

Germany/be/one country again _____

The European Community/exist _____

May 1/be/an international public holiday _____

Coca Cola/be/in business _____

MS-DOS/be/the standard computer operating system _____

The USA/have/a space programme _____

There/be/a world-wide ban on nuclear testing _____

OPEC/control/the world price of oil _____

for several years	since 1990	for over 100 years	for about 40 years
since the war	since 1980	since 1920	since the early 1970s

How long has your country existed? _____

* * *

How long have you had the system of government that you have today? _____

* * *

How long has the present government in your country been in power? _____

* * *

What traditional product or service does your country export and how long has it exported this? _____

* * *

How long has your company been in business? _____

* * *

What is its newest product and how long has it been on the market? _____

* * *

How long have you worked for your company? _____

* * *

How long have you had your present job? _____

Business history Worksheet

23

ACTIVITY

Pairwork: speaking

AIM

To talk about how long certain things have been established.

GRAMMAR AND FUNCTIONS

For and since with present perfect simple

VOCABULARY

General: *the European Community, a public holiday, computer operating system, space programme, nuclear testing, world-wide, to be in power*

PREPARATION

Make one copy of the worksheet for each student, and fold the worksheet as indicated.

TIME

15 minutes

PROCEDURE

- 1 Tell the students that they are going to decide when certain important business and political events happened.
- 2 Give one copy of the folded worksheet to each student and ask them to look at the top section. Ask them to work in pairs to match the dates in the box to the events. Encourage them to put sentences into the correct tense. For example:
I think May 1 has been a public holiday for nearly a 100 years.
If students have difficulty forming the present perfect from the prompts, ask them to write their answers in the space provided.
- 3 Check the answers with the whole class by asking students to read out their sentences.
- 4 Ask the students to unfold the worksheet and look at the questions. Ask the students to work in pairs to ask and answer the questions, making a note of their partner's answers.
- 5 Ask the students to report back their findings to the whole class. Is there any information they find particularly interesting or surprising?

ANSWERS

Germany has been one country again since 1990.
The European Community has existed for about 40 years.
May 1 has been an international public holiday for over 100 years.
Coca-Cola has been in business since 1920.
MS-DOS has been the standard computer operating system since 1980.

The USA has had a space programme since the war.
There has been a world-wide ban on nuclear testing for several years.
OPEC has controlled the world price of oil since the early 1970s.