

Describing Influential Women: Jane Goodall's Legacy

Date: May 3, 2026 Topic: Describing an Influential Woman Inspire your students to speak confidently about...

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Identify and use vocabulary related to personal achievements and global influence.
- Formulate sentences using the present perfect tense to describe life experiences.
- Describe the impact of influential figures on society and the environment.

VOCABULARY

Word	Definition	Example
influential (adjective)	having great power or influence over people or events	<i>She is an influential leader who changed the company's direction.</i>
achievement (noun)	something done successfully, typically by effort, courage, or skill	<i>Winning the Nobel Prize was her greatest achievement.</i>
conservation (noun)	the protection of plants, animals, and natural resources	<i>Forest conservation is essential for maintaining biodiversity.</i>
impact (noun)	a marked effect or influence	<i>The new law had a huge impact on the environment.</i>
advocate (noun)	a person who publicly supports or recommends a particular cause	<i>He is a strong advocate for human rights.</i>
legacy (noun)	something handed down from the past, such as a reputation or contribution	<i>The artist left a legacy of beautiful paintings.</i>
groundbreaking (adjective)	innovative and pioneering; breaking new ground	<i>The scientists made a groundbreaking discovery about space.</i>
persevere (verb)	to continue in a course of action even in the face of difficulty	<i>Even though it was hard, she decided to persevere with her studies.</i>

GRAMMAR & KEY CONCEPTS

Present Perfect for Life Experiences

GoTeach Materials | goteach.io

We use the present perfect (have/has + past participle) to talk about experiences in our lives without saying exactly when they happened.

- *She has traveled to Africa many times.*
- *I have never seen a wild animal.*
- *Have you ever read her biography?*

READING PASSAGE

Jane Goodall is one of the most **influential** scientists of our time. Her journey began in Tanzania, where she studied chimpanzees in their natural habitat. This was a **groundbreaking** approach because, at the time, few researchers lived among wild animals to observe them closely. Throughout her long career, she had to **persevere** against those who doubted her methods and her findings. One major **achievement** was her discovery that chimpanzees make and use tools, a trait previously thought to be uniquely human. Beyond her research, Goodall has become a global **advocate** for environmental protection and animal rights. She founded the Jane Goodall Institute to support habitat **conservation** and empower young people to take action. The **impact** of her work is visible in how we perceive animal intelligence and our responsibility to nature today. Her **legacy** is not just found in scientific books, but in the millions of people she has inspired to care for the planet. She has shown that one person's dedication can truly change the world.

PRACTICE EXERCISES

1. Jane Goodall ___ many awards for her environmental work.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| A) has won | B) have win |
| C) won already | D) has win |

2. Which word is a synonym for 'innovative'?

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| A) influential | B) groundbreaking |
| C) legacy | D) advocate |

3. We ___ never met a person as famous as her.

A) has

B) did

C) have

D) was

GoTeach Materials | goteach.io

4. She has worked in the field of science ___ 1960.

A) for

B) since

C) during

D) ago

5. Have you ___ seen a documentary about chimpanzees?

A) ever

B) never

C) yet

D) already

6. She has (be) ___ a leader in science for decades.

7. They (not/finish) ___ their project on conservation yet.

8. An ___ is someone who supports a specific cause publicly.

9. Her scientific ___ will inspire future generations of women.

10. He ___ (visit) the national park three times this year.