

PRESENT PERFECT VS. PAST SIMPLE

It was announced in London this morning that the British Oil Corporation (1) **has discovered** oil under the sea near the Welsh coast. The company, which (2) **has been drilling** for oil in the area since 2007, (3) **found** small amounts of oil near Swansea last month, and since then (4) **has discovered** larger amounts under the seabed nearby. Last year the government (5) **lent** over £50,000,000 to BOC, and (6) **gave** permission for the company to build an oil refinery and other facilities in South Wales.

The reaction of local people to today's news (7) **has been mixed** so far. Local MPs (8) **have already welcomed** the news, pointing out that the oil industry will bring badly-needed jobs to the area. But local residents are worried about the danger of pollution. 'Nobody (9) **has asked** us yet what we want,' said Ann Griffiths, leader of the Keep Out The Oil Campaign. 'Look what (10) **happened** when they (11) **found** oil in Scotland in the 1960s. The oil companies (12) **got** rich, not the local people. BOC (13) **hasn't told** us the truth about what this is going to mean for our people.' A BOC spokesman later (14) **refused** to comment. Meanwhile local campaigners (15) **have asked** the government to hold an inquiry.