

Present Perfect Continuous complaining competition

Fill the gaps below with the right tense:

Abigail: Hi Bea. How _____ (your week be) so far?

Beatrice: Awful. How about you, Abby?

A: I can't believe your week _____ (be) as bad as mine. I _____ (only go out) with my boyfriend for two months and he _____ (already stop) phoning me.

B: That's nothing. Yesterday I _____ (find out) that my boyfriend _____ (sleep with) other women.

A: Mine too. He _____ (sleep with) 4 women in the last month!

B: Only four? Mine _____ (sleep with) at least 6! And he _____ (smoke) drugs in my house.

A: Oh yer, my boyfriend used to smoke drugs too, but recently he _____ (inject) himself!

B: Well, my boyfriend has...

.....(fold here)

Check your answers below (other tenses might be possible, so check with your teacher if you have used a different tense)

Abigail: Hi Bea. How has your week been so far?

Beatrice: Awful. How about you, Abby?

A: I can't believe your week has been as bad as mine. I've only being going out with my boyfriend for two months and he has already stopped phoning me.

B: That's nothing. I found out that my boyfriend has been sleeping with other women.

A: Mine too. He's slept with 4 women in the last month!

B: Only four? Mine has slept with at least 6! And he's been smoking drugs in my house.

A: Oh yer, my boyfriend used to smoke drugs too, but recently he has been injecting himself!

B: Well, my boyfriend has...

Read out the dialogue in pairs and continue the conversation until one person gives up on thinking of more things to complain about.

Change partner and have a similar conversation about boyfriends/ girlfriends, but without looking at the dialogue. You can use the ideas in the dialogue and/ or other ideas.

Have similar conversations about your:

boss, colleague, housemate, friend, son, daughter, father, mother, grandparent, neighbour, teacher, classmate, your local mayor, your country's prime minster or president (imagine you come from different countries), a teammate, or your local MP

Ideas of things to complain about:

Stealing, being messy, smoking, getting drunk, being rude, being lazy, having smelly feet/ armpits/ shoes, burping, farting, picking his or her nose, spending loads of time in the bathroom, not paying for things (= being mean), lying, never smiling, criticizing people, not doing household chores, getting fat, watching terrible TV, listening to terrible music, playing music very loud, being a couch potato (= sitting on the sofa and watching TV all the time), being racist, being sexist, wearing very short skirts, wearing (too much) make up, having piercings in strange places,

Choose one of the complaints and ask your partner's advice about what to do.