

Speak Active English

Can you tell me something about yourself?

Although this question appears to be easy at first, it is not always the case. Not because you don't know about your background, which of course you do, but because of two important things:

- What you should mention.
- The structures which are appropriate to describe that background.

Here we'll be practicing the usage of the present perfect and past simple. Then we'll go to the present simple and continuous.

Watch the video carefully, then try to write down about yourself.

Some useful grammar/structures to write down about ourselves (basic/intermediate)

Verb tenses

Past simple/progressive: we start talking in the past simple or progressive.

I **started** doing this activity when I **was** ... years old.

Present perfect simple or progressive: from that past until this present.

I **have been doing** this since then.

Present simple: to describe what the activity consist of.

This activity **is** about...

It **deals with**...

Connectors

Although, in spite of, however.

Although this activity was very difficult at first, I managed to learn it.

I have practiced a lot in the past years, **in spite of** the little time I have.

I didn't like it very much at first, **however**, I kept studying.