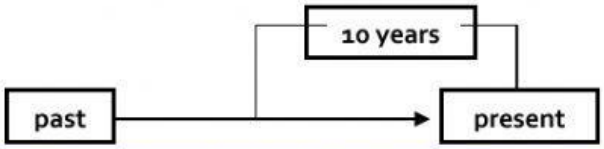
PRESENT PERFECT vs PAST SIMPLE

The PRESENT PERFECT always connects the past and the present.

The PAST SIMPLE tells us only about the past.

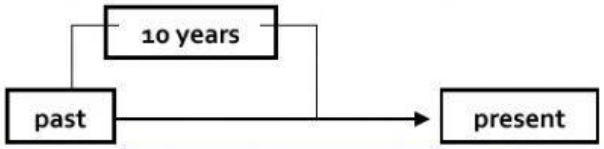
1

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



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

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



- *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**.

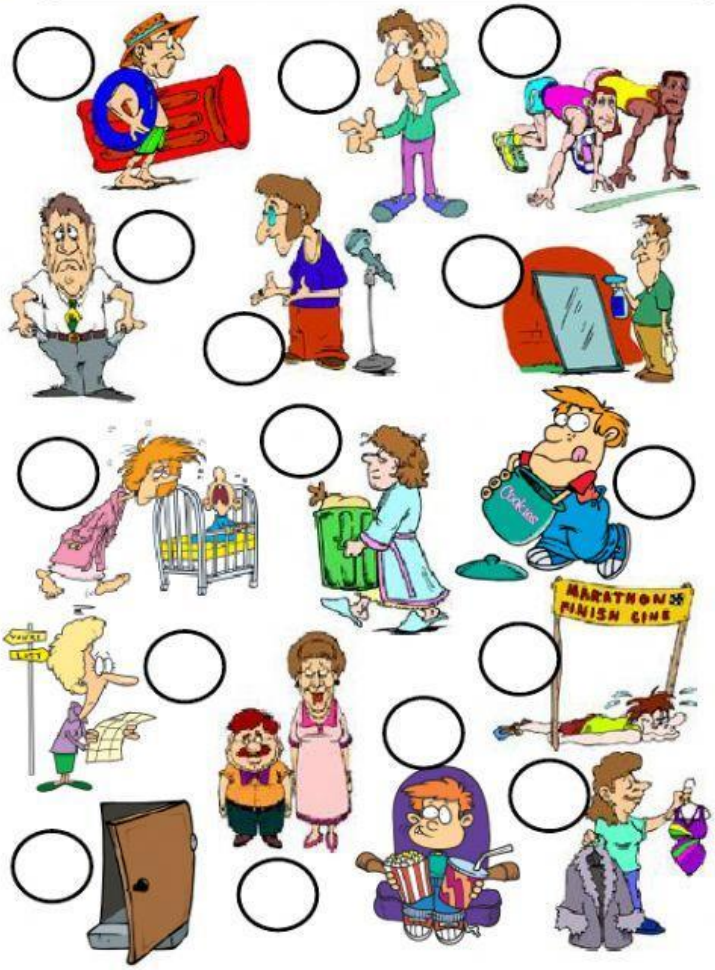
- *I **have lost** my wallet.* (= this means very recently and puts the emphasis on the action)
- *He **has <u>just</u> left** the office.* (= this action is completed and has a result in the present – probably he is on his way home now)

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

- *I **lost** my wallet **<u>yesterday</u>**.* (= 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.



LIVEWORKSHEETS