbert White, James Dark, Charlie Brown and Mary Sweet all went to the same school. They left school in 2008, and they have had very different careers.

What has become of them?



Herbert White became a politician ten years ago. He's very successful. He bought a country house five years ago, and bought a Jaguar at the same time. He's been a Member of Parliament for ten years. He's had his house and car for five years.



James Dark is a criminal. He robbed a bank in 2020 and escaped to the Bahamas. He bought a luxury yacht the same year. He's still on the island. He likes to sit in the sun. He's been there since 2020. He's had the yacht since 2021.



Mary Sweet and Charlie Brown fell in love at school. He gave her a ring when they left school. She wears it every day, and she has never taken it off. They got married in 2012 and they are still in love. They moved to France in 2016.

different: diverse

ten years ago: ten years before now

successful: fruitful, effective

member: adherent

parliament: congress

to rob: to raid

to escape: to flee, run away

island: isle

to move: change of place

Always Present perfect when FOR: for two years, for six months, for a long time, for ages... **DURATION**

Always Present perfect when SINCE: since 1999, since two o'clock, since Monday... **STARTING POINT**

Always Past tense when AGO: ten years ago, some minutes ago, a long time ago

Always Past tense when IN+YEAR (or month, season, etc.): in 1999, in October, in spring

Answering a question with HOW LONG...?: Present perfect (when still going on) or Past perfect (when over)

Answering a question with WHEN...?: Past tense

Note: Time specification is either at the beginning of the sentence or at the end of the sentence: In 2020 he robbed a bank – He robbed a bank in 2020.

Translate:

GERMAN - ENGLISH

Vor zwanzig Jahren gingen sie zur gleichen Schule.
Vor zehn Jahren wurde er Politiker.
Seit zehn Jahren sind sie verheiratet.
Er wohnt seit fünf Jahren auf der Insel.
Ich habe diese Uhr seit drei Jahren.
Ich habe meine Kamera seit 2019.
Sie hat ihr Auto 2022 gekauft.
Der Verbrecher entwischte vor ein paar Tagen.

SWEDISH - ENGLISH

För tjugo år sedan gick de i samma skola.
För tio år sedan blev han politiker.
De har varit gifta i tio år.
Hon har bott på ön i fem år.
Jag har haft den här klockan i tre år.
Jag har haft min kamera sedan 2019.
Hon köpte sin bil 2022.
Brottsslingen flydde för några dagar sedan.

FRENCH - ENGLISH

Il y a vingt ans, ils fréquentaient la même école.
Il y a dix ans, il est devenu homme politique.
Depuis dix ans, ils sont mariés.
Il vit sur l'île depuis cinq ans.
J'ai cette montre depuis trois ans.
J'ai mon appareil photo depuis 2019.
Elle a acheté sa voiture en 2022.
Le criminel s'est échappé il y a quelques jours.

ITALIAN - ENGLISH

Vent'anni fa frequentavano la stessa scuola.
Dieci anni fa è diventato un politico.
Sono sposati da dieci anni.
Vive sull'isola da cinque anni.
Ho questo orologio da tre anni.
Ho la mia fotocamera dal 2019.
Ha comprato la sua auto nel 2022.
Il criminale è fuggito qualche giorno fa.

SPANISH - ENGLISH

Hace veinte años iban a la misma escuela.
Hace diez años se convirtió en político.
Llevan diez años casados.
Lleva cinco años viviendo en la isla.
Tengo este reloj desde hace tres años.
Tengo mi cámara desde 2019.
Compró su coche en 2022.
El criminal escapó hace unos días.

DUTCH - ENGLISH

Twintig jaar geleden gingen ze naar dezelfde school.
Tien jaar geleden werd hij politicus.
Ze zijn tien jaar getrouwd.
Hij woont al vijf jaar op het eiland.
Ik heb dit horloge al drie jaar.
Ik heb mijn camera sinds 2019.
Ze kocht haar auto in 2022.
De criminale is een paar dagen geleden ontsnapt.