**Tenses Activities**

**Perfect tenses**

**Practice 1: Complete the text with the appropriate form of the verb in brackets. Choose: present perfect simple, present perfect progressive or past simple**

**The ageing population**

The number of men and women in the US aged 60 or over still in work a ( rise ) ……………..for more than a decade. Economists b ( give ) ………….a number of reasons for this trend. First, since 1985 the US economy c ( expand ) …………….so there d ( be ) ………………an increased demand for labour. At the same time, the cost of some services, such as health care, e ( increase ) ……………….so workers need to earn more money in later life. In addition, changes in social security benefits and rules f ( have ) ………………a considerable effect on labour patterns. First, in 1977 and 1983 changes to the Social Security Act g ( raise ) ……………...the full-beefit age from 65 to 67 and h ( introduce ) ………………..other changes that make delaying retirement more attractive. Then, in 1986 the Age Discrimination Act i ( end ) ……………..compulsory retirement for all workers, allowing them to work later in life. Changes to pension laws j ( also encourage ) ………………….workers to stay in employment longer, as this gives them more chance of a larger pension when they retire.

**Practice2: Now imagine how you might report a news event you have just heard on the radio to a friend who hasn’t heard it. If you are in class, do this with a partner. Here are some events to help you. What tense will you use?**

**You begin: ‘Have you heard?...’**

1. Woman in Madrid wins five million dollars in lottery. Only buys one ticket. Loses ticket. Finds it in rubbish bin. Claims prize.
2. Canadian woman becomes first person to cross the Pacific Ocean solo on a raft. Only one small sail. Built it herself. Journey six months.

**Practice 3:**

