

12.1 Artistic ability

GOALS ■ Talk about past experience & events using the present perfect ■ Use verb + noun phrases (2)

Grammar & Reading present perfect simple

- 1 Work with a partner. Answer the questions.
- Are you good at singing, drawing or dancing? Do you play a musical instrument?
 - What kind of art would you like to be good/better at?
- 2a Look at the photos. What kinds of artist are they?
- b Read the articles about two artists, Stephen Wiltshire and Tai Lihua. Answer questions 1–5 for each artist.
- What couldn't Stephen/Tai do?
 - What is Stephen's/Tai's kind of art?
 - When did Stephen/Tai start doing this?
 - What did Stephen's/Tai's teachers do?
 - How do we know they are successful?
- c Compare your answers with a partner.
- 3a Work with a partner. Look at sentences 1–4 from the articles and complete the rules in the Grammar focus box.
- Thousands of people have watched her.
 - He has drawn many fantastic pieces of art.
 - He hasn't opened a gallery in New York.
 - She's danced in more than 75 countries.

GRAMMAR FOCUS present perfect simple

- We use the present perfect simple to talk about past experiences and events when:
 - we don't know when the event happened.
 - we are interested in what happened more than when it happened.
- We make the present perfect simple with:

(+) I/You/We/They + ¹ _____ / 've + past participle
He/She/It + ² _____ / 's + past participle

(-) I/You/We/They + *haven't* + past participle
He/She/It + ³ _____ + past participle

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- b Underline other examples of the present perfect simple in the articles. Compare your answers with a partner.



Stephen Wiltshire is autistic and couldn't speak until he was five. His first words were 'paper' and 'pencil' – the same first words as Picasso's! At school, he started drawing pictures of London and his teachers gave him the name 'the human camera'. He has drawn many fantastic pieces of art and he's sold them all over the world. One of his drawings is a 5.7-metre-long picture of New York. He drew it after he spent just 20 minutes in a helicopter in the sky above the city. He has his own art gallery in London. He hasn't opened a gallery in New York, but he wants to – he's just looking for the right place to do it.

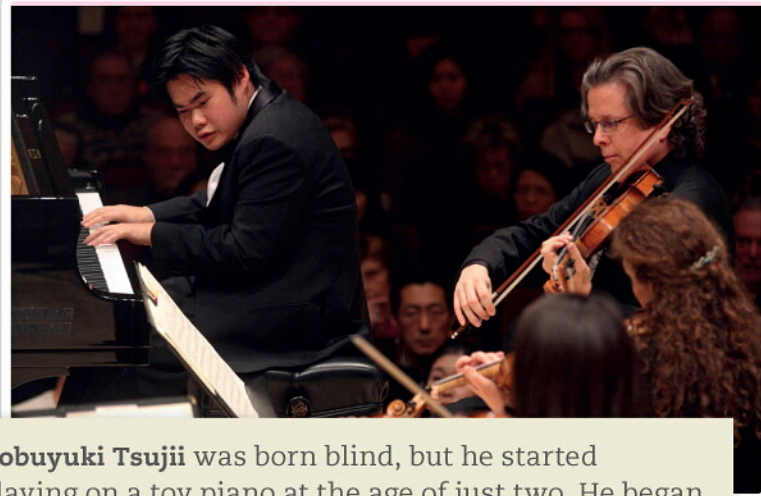
- **autistic** having a mental condition that makes it difficult for somebody to communicate or form relationships with other people



Tai Lihua couldn't hear from the age of two after an illness. She is deaf, but this hasn't stopped her dream of dancing. When she was a child, the teacher at her school for deaf children asked the class to 'feel' the sound of a drum through their feet. From that moment, she wanted to be a dancer. Tai joined a dance company when she was 15 and she's become one of the most famous dancers in China. She's danced in more than 75 countries and thousands of people have watched her, including at the Beijing Paralympics.

- **deaf** not able to hear

4a Work with a partner. Complete the article about another artist with the present perfect form of the verbs in (brackets).



Nobuyuki Tsujii was born blind, but he started playing on a toy piano at the age of just two. He began learning the piano two years later, and he gave his first big concert in Tokyo when he was 12 years old. He's in his twenties now, but he ¹ _____ (give) concerts all over the world, and he ² _____ (win) many prizes and international competitions. He ³ _____ (write) music for film and TV, too.

He ⁴ _____ (not see) the written music, but he ⁵ _____ (learn) to play some of the most difficult pieces of music in the world only through sound. His classical music fans ⁶ _____ (say) this is amazing.

■ **blind** not able to see

b 12.1))) Listen and check your answers.

PRONUNCIATION sentence stress

5a 12.2))) In the present perfect, the stress is on the past participle in positive sentences, and on *haven't/hasn't* in negative sentences.

- 1 He's given concerts ...
- 2 ... he hasn't seen the written music ...

b Work with a partner. Say the sentences about Stephen and Tai with the correct stress.

- 1 He's sold them all over the world.
- 2 He hasn't opened a gallery in New York.
- 3 This hasn't stopped her dream of dancing.
- 4 Thousands of people have watched her.

c 12.3))) Listen, check and repeat.

6 Work in small groups. Which artist is the most amazing in your opinion and why?

I think ... is the most amazing because ...

Vocabulary & Speaking verb + noun phrases (2)

7 12.4))) Listen to three people, Phil, Jimmy and Albina talking about their experiences of art, and answer the questions. There may be more than one possible answer.

Who talks about ...

- 1 their family?
- 2 a new experience?
- 3 something they love?
- 4 something you can only do in big cities?
- 5 something they didn't finish?

8a Work with a partner. Write the words in the box next to the correct verb to make verb + noun phrases.

art galleries in a band ~~the cinema/theatre~~ dance
 drawing ~~a film/movie~~ ~~the guitar~~ music a musical
 a music festival the opera painting a play
 a rock/classical music concert a salsa class singing

go to 1 the cinema/theatre

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

6 _____

see 7 a film/movie

8 _____

9 _____

play 10 the guitar

11 _____

have 12 music / 13 _____ / 14 _____ /

15 _____ / 16 _____ lessons

b 12.5))) Listen, check and repeat.

9a **TASK** Work with a partner. Take turns to tell each other about your experiences. Use phrases from exercise 8a and the ideas in the boxes to help you.

1 Music - types of music/instruments/lessons/ concerts/festivals/bands

2 Art and writing - drawing and painting lessons/art galleries/written something

3 Theatre, dance and cinema - plays/musicals/dance lessons/cinema/favourite actor

*I've always wanted to play a musical instrument.
 I haven't played in a band, but I would like to.*

b Which of your experiences are similar and which are different?

We've both been to big concerts.