

Using DEPUIS and ÇA FAIT... QUE... with the present tense

Exemples

Je travaille depuis huit heures et demie

→ I've been working since 8.30

J'habite Paris depuis cinq ans

→ I've lived in Paris for five years



When we describe something that has been going on **FOR** some time or **SINCE** some time, we use **DEPUIS** with the present tense. The present tense is used because the action is still going on.

Translate

1. I've lived in Leeds for ten years.
2. I've been listening to the radio for ten minutes.
3. He's spoken French for more than 20 years.
4. We've been learning German for two years.
5. I've been working in London since 1999.
6. They've been playing football for an hour.
7. You've been drinking since six o'clock.
8. I've been a vegetarian for 15 years.
9. Since when have you lived in York?
10. How long have you been playing the guitar?

An alternative for *depuis* is **ça fait... que**. You can only use this if you intend to translate with the idea of **for**

Exemple

Ça fait 10 ans que j'apprends le français

→ I've been learning French **for** 10 years

• Translate using **ça fait.. que..**

1. I've been at this school for five years.
2. He's worked in Toulouse for six weeks.
3. We've been writing for five years.
4. I've had the internet for three years.
5. They've used a mobile phone for five years.