

# PRESENT PERFECT vs PAST SIMPLE

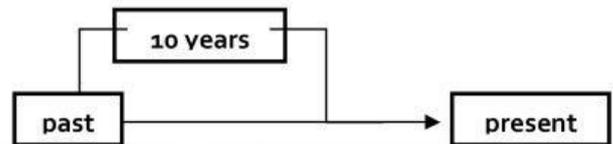
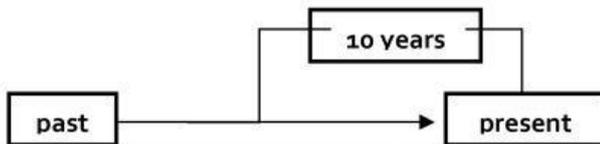
The **PRESENT PERFECT** always connects the past and the present.

The **PAST SIMPLE** tells us only about the past.

**1**

• **UNFINISHED ACTIONS** (these started in the past and continue up to the present)

• **FINISHED ACTIONS** (for something that started in the past and finished in the past)



• *I **have lived** in London for 10 years.* (= I still live in London now.)

• *I **lived** in Manchester for 10 years.* (= I do not live in Manchester now.)

**2**

• **INDEFINITE ACTIONS:** with no time reference or references to recent time - these put **emphasis on the action** and usually have a **result in the present**.

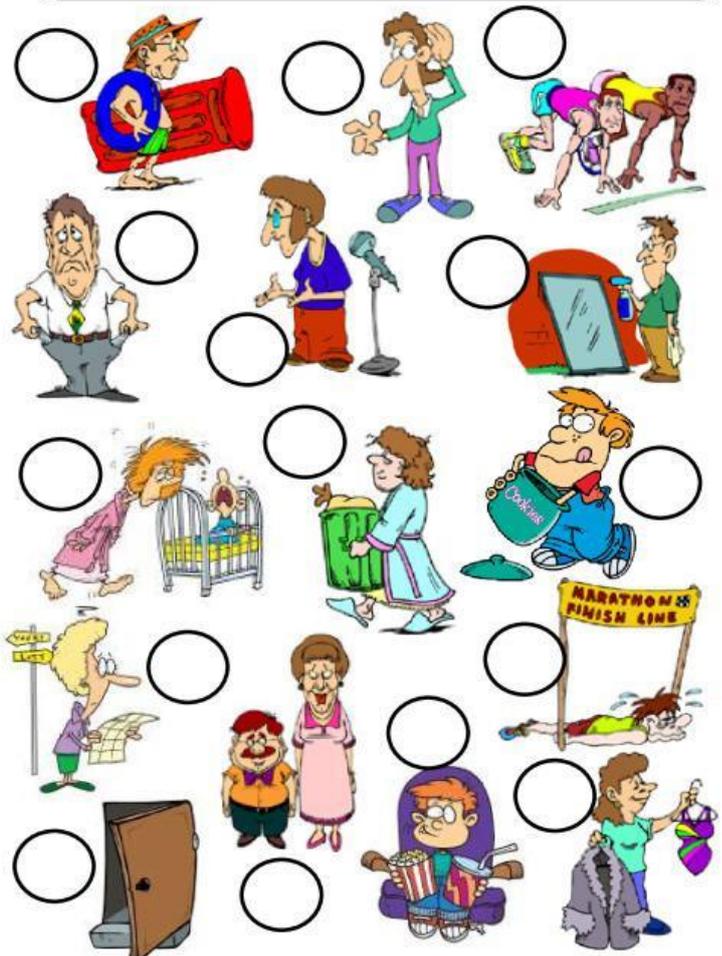
• **DEFINITE ACTION:** we use a definite past time, like **yesterday, 5 days ago, last month....** to say or imply **WHEN** something happened.

- *I **have lost** my wallet.* (= this means very recently and puts the emphasis on the action)
- *He **has just left** the office.* (= this action is completed and has a result in the present – probably he is on his way home now)

• *I **lost** my wallet yesterday.* (= here I want to stress **when** the action happened)

Complete the blanks either with the **PRESENT PERFECT** or **PAST SIMPLE** and match them with the pictures.

1. She \_\_\_\_\_ (not sleep) much lately.
2. The race \_\_\_\_\_ (not start) yet.
3. Billy \_\_\_\_\_ (see) a great movie on Saturday.
4. I \_\_\_\_\_ (spend) all my money and now I'm broke.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (close) the door when we left?
6. He \_\_\_\_\_ (eat) all the cookies.
7. We \_\_\_\_\_ (be) married since 1960.
8. When \_\_\_\_\_ Joe \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to the beach?
9. I \_\_\_\_\_ (take) the garbage out late last night.
10. She still \_\_\_\_\_ (not decide) what to pack.
11. He \_\_\_\_\_ (hear) a strange noise yesterday.
12. I \_\_\_\_\_ (not win) the race, did I?
13. \_\_\_\_\_ you ever \_\_\_\_\_ (get) lost?
14. He \_\_\_\_\_ just \_\_\_\_\_ (clean) the window.
15. He \_\_\_\_\_ (not know) what to sing a week ago.





## KEY

1. She **hasn't slept** (not sleep) much lately.
2. The race **hasn't started** (not start) yet.
3. Billy **saw** (see) a great movie on Saturday.
4. I **have spent** (spend) all my money and now I'm broke.
5. **Did** you **close** (close) the door when we left?
6. He **has eaten** (eat) all the cookies.
7. We **have been** (be) married since 1960.
8. When **did** Joe **go** (go) to the beach?
9. I **took** (take) the garbage out late last night.
10. She still **hasn't decided** (not decide) what to pack.
11. He **heard** (hear) a strange noise yesterday.
12. I **didn't win** (not win) the race, did I?
13. **Have** you ever **got** (get) lost?
14. He **has** just **cleaned** (clean) the window.
15. He **didn't know** (not know) what to sing a week ago.

