



PUC SPEL Online is a web-based English language tutoring system developed by PUC to help you improve your English vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. You can access the online courses from your own computer with an internet connection and at any time you are available. The course provides convenience and flexibility for you to practice your English independently outside of your classrooms with the support of online tutors.

<https://pucspel.online>  
spelonline@puc.edu.kh  
PUC South Campus

## Grammar Reference

### 1 Expressions with the present perfect

To refer to a **period** of time that is **not yet over** ('today', 'this week', 'this year', etc.) or **ends at present**, ('already', 'lately', 'in the last two months', 'all my life', 'so far', etc.), a verb in the **present perfect** is used.

*Example:*

He's **been** in a bad mood **all day**.

**This is the first time** I've **met** Jenny.

I **haven't heard** about it **so far**.

**Note:** '**So far**' is at times omitted in questions like:  
**How many times have you met?**

### 2 'The more . . . the more'

To express parallel progression,

'**the**' + **comparative** . . . , '**the**' + **comparative**

is used. The **comparative** is always preceded by '**the**', which begins each clause.

*Example:*

**The younger** you are, **the easier** it is to learn a language.

**The more** I learn, **the more** I know,  
**the more** I know, **the more** I forget,  
**the more** I forget, **the less** I know.

'**To be**' or a **clause** that would normally contain 'to be' is at times omitted but **understood** in such cases.

*Example:*

**The nicer** the weather (is), **the happier** I am.

**The sooner** (it is), **the better**.

### 3 A use of the comparative

Sometimes a **comparative** may express an **opposition** between **two** elements without actually stating both elements, when a second element is implied.

*Example:*

The **younger** generation.  
(as opposed to 'the **older** generation')

The **upper** classes.  
(as opposed to 'the **lower** classes')

**Sooner** or **later**.