ve has increased rates times since last June. The increase came on Tuesday, the Fed raised its rate by inter percentage point to cent.

IC website

Past simple

- time period finished

I lived in Berlin when I was young.

- time period definite

I visited Berlin last week.

'Definite' time period means we know when the action happened (last week)

- telling a story

I **lost** my passport. It was a big problem. In the end, we **won** the contract.

These sentences use *lost* and *won* because the attention of the speaker is in the past. The speaker is telling a story about past events.

Present perfect

- time period not finished *I've lived* in Berlin all my life.
- time period not definite *I've visited Berlin several times*. 'Not definite' means the exact time of the action is not given and not important (*several times*)
- present result

I've lost my passport. Have you seen it? We've won the contract! Congratulations!

These sentences use have lost and have won because the attention of the speaker is in the present: looking for the passport now, celebrating the good news about the contract now.

Past simple and present perfect

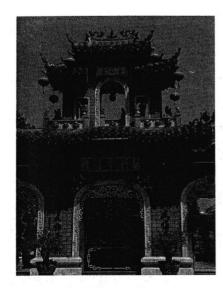
- We use the past simple for actions at a particular point in the past.
 In 2002, Mercedes suffered a dramatic fall.
 Dieter Zetsche became Head of Mercedes in September 2005.
- We use the present perfect for actions linking the present to a point in the past.
 Since 2005, Mercedes has gone from the worst-performing of the large luxury car makers to the trailblazer.

Grammar reference page 147

Which of the following expressions are used with the past simple and which are used with the present perfect? Which are used with both?

in 2010	since 2009	yet	
this week	yesterday	ever	
recently	last year	six months ago	

Complete this short business brief about Vietnam using the past simple or the present perfect forms of the verbs in brackets.



many economic changes recently. It is currently experiencing an economic boom. In 1986, the government3 (introduce) economic reforms or doi moi (doi meaning change and moi new). The reforms (permit) the setting up of free market (recently/become) the second largest producer of rice in the world after Thailand. The industrial sector...........⁷ (show) dramatic improvement and expansion as well. In By 2005, this figure was less than 20%. Vietnam (also/make) great strides on ASEAN in 1995, and of the WTO in 2006. The effects of this new-found prosperity can once filled with bicycles are now overflowing with locally produced Japanese, Korean and Chinese motorbikes and cars. Business visitors wishing to relax in a more traditional Vietnamese town should visit Hoi An. Hoi An (be) a major Asian trading port in the 17th and 18th centuries, and its picturesque architecture and relaxed lifestyle¹³ (change) little over the years.