

Part 1: Model Answer - Have you been ~ing for a long time?

Workers: Have you been doing your job for a long time?

I've been working as an online IELTS instructor since 2020. But before that, I worked as an IELTS examiner in Spain and China.

Students: Have you been doing your course for a long time?

I've been studying English in university since 2022. I'm in my final year now.

Unemployed: Were you doing your job for a long time?

I was working as an IELTS examiner for four years in total - two years in Spain and two years in China.

Useful points

Present Perfect Continuous: have/has been + verb-ing

Describes actions that started in the past and are still happening now or just finished recently. "I've been working/ studying for 3 years."

For vs. Since

Use "for" when you want to show a duration. Use "since" to show the starting point.

"I have been working **for** 3 years."

"I have been studying Chinese since I moved to Shanghai."

Past Continuous: was/were + verb-ing

Using the past continuous helps to convey a sense of duration.

"I was working as an IELTS examiner for four years in total."

Write your answer

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