Present Perfect in 40 Minutes

Five speaking activities, one rule, nothing to prepare. The sentences come from the students, not from the coursebook.

Before the bell

Write these three lines in the corner of the board and leave them there for the whole lesson. Students look at them far more often than they admit.

I have seen it. I haven't seen it. Have you seen it?

The forty minutes

Min	Game	You	The class
0–8	**Two truths and a tense**	Go first yourself, with one believable lie.	Three sentences about the week, one of them invented.
8–16	**Yes, but**	Make a small true statement. Name one connector.	Agree with it, then add a contrast with that connector.
16–24	**Backwards translation**	Say a sentence in the language the class shares.	First to answer says the whole sentence in English.
24–32	**The last word**	Read the papers out without names. No marks.	One written sentence each, thirty seconds, then a vote.
32–40	**Tomorrow's question**	Take one agreed question. Answer it next lesson.	Argue about the wording until one question is left.

Six mistakes to listen for

These are the ones that come back every year. Write the two you hear most in the corner of the board and correct those at the end.

- I have seen him yesterday.
- She has went to the doctor twice.
- Did you ever been to London?
- I am living here since March.
- We have finished the test last week.
- He hasn't came back yet.

When to stop

Nobody answers at all	The rule is not there yet. Drill it five minutes, then come back.
Answers of two words	Your prompt has a two-word answer. Ask about a week.
Everyone speaks their own language	The activity is too hard, not the class lazy.
One student carries the room	Move to pairs and keep the time limit.

> Correct what you heard twice, not everything you heard. Three mistakes at the end beat thirty during.

Make It Your Own

The same five activities work for any rule. Fill one row a week and by the end of term you have ten lessons that need no preparation.

Your rules

Rule	Activity that fits it	Mistakes I heard twice

Four things worth copying

- Correct the grammar, never the content.
- Name the rule and the tense out loud before the first turn.
- Write what you hear in the corner of the board, no names, and come back to it when the round is over.
- Four students speaking properly beat twenty speaking fast.

Keep the papers

The sentences from *The last word* are the only honest record of what the class did with the rule. Read them again before the next lesson, and the warm-up writes itself: the two mistakes that came up most, on the board, without names.

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Soon you will make these yourself. We are building a page on yakki.app where you choose the rule and the games and get a sheet like this one as a PDF, in your own language.

Need one before then? Write to admin@yakki.app with the rule and the level, and we will make the sheet for you.