

Grammar Lesson

Lesson 25: I've just mailed a letter
レッスン 25: ちょうど手紙を出したところです

Target: Talking about the recent past using present perfect
目的: 現在完了形を使って最近起こった事について話しましょう!

Reading
単語

New vocabulary introduced in the reading

• a study session	勉強会	• packing peanuts	ピーナッツ型発泡スチロール
• myself	私自身	• a rip off	不当に高い値段
• post...	～を郵送する	• a money order	郵便為替
• a parcel	小包	• a bank transfer	銀行間振替
• seeing that...	～であるから	• a letter box	郵便箱
• via	～を経由して	• a courier	宅配便業者
• postage	郵送料	• hand over...	手渡す
• airmail	航空便	• a package	小包
• in the mail	郵送で	• a postcard	はがき

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Read the passage and circle the new words as you find them

My family has been so busy today. My mom has just taken my younger brother to school. My older brother has just left for work, my sister has just come back from an all night study session and myself, I've just gotten back from the post office.

At the post office I had to do so many things. I had to post a letter for my wife, pick up a parcel from my brother, send a present to my friend in Germany seeing that it's his birthday. Because I sent it via airmail the postage was really expensive. It was at least 3 times more than I thought it would cost. And, as I didn't want the present to break in the mail, I wrapped it in bubble wrap, then put some packing peanuts in too. When the lady at the counter weighed the package, I was surprised at the weight because it was much less than I had expected, which was good. But then, she told me how much the insurance was going to cost, and I immediately felt depressed. The insurance was going to be another \$50. What a rip off!

The next thing I had to do was fill out a money order. I'd bought some stuff on Ebay the day before, but the seller doesn't accept Paypal or bank transfers so I had to come all the way down to the post office just to fill out a money order, and they are not cheap either. This one money order cost me \$4. I really wish more people would accept Paypal. It's so much more convenient.

After that, I had to pick up a delivery that I'd missed. Yesterday, when I got home, I checked my letter box and there was a note from a courier saying that I had not been home when they tried to drop off the package. So I just showed the girl at the counter the note and she handed over the package.

Just as I was about to leave, my dad called and reminded me to post the postcard we had written while we were on vacation, but had forgotten to send. I hate sending postcards. It's so much easier to just take a photo and send an email. I really don't think anyone actually sends postcards anymore.

OK, well now, I've got about 3 hours until I have to go to work myself. So I guess I'm going to relax and watch some TV until I have to head off.

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Answer the questions below

- Who has just taken her younger brother to school?
- Who has just left for work?
- Where has her sister just come back from?
- Has her brother just come back from the post office?
- Why did she have to fill out a money order?
- What was a rip off at the post office?
- When did she write the postcard?
- How many examples of present perfect (recent past) can you find?

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