PRESENT PERFECT or PAST SIMPLE?

I Choose the correct answer:

1. Shakespeare *wrote / has written* 'Romeo and Juliette' a long time ago.
2. Madonna *has been / was* famous for about twenty years.
3. Columbus *has discovered / discovered* America in 1592.
4. Human beings *have been / were* on the Earth for about 50,000 years.
5. Dinosaurs *have lived / lived* on this planet for about 20 million years.
6. How many times *were you / have you been* late for school last week?
7. How many times *did you watch / have you watched* this film?
8. The school year *has already started / already started*.
9. I *haven't eaten / didn't eat* anything since noon.
10. We *haven't seen / didn't see* John last Monday.

II Complete the sentences using either the Present Perfect or Past Simple:

1. He can't go out because he _____ (not finish) his homework yet.
2. A plane _____ (just / take off).
3. I _____ (not hear) from Peter for ages. _____ (you / see) him last week by any chance?
4. Look at my dress! I _____ (buy) it a few days ago.
5. How many countries _____ (Beyonce / visited) on her tour last spring?
6. The Jacksons _____ (already / sell) their house.
7. This is the first time ever that I _____ (win) a competition!
8. I _____ (not have) a holiday last summer.
9. Susan _____ (never / be) rude to me.
10. Helen and Tessa _____ (know) each other for twenty years.

III Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb in Present Perfect or Past Simple. Use each verb two times, as appropriate:

lose – go – write – break – arrive

1. Last month I _____ to Scotland.
2. What's the matter? I'm sorry, I _____ a vase. I'll clean up.
3. Grandma _____ by plane late last night.
4. Jim _____ his keys.
5. Parsons is a famous writer. He _____ many books.
6. Maria _____ a lot of e-mails yesterday.
7. Someone _____ into their house last week.
8. The director _____ to the meeting.
9. Simon is not here, he _____ to the cinema.
10. They _____ the game two nights ago, but they played well.

LIVEWORKSHEETS