

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


IC website

Past simple	Present perfect
<p>- time period finished <i>I lived in Berlin when I was young.</i></p> <hr/> <p>- time period definite <i>I visited Berlin last week.</i> 'Definite' time period means we know when the action happened (<i>last week</i>)</p> <hr/> <p>- telling a story <i>I lost my passport. It was a big problem.</i> <i>In the end, we won the contract.</i></p> <p>These sentences use <i>lost</i> and <i>won</i> because the attention of the speaker is in the past. The speaker is telling a story about past events.</p>	<p>- time period not finished <i>I've lived in Berlin all my life.</i></p> <hr/> <p>- time period not definite <i>I've visited Berlin several times.</i> 'Not definite' means the exact time of the action is not given and not important (<i>several times</i>)</p> <hr/> <p>- present result <i>I've lost my passport. Have you seen it?</i> <i>We've won the contract! Congratulations!</i></p> <p>These sentences use <i>have lost</i> and <i>have won</i> because the attention of the speaker is in the present: looking for the passport now, celebrating the good news about the contract now.</p>

**LANGUAGE REVIEW**

**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

**A** 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

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

Vietnam .....<sup>1</sup> (go) through many changes in its history and .....<sup>2</sup> (experience) many economic changes recently. It is currently experiencing an economic boom. In 1986, the government .....<sup>3</sup> (introduce) economic reforms or *doi moi* (*doi* meaning change and *moi* new). The reforms .....<sup>4</sup> (permit) the setting up of free market enterprises and .....<sup>5</sup> (abolish) the practice of collective farming. However, agriculture remains the most important part of the economy. Vietnam .....<sup>6</sup> (recently/become) the second largest producer of rice in the world after Thailand. The industrial sector .....<sup>7</sup> (show) dramatic improvement and expansion as well. In 1993, the World Bank .....<sup>8</sup> (declare) 58% of the population to be living in poverty. By 2005, this figure was less than 20%. Vietnam .....<sup>9</sup> (also/make) great strides on the international stage in the last decade or so. It .....<sup>10</sup> (become) a full member of ASEAN in 1995, and of the WTO in 2006. The effects of this new-found prosperity can be seen everywhere. Large, glitzy malls .....<sup>11</sup> (appear) in major cities, while streets 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 .....<sup>12</sup> (be) a major Asian trading port in the 17th and 18th centuries, and its picturesque architecture and relaxed lifestyle .....<sup>13</sup> (change) little over the years.

