2 Grammar connections: simple past and present perfect

Use the *simple past* for an activity that happened at a specific time in the past. Use the *present perfect* for an activity that began in the past and continues to the present.

| She studied Spanish in 2011. | She has studied Spanish for ten years. |

A Talk with a partner. You need an English tutor. Look at the chart and compare the two tutors. Use the simple past and present perfect to talk about the tutors’ experience. With your partner, choose the tutor you think is best.

A Rita would be a good tutor. She studied Spanish for four years, and she took French classes. She has also studied Arabic since 2010.

B Maybe, but she hasn’t had any tutoring experience. Dao has tutored English since 2011. He also . . .

Rita Lawrence

- 1974: graduate from college with B average, degree in education
- 1974 – 1980: teach English in Mexico
- 1981: get married to English teacher
- 1982 – 2006: stay home with children
- 2006 – 2009: study French at night school
- 2006 – now: teach at an elementary school
- 2010 – now: study Arabic online
- 2011 – now: volunteer at a hospital translating Spanish to English

Dao Lin

- 1985 – 1999: live in Shanghai, China
- 1999: move to Chicago, IL
- 1999 – 2003: learn English in high school
- 2003 – 2007: study English and computer science in college
- 2007: graduate from college with A average, degree in computer science
- 2007: travel around U.S. for four months
- 2007 – 2009: work for travel agency
- 2010 – now: work as a computer technician
- 2011 – now: tutor English at a high school
- 2012 – now: live with aunt and uncle, who only speak Chinese

B Share your decision with the class.

We chose Rita because . . .

We chose Dao because . . .

3 Wrap up

Complete the Self-assessment on page 136.