Present Perfect or Simple Past?

Englisch – Klasse 7 – Present Perfect und Simple Past (ca. 45 Minuten)

Let's time-travel! In this lesson you look closely at two important tenses: the Simple Past (for finished actions with a fixed time in the past, e.g. yesterday) and the Present Perfect (for experiences or results that are still connected to the present, e.g. never, already). Work through the tasks step by step – they get more challenging as you go.

1 Sort the signal words into two groups: Which ones usually signal the Simple Past, which ones the Present Perfect?
yesterday – just – last week – already – three years ago – never

2
1. I (see) _____ that film yesterday.
2. She (never/visit) _____ Paris.
3. They (finish) _____ their homework yesterday.
4. He (be) _____ to London three times.
5. We (not/see) _____ her at the party last night.

3 Rewrite the following Simple Past sentences in the Present Perfect. Keep the same subject and write all four new sentences.
1. I played soccer.
2. She wrote a letter.
3. They ate breakfast.
4. He saw the exhibition.

4 Decide if the statements about Present Perfect and Simple Past are true or false.

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The Simple Past is the correct tense when a specific point in the past is mentioned, for example with 'yesterday' or 'last week'.	☐	☐
The Present Perfect describes an action that finished in the past but is still connected to the present.	☐	☐
The sentence 'I have seen him yesterday' is grammatically correct.	☐	☐
With irregular verbs, the Simple Past form and the past participle are always identical.	☐	☐
The Present Perfect is formed with 'have/has' plus the past participle of the verb.	☐	☐

5 Write a short diary entry (5–6 sentences) about your last weekend. Use at least two sentences in the Simple Past (for finished actions with a fixed time) and at least two sentences in the Present Perfect (for experiences or results without a fixed time). Underline or mark the verb forms you use.