Present perfect?
For each of the six questions choose the **one** correct answer.

1. (In British English) Oh you look lovely, _____ your hair?
a. have you cut
b. did you cut
c. did you have cut
d. had you cut

2. (She lives in Sydney today) How long _____ in Sydney?
a. did you live
b. have you lived
c. do you live
d. were you living

3. I'm hungry, it's midday and I _____ haven't eaten anything!
a. just
b. yet
c. still
d. already

4. I'm a bit nervous, you see this is the first time _____ in a plane.
a. I flew
b. I flied
c. I've flied
d. I've flown

5. Have you ever _____ snake?
a. ate
b. eaten
c. eated
d. eat

6. 'Would you like a cup of coffee?' 'No thanks, I've _____ had one
a. just
b. yet
c. still
d. just about to

Present perfect? - Answers

1:

a. **Correct -** In British English we use the present perfect if we talk about a result of a past action.
b. In US English, it’s common to use the past simple to talk about the result of a past action, but this isn’t correct in British English.
c. This construction is not correct.
d. This construction is not correct in this context but could be used in a conditional sentence, for example - “Had you cut your hair, you might have got the job. But you just look so untidy!”.

2:

a. Use 'did you live' to talk about actions which are now finished.
b. **Correct** - Use 'have you lived' (present perfect) to talk about a state which started in the past but still continues today.
c. The simple present cannot be used in this context. 'How long…?' connects a time in the past to the present, therefore the present perfect is the most natural form to use.
d. The past continuous form would be used if the person were not still living in Sydney.

3:

a. 'Just' tells us something happened a few moments ago, e.g.: 'I’m mot hungry. I've just had lunch'
b. Use 'yet' in negatives and questions, e.g.: 'Has the postman been yet?'
c. **Correct -** Use 'still' with the present perfect to emphasise a continuing state.
d. Use 'already' to say something has happened before now or a particular time, e.g.: 'Sorry, I've already eaten'.

4:

a. If you talk about the first time you experience something - use the present perfect rather than the simple past.
b. ‘Flied’ is not a correct form of the verb ‘to fly’. (Fly / flew / flown)
c. ‘Flied’ is not a correct form of the verb ‘to fly’. (Fly / flew / flown
d. **Correct**

5:

a. With questions like 'Have you…?' you need the past participle. ‘Ate’ is the past form.
b. **Correct -** 'Have you + past participle (eaten)'.
c. The past participle of 'eat' is irregular. (eat / ate / eaten)
d. With questions like 'Have you…?' you need the past participle. ‘Ate’ is the infinitive form.

6:

a. **Correct** - 'Just' tells us something happened a few moments ago.
b. Use 'yet' in negatives and questions, e.g.: 'Has the postman been yet?'
c. Use 'still' to emphasise a continuing state. e.g.: 'He still hasn't called me'
d. Use ‘just about to’ for when something is going to happen in a very short time.