

Worksheet | Creativity is **GREAT**

Task 3



Look at the poster.

- Do you recognise the characters?
- What do you think their invention is?
This link shows it in action: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qXaNrujh-p0>
- Another contraption Wallace and Gromit have made is called the 'Snoozatron'. What do you think it might be?
Follow this link to find out: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ozziQQFOk0>

Task 4

Discussion

1. In pairs, talk about creativity.

Consider the following:

- What does the word 'creativity' mean to you? As a pair, write your own definition.
 - Do you know any creative people? In which ways are they creative?
 - What is the most creative thing you have ever done?
2. Do you agree with the poster's statement 'British talent leads the world'? Why?

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Task 5
Pre-reading vocabulary activity

Match the words to their definitions.

Word	Definition
1. winding	a. small glass balls used in games
2. reflect	b. devoted to some purpose, cause or person
3. device	c. the force that draws a substance into a vacuum
4. marbles	d. a model, or first example of something, on which later forms of that product is based
5. rubber	e. not following a straight course
6. suction	f. to reduce something to the least possible measure or amount
7. prototype	g. an elastic material which comes from a tree
8. launch	h. the powerful effect that something (especially something new) has on a situation
9. impact	i. to cast back; mirror
10. brand	j. a type of product made by a particular company
11. minimise	k. a thing made or used for a specific purpose
12. dedicated	l. to begin something or introduce something new

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Task 6

Read the following text about some British inventions of the 20th Century.

- Which do you think is most innovative?

1935 – Cat’s Eyes

One foggy night, Percy Shaw was driving on a dark winding road. His life was saved when a cat’s eyes reflected his car’s lights, which stopped him from going off the side of the hill. After his near-death experience, Percy Shaw decided to create something similar to cats’ eyes by inventing a small device (made of two marbles placed close together in a rubber case) which would reflect oncoming car headlights to show the way ahead. Since their invention in 1935, ‘Cat’s Eyes’ have helped motorists to see where they are going and have surely prevented countless accidents like the one which Percy Shaw avoided. Shaw won an OBE in 1965 and died in September 1976.

1983 – Bagless vacuum cleaner

In the late 1970s, James Dyson designed a bagless vacuum cleaner which would not lose suction as it picked up dirt. After five years, and over 5,000 prototypes, Dyson launched the ‘G-force’ cleaner in 1983. No manufacturer or distributor would launch his product in the UK at that time, as they were concerned about the impact it might have on the cleaner-bag market. Consequently, Dyson launched it in Japan, where it won the 1991 International Design Fair prize and sold for £2,000. Later, in 1993, Dyson set up his own manufacturing company in Wiltshire, England. Since then, the Dyson vacuum cleaner has become one of the most popular brands in the UK and, in 2005, it was the market leader in the US by value. In 1997, Dyson was awarded the Prince Phillip Designers Prize and in 2005 he was elected as a Fellow at The Royal Academy of Engineering.

1993 – Wind-up radio

Trevor Bayliss is another famous British inventor, whose personal focus is on using technology in innovative ways to deal with social problems. He invented the wind-up radio to allow people living in remote areas to stay in touch with the world. In 1989, he watched a TV programme about the spread of AIDS in Africa and felt that one way spread of the disease could be minimised would be by educating people through radio broadcasts. Despite early rejection from everyone he approached, the turning point came when Bayliss’ wind-up radio was featured on a TV programme, creating interest from a number of investors. This enabled Bayliss to form his own company, and since then, Bayliss has received countless awards, met the Queen and Nelson Mandela and travelled to Africa to produce a documentary about his life.

Furthermore, Bayliss has updated the radio to include a solar panel so that it runs in sunshine without winding. In June 2005, Bayliss received an honorary doctorate from Leeds Metropolitan University and he now runs a company dedicated to helping inventors develop and sell their ideas.

<http://www.innovationuk.org/news/innovation-uk-vol5-2/0168-great-british-inventions.html>

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Task 7

Grammar focus

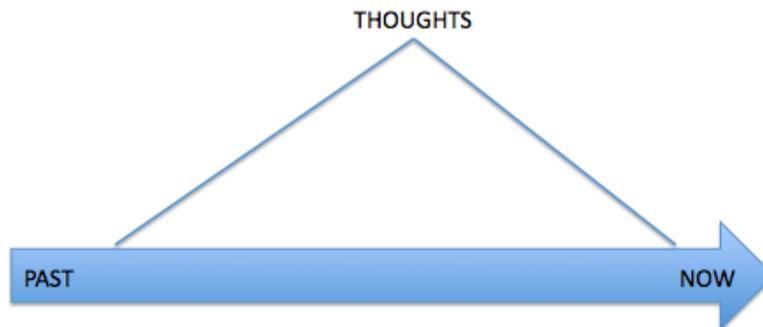
The present perfect tense and the past simple tense

We use the present perfect tense to connect the past with the present. When we connect the present with a specific point of time in the past, we use the word *since*.

The form of the present perfect is:

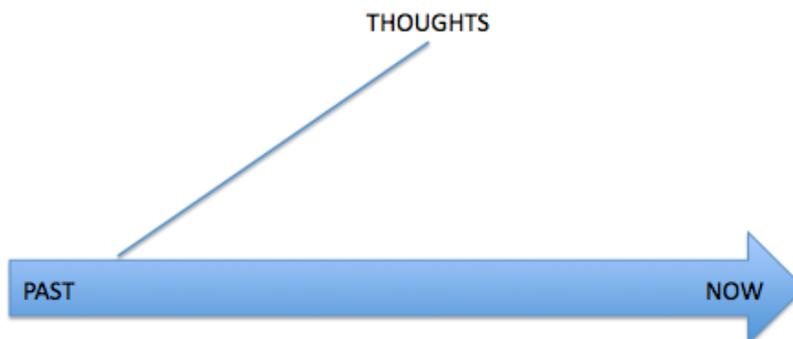
Subject + *have/ has* + past participle

*Since their invention in 1935 (past), Cat's Eyes **have helped** motorists to see where they are going (present) and **have surely prevented** (present) countless accidents like the one which Percy Shaw avoided.*



When we are not thinking about the past and present together, we don't use the present perfect. If we are only thinking about the past, we use the past simple tense.

Shaw won an OBE in 1965 and died in September 1976.



Worksheet | Creativity is **GREAT****Task 8**

Grammar practice

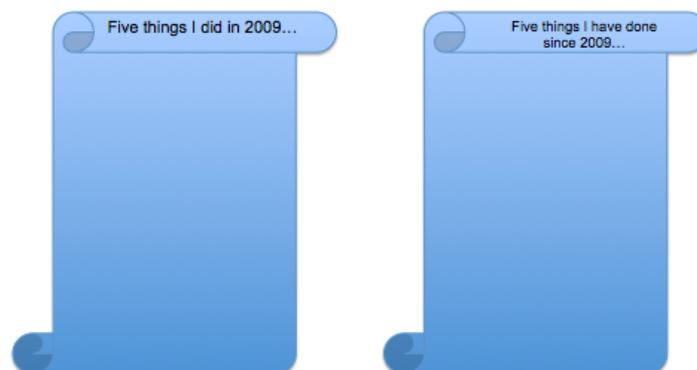
Complete the following sentences taken from the text, using either the present perfect tense or the past simple tense.

- a) In the late 1970s, James Dyson _____ (design) a bagless vacuum cleaner which would not lose suction as it picked up dirt.
- b) Dyson _____ (launch) the 'G-force' cleaner in 1983.
- c) Later, in 1993, Dyson _____ (set up) his own manufacturing company in Wiltshire, England.
- d) Since then, the Dyson vacuum cleaner _____ (become) one of the most popular brands in the UK.
- e) In 1989, he _____ (watch) a TV programme about the spread of AIDS in Africa
- f) Since then, Bayliss _____ (receive) countless awards.
- g) In June 2005, Bayliss _____ (receive) an honorary doctorate from Leeds Metropolitan University

Use the text to check your answers.

1. Now think about your own life and achievements. Think back to 2009.

- Write down five things you did in 2009, using the past simple tense.
- Write down 5 things you have done since 2009 using the present perfect tense.



2. In groups, discuss what you did in 2009 and what you have achieved since then. Can you think of any other important things which happened in 2009 or have happened since then?

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Task 9

Extension activities

Option 1

Think of someone you consider to be creative and write a biographical article about them.

You should write about:

- why you think they are creative
- their achievements
- facts about their life

- try to use the present perfect and present simple tenses with accuracy

Option 2

Think of an invention (like the 'Snoozatron!') that would make your life much easier.

- Design and draw the contraption
- Add labels and diagrams to show how it works
- Present your idea to the rest of the class and vote for the best one!

For more inspiration from Wallace and Gromit, follow this link:

- You might want to try making your own contraption. See here for instructions
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bbccone/wallaceandgromit/hands-on/>