

Simple Past vs. Present Perfect

Discuss with a partner the differences in meaning of these sentences.

1.
 - a. I was in college many years ago.
 - b. I was a student at the university.
 - c. I was a very good student in college.
 - d. I have been in college for two years.

2.
 - a. Jane has worked for the same company for many years.
 - b. Jane worked for the same company for many years.
 - c. Jane worked for the same company years ago.
 - d. Jane worked for the same company as her brother.

3.
 - a. My children have visited Paris many times.
 - b. My children visited Paris last summer.
 - c. My children visited Paris in the summer.
 - d. My children visited Paris during their summer vacation.

4.
 - a. Have you been to New York?
 - b. Did you go to New York during the winter?
 - c. Were you in New York last year?
 - d. When were you in New York?

5.
 - a. Miriam has had many boyfriends.
 - b. Miriam had many boyfriends.
 - c. Miriam had a boyfriend when she lived in California.
 - d. Miriam had a boyfriend named Mike.

6.
 - a. My parents have been here since yesterday.
 - b. My parents were here yesterday.
 - c. My parents were here last week.
 - d. My parents were here two months ago.

7.
 - a. Kelly and Pattia visited the amusement park last year.
 - b. Kelly and Pattia visited the amusement park this weekend.
 - c. Kelly and Pattia visited the amusement park this summer.
 - d. Kelly and Pattia have visited the amusement park many times.

8.
 - a. The office has given a bonus to the employees every year.
 - b. The office gave a bonus to the employees last year.
 - c. The office gave a bonus to the employees many years ago.

d. **The office gave a bonus to the employees once.**

Myra M. Medina
Miami Dade College