Many times, when using the present perfect, we use expressions like “have been to” or “have gone to”. It is important to understand the different use of the two expressions and not mix them up.

**BEEN TO**

We use ‘been to’ or ‘have been to’, to say when you have moved / travelled to a place and you are not in that place anymore. You have returned.

Look at this example.

I have been to Italy three times. ➔ Three times I have travelled to Italy and three times I have returned from Italy.

*NOTICE we use been TO and not been IN.

**GONE TO**

We use ‘gone to’ or ‘have gone to’, to say when you have moved / travelled to a place, but you are still in that place; you have not returned.

Look at this example.

Mike has gone to Italy. ➔ Mike has travelled to Italy and he is still there.

If you need to look again at the present perfect, review session 12.
Practice Exercise: Been to Vs. Gone to

Choose the correct option in the following sentences. Choose between ‘been’ and ‘gone’.

1. I’ll speak to him tomorrow. He’s **been** / **gone** home.

2. Where have you **been** / **gone**? I’ve been waiting here for an hour.

3. I have **been** / **gone** to Thailand many times, but the last time I went alone.

4. Maria isn’t here now. She’s **been** / **gone** to the hairdresser’s.

5. I’ve **been** / **gone** to a lot of concerts this year.

6. I’m responsible for watering the plants because my neighbours have **been** / **gone** on holidays.

7. My father’s **been** / **gone** to the hospital and they say he is clear.

8. When have you **been** / **gone** to the supermarket? I didn’t see you leaving the house.

9. I have always wanted to go to a demonstration because I have never **been** / **gone** to one.

10. I haven’t **been** / **gone** to the dentist this year. I need to book an appointment for a check-up.

You can print this page to do the exercise. The answers will be given tomorrow.