

# French Revision

**Essential Grammar Booklet**

**Nom: \_\_\_\_\_**

# NOUNS

## Masculine/Feminine

All nouns in French are either masculine and feminine (it doesn't mean the item is male or female but it does match the gender of a person or animal)

This affects a lot of the spelling in a sentence so getting it right means you are more accurate:

the = le (m) la(f)

a/an/one = un(m) une (f)

Best way to remember whether a French word is masculine or feminine is to learn the word le/la with it!

Here is a little table with some general rules regarding masculine and feminine words:

Masculine Nouns				Feminine Nouns			
most nouns that end:				most words that ends:			
-age	-er	-eau	-ing	-aine	-ée	-ense	-ie
-ment	-ou	-ail	-ier	-ise	-tion	-ance	-elle
-isme	-oir	-eil	-et	-esse	-ière	-sion	-tude
				-anse	-ence	-ette	-ine
				-té	-ure		
<u>also:</u> male people, colours, languages, days, months, seasons				<u>also:</u> female people			

### Practice - exercices

<https://www.laits.utexas.edu/tex/gr/no3.html>

## Plural

Nouns in French are made plural by adding an -s - just like in English **BUT you never pronounce it!** There are a few exceptions (like in English: calf = calves/ wolf= wolves)

Follow the rule below for these types of words:

noun ending in	irregular plural	example
-ail	-aux	travail- travaux
-al	-aux	journal - journaux
-eau	-eaux	bureau - bureaux
-eu	-eux	jeu-jeux

Some nouns have completely irregular plurals:

oeil (eye) > yeux (eyes)

Some don't change:

un nez (nose) > des nez (noses)

un os (bone) > des os (bones)

When you make a noun plural, change "le" or "la" (the) to "les" (the plural)

### Practice - exercices

<https://www.laits.utexas.edu/tex/gr/no2.html>

# Articles

**a = un/une**

Use the correct form of “a” by knowing whether the noun it goes with is masculine or feminine

masculine	feminine
un	une

## Practice - exercices

[http://faculty.virginia.edu/ajmlevine/grammar/indexes/index\\_artsindefs.html](http://faculty.virginia.edu/ajmlevine/grammar/indexes/index_artsindefs.html)

**the = le/la/l'/les**

Like the French for “a”, the word “the” is different for masculine and feminine.

For words starting in vowel or a silent h followed by a vowel, le or la becomes l'.

Ex: l'orange (f)

masculine singular	feminine singular	in front of vowel or silent h	masculine or feminine plural
le	la	l'	les

Examples:

l'homme = the man (m)  
le hamster = the hamster  
le garçon = the boy  
la fille = the girl

les hommes = the men  
les hamsters = the hamsters  
les garçons = the boys  
les filles = the girls

## Practice - exercices

[http://faculty.virginia.edu/ajmlevine/grammar/indexes/index\\_artsdefs.html](http://faculty.virginia.edu/ajmlevine/grammar/indexes/index_artsdefs.html)

**“de” and “à” + le/la/l'/les**

when de (of/from/some/any) and à (to/in) are followed by « the » in French, this happens :

+	le	la	l'	les
à	au	à la	à l'	aux
de	du	de la	de l'	des

**Examples:**

je vais à (I'm going to) + le café (the café) = Je vais **AU** café  
je viens de (I come from) + le Canada = Je viens **DU** Canada

Avez-vous **DU** pain ? (Have you got any bread ?)

J'ai **DES** pommes (I have some apples)

in a negative sentence, like “I don't have **ANY** apples”, you just use “**de**”:

“Je n'ai pas **DE** pommes”

## Practice - exercices

[http://faculty.virginia.edu/ajmlevine/grammar/indexes/index\\_artsparts.html](http://faculty.virginia.edu/ajmlevine/grammar/indexes/index_artsparts.html) (de + le/la/l'/les)

[http://faculty.virginia.edu/ajmlevine/grammar/indexes/index\\_prepsgeo.html](http://faculty.virginia.edu/ajmlevine/grammar/indexes/index_prepsgeo.html) (de and à)

# ADJECTIVES

## Adjectives must agree with the thing they are describing

In English adjectives do not change their spelling but in French they do and it changes to match (agree with) the noun they describe (i.e masculine/feminine/plural)

Look at these examples:

<b>masculine singular</b> le garçon intéressant the interesting boy	<b>masculine plural</b> les garçons intéressants the interesting boys
<b>feminine singular</b> la fille intéressante the interesting girl	<b>feminine plural</b> les filles intéressantes the interesting girls

The rules are:

1. **feminine** add **-e** on the end of adjective
2. **plural** add **-s** to the adjective
3. **feminine** and plural add **-es** to the adjective

When you look up an adjective in the dictionary, it gives you the masculine so if you need to use it with a feminine noun, you must agree it yourself.

If the adjective has an irregular feminine or plural, the dictionary shows you the irregular form in between brackets ☺

## Adjectives with irregular feminine and/or plural

Adjectives which end in -x, -f, -er, -on, -en, -il and -c follow different rules

words ending	most important ones in the group	masc sg	feminine sg	masc pl	feminine pl
-x	serieux (serious) ennuyeux (boring) dangereux (dangerous) merveilleux (marvelous) & heureux (happy)	heureux	heureuse	heureux	heureuses
-f	actif (active) négatif (negative) sportif (sporty) vif (lively) & neuf (new)	neuf	neuve	neufs	neuves
-er	dernier (last) fier (proud) cher (expensive) étranger (foreign) & premier (first)	premier	première	premiers	premières
-on-en -el -il	mignon (cute) ancien (old/former) cruel (cruel) gentil (kind) & bon (good)	bon	bonne	bons	bonnes
-c	sec (dry) franc (frank) & blanc (white)	blanc	blanche	blancs	blanches

sec - sèche

words ending in these will double the last letter before adding the e for feminine

## Some adjectives are completely irregular

These are common adjectives so it pays to learn them!

	masc sg	masc sg <small>in front of vowel or silent h</small>	feminine sg	masc pl	feminine pl
old	vieux	vieil	vieille	vieux	vieilles
beautiful	beau	bel	belle	beaux	belles
new	nouveau	nouvel	nouvelle	nouveaux	nouvelles
mad	fou	fol	folle	fous	folles
long	long	-	longue	longs	longues
all	tout	-	toute	tous	toutes

## top 20 adjectives

English	French	English	French	English	French
good	bon(ne)	normal	normal(e)	young	jeune
bad	mauvais(e)	interesting	intéressant(e)	new	nouveau(nouvelle)
beautiful	beau/belle	boring	ennuyeux(euse)	brand new	neuf(neuve)
happy	heureux(euse)	terrible	affreux(euse)	fast	rapide
sad	triste	long	long(ue)	slow	lent(e)
easy	facile	small/short	petit(e)	practical	pratique
difficult	difficile	old	vieux/vieille	strange	étrange

## Adjectives position

Most adjectives go after the noun they describe:

examples: j'ai une voiture **rapide** - I have a **fast** car  
j'ai lu un livre **intéressant** - I read an **interesting** book

Adjectives are always masculine if used with "ce" = "it"

examples: c'est **nouveau** - it's **new**  
ce sera **cher** - it will be **expensive**

However some adjectives go IN FRONT and are know as **BAGS**:

<b>B</b> eauty	beautiful	beau (belle)
	nice/pretty	joli(e)
	cute	mignon(ne)
<b>A</b> ge	new	nouveau(elle)
	old	vieux(vieille)
	young	jeune
<b>G</b> ood&Bad	good	bon(ne)
	better/best	meilleur(e)
	bad	mauvais(e)
	nasty	vilain(e)
<b>S</b> ize	small	petit(e)
	tall	grand(e)
	high	haut(e)

## Practice - exercices

1. Cette lampe est très (beau) \_\_\_\_\_ mais pas vraiment (décoratif) \_\_\_\_\_
2. Elles ont de (long) \_\_\_\_\_ ongles (rouge et blanc) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Ma sœur (aîné) \_\_\_\_\_ est (fou) \_\_\_\_\_ et mes frères sont (spécial) \_\_\_\_\_
4. Mon prof de maths est un (vieux) \_\_\_\_\_ homme
5. J'adore la crème (frais) \_\_\_\_\_ sur de la glace au chocolat bien (mou) \_\_\_\_\_
6. C'est ma (premier) \_\_\_\_\_ fois à Paris et c'est une ville extrêmement (cher) \_\_\_\_\_
7. J'ai acheté une (nouveau) \_\_\_\_\_ voiture et un (beau) \_\_\_\_\_ arbre pour le jardin
8. Mes (dernier) \_\_\_\_\_ vacances en Italie étaient (merveilleux) \_\_\_\_\_
9. Mon (ancien) \_\_\_\_\_ copine était très (mignon) \_\_\_\_\_, (flatteur) \_\_\_\_\_ mais aussi assez (faux) \_\_\_\_\_, (menteur) \_\_\_\_\_ et (jaloux) \_\_\_\_\_
10. J'ai participé à deux festivals (international) \_\_\_\_\_ mais ils étaient (banal) \_\_\_\_\_
11. Qu'est-ce que tu as fait au (nouveau) \_\_\_\_\_ an?
12. Mes sœurs sont (sportif) \_\_\_\_\_, (nerveux) \_\_\_\_\_ mais (sympa) \_\_\_\_\_
13. C'était mon émission (favori) \_\_\_\_\_ mais c'est (nul) \_\_\_\_\_ maintenant
14. Malheureusement (tout) \_\_\_\_\_ les places sont (pris) \_\_\_\_\_ dans ce wagon
15. Je suis resté(e) dans un (beau) \_\_\_\_\_ hôtel avec pension (complet) \_\_\_\_\_
16. Elle est (roux) \_\_\_\_\_ et elle a la peau (blanc) \_\_\_\_\_ et les lèvres (épais) \_\_\_\_\_ et (vif) \_\_\_\_\_ et elle a les cheveux (noir et blanc) \_\_\_\_\_
17. Elle s'est trouvée un (nouveau) \_\_\_\_\_ ami et elle est vraiment (heureux) \_\_\_\_\_
18. (tout) \_\_\_\_\_ les vols (international) \_\_\_\_\_ ont été supprimés
19. Elle était si (ennuyeux) \_\_\_\_\_ qu'on n'a pas regardé la pièce (entier) \_\_\_\_\_
20. Il y a beaucoup de (vieux) \_\_\_\_\_ maisons (traditionnel) \_\_\_\_\_ à Caistor

# VERBS

## SUBJECT PRONOUNS

1<sup>ST</sup> PERSON SINGULAR  
2<sup>ND</sup> PERSON SINGULAR  
3<sup>RD</sup> PERSON SINGULAR

**je** - I (becomes j' in front of a vowel)  
**tu** - you (1 person "you", INFORMAL)  
**il** - he  
**elle** - she  
**on** - we/you/people in general (singular in French)

*(THERE IS NO 'IT' FOR SUBJECT PRONOUN (it depends whether the "it" is a masculine or feminine noun in French - il - masc/ lle - feminine), SO WHEN YOU NEED TO SAY 'IT', USE THE 3<sup>RD</sup> PERSON ENDING OF THE VERB - HE / SHE ENDING)*

1<sup>ST</sup> PERSON PLURAL  
2<sup>ND</sup> PERSON PLURAL  
3<sup>RD</sup> PERSON PLURAL

**nous** - we  
**vous** - you (more than one "you" or FORMAL for 1 person)  
**ils** - they (boys/mixed groups)  
**elles** - they (only girls)

## The Present tense / le présent

### I play / I am playing

- 🔦 The Present tense describes an action which is happening at the moment :  
Ex: I am listening = j'écoute
- 🔦 It also describes an action which happens regularly or repeatedly  
Ex: Every day I listen to the teacher = tous les jours j'écoute le prof.

**In French the -ing form doesn't exist, you use the present form as shown below BOTH for I am listening and I listen**

### A. How to form the regular verbs / les verbes réguliers

There are three groups of verbs:

- those ending in -ER
- those ending in -IR
- those ending in -RE

1. Chop off the -ER, -IR or -RE and add the relevant ending.

	Endings		
	-ER	-IR	-RE
Je I	<b>e</b>	<b>is</b>	<b>s</b>
Tu You (sg)	<b>es</b>	<b>is</b>	<b>s</b>
il/elle he/she/it	<b>e</b>	<b>it</b>	<b>-</b>
nous we	<b>ons</b>	<b>issons</b>	<b>ons</b>
vous you (pl)	<b>ez</b>	<b>issez</b>	<b>ez</b>
ils/elles they	<b>ent</b>	<b>issent</b>	<b>ont</b>

**For example:**

manger = to eat  
I eat = ?  
manger > mang-  
I eat = je mang**e**

finir = to finish  
he finishes = ?  
finir > fin-  
he finishes = il finit

vendre = to sell  
I sell = ?  
vendre > vend  
we sell = nous vend**ons**

## Practice - exercices

1. Complete with the correct subject pronoun: je/tu/il/elle/nous/vous/ils/elles (observe the ending of the verb in the sentence to work out what's missing 😊)
2. Translate the sentences into English (use a dictionary or [wordreference.com](http://wordreference.com))

a. \_\_\_\_\_ étudions le français depuis 3 ans (étudier - study)

\_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_ vendez une maison dans le centre-ville? (vendre = to sell)

\_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_ achètes le journal tous les jours. (acheter - to buy)

\_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_ finissent leurs devoirs tous les soirs. (finir = to finish)

\_\_\_\_\_

e. \_\_\_\_\_ appellent leurs parents une fois par semaine (appeler - to call)

\_\_\_\_\_

f. \_\_\_\_\_ demandons le menu . (demander = to ask)

\_\_\_\_\_

g. \_\_\_\_\_ terminez les cours à 3h05 (terminer = to end)

\_\_\_\_\_

h. \_\_\_\_\_ rougit parce que elle est timide. (rougir = to blush)

\_\_\_\_\_

i. \_\_\_\_\_ parle trois langues: le français, l'anglais et l'espagnol (parler = to talk)

\_\_\_\_\_

j. \_\_\_\_\_ choisis le français pour mes GCSE. (choisir = to choose)

\_\_\_\_\_



3. **Regular -er verbs.** Fill in the appropriate forms, using the verbs in the box below.

travailler = to work  
étudier = to study  
acheter = to buy

preparer = to prepare  
payer = to pay  
entrer = to enter

espérer = to hope  
marcher = to walk  
porter = to wear

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A	I buy		I	You (sg) are entering	
B	She walks		J	They hope	
C	You (pl) are paying		K	You (pl) walk	
D	We wear		L	We work	
E	You (sg) prepare		M	He is buying	
F	He is hoping		N	I walk	
G	They work		O	You (sg) are studying	
H	I study				

4. **Regular -ir verbs.** Fill in the appropriate forms, using the verbs in the box below.

choisir = to choose  
grandir = to grow  
réfléchir = to think/reflect

réussir = to succeed  
bénir = to bless  
grossir = to put on weight

finir = to finish  
mincir = to lose weight  
bâtir = to build

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A	He chooses		I	We are blessing	
B	They grow		J	You (sg) think	
C	We are thinking		K	He is growing	
D	You (pl) bless		L	They build	
E	I are building		M	We are choosing	
F	You (sg) finish		N	I lose weight	
G	She loses weight		O	She builds	
H	I'm putting on weight				

5. **Regular -RE verbs.** Fill in the appropriate forms, using the verbs in the box below.

vendre = to sell  
repondre = to answer

descendre = to go down  
entendre = to hear

attendre = to wait  
perdre = to lose

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A	They lose		F	She is losing	
B	You (pl) are selling		G	I am hearing	
C	I hear		H	We sell	
D	He answer		I	You (pl) are answering	
E	You (sg) are going down		J	He goes down	

## B. Reflexive verbs = les verbes pronominaux

Reflexive verbs describe activities where the action is reflected back onto the subject of the verb  
 ex: I wash **myself**    He dresses **himself**

The idea of 'self' is conveyed by using reflexive pronouns e.g. I wash **myself** = je me lave

### se laver - to wash (oneself)

je	<b>me</b>	<b>lave</b>	I wash / am washing <b>(myself)</b>
tu	<b>te</b>	<b>laves</b>	You wash/ are washing <b>(yourself)</b>
il/elle	<b>se</b>	<b>lave</b>	He/she washes/ is washing <b>(him/herself)</b>
nous	<b>nous</b>	<b>lavons</b>	We wash/ are washing <b>(ourselves)</b>
vous	<b>vous</b>	<b>lavez</b>	You wash / are washing <b>(yourselves)</b>
ils/elles	<b>se</b>	<b>lavent</b>	They wash/ are washing <b>(themselves)</b>

### Practice - Exercices

Regular reflexive verbs. Fill in the appropriate forms, using the verbs in the box below.

se raser = to shave	se doucher = to have a shower
se laver = to wash (oneself)	se brosser les cheveux = to brush one's hair
s'appeler = to be called (to call oneself)	se fâcher = to get angry
se marier = to get married	s'inquiéter = to worry

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A	I wash (myself)	
B	They get angry	
C	You (pl) have a shower	
D	He is called (calls himself)	
E	They get married	
F	she worries	
G	You (sg) shave	
H	We wash	
I	I worry	
J	You (sg) wash yourself	
K	She gets married	
L	He shaves	
M	They brush their hair	
N	We are having a shower	
O	You (sg) worry	

c. Irregular Verbs = irregular verbs (most common ones)

<p><b><u>to be - être</u></b>  je suis - I am  tu es - you are  il/elle est - he/she is  nous sommes - we are  vous êtes - you are  ils/elles sont - they are</p>	<p><b><u>to have - avoir</u></b>  j'ai - I have  tu as - you have  il/elle a - he/she has  nous avons - we have  vous avez - you have  ils/elles ont - they have</p>
<p><b><u>to go - aller</u></b>  je vais - I want  tu vas - you want  il/elle va - he/she want  nous allons - we want  vous allez - you want  ils/elles vont - they want</p>	<p><b><u>to do/make - faire</u></b>  je fais - I do  tu fais - you do  il/elle fait - he/she do  nous faisons - we do  vous faites - you do  ils/elles font - they do</p>
<p><b><u>to want - vouloir</u></b>  je veux - I want  tu veux - you want  il/elle veut - he/she want  nous voulons - we want  vous voulez - you want  ils/elles veulent - they want</p>	<p><b><u>to have to/must - devoir</u></b>  je dois - I have to  tu dois - you have to  il/elle doit - he/she has to  nous devons - we have to  vous devez - you have to  ils/elles doivent - they have to</p>
<p><b><u>can/ to be able to - pouvoir</u></b>  je peux - I can  tu peux - you can  il/elle peut - he/she can  nous pouvons - we can  vous pouvez - you can  ils/elles peuvent - they can</p>	

1. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate forms of être and translate in English:

- a. Paris \_\_\_\_\_ en France \_\_\_\_\_
- b. L'homme \_\_\_\_\_ entré dans le café. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Pierre \_\_\_\_\_ professeur. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Les parents \_\_\_\_\_ furieux. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. La chemise \_\_\_\_\_ en coton. \_\_\_\_\_
- f. Tu \_\_\_\_\_ anglais. \_\_\_\_\_
- g. Le collège \_\_\_\_\_ grand et moderne. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Learn the above irregular verbs, hide the list and try to write in the 6 forms of each of these irregular verbs:

avoir (to have)	vouloir (to want)	devoir (to have to)	faire (to do)	pouvoir (to be able to/can)	aller (to go)

3. Fill in the appropriate verb forms sing the infinitives given in brackets:

Six hommes (*être*) \_\_\_\_\_ dans un café. Il y a un Anglais, un Français, un Espagnol, un Allemand, un Russe et un Chinois. Il (*faire*) \_\_\_\_\_ très chaud et ils (*avoir*) \_\_\_\_\_ tous chaud. Chaque personne (*vouloir*) \_\_\_\_\_ un verre de bière. Il y a aussi 6 mouches dans le café et les mouches (*avoir*) \_\_\_\_\_ aussi toutes soif. Une mouche tombe dans le verre de l'Anglais, une autre mouche tombe dans le verre du Français....etc. L'Anglais voit la mouche dans sa bière et il appelle le garçon qui lui donne un autre verre de bière. Le Français voit aussi la mouche qui (*être*) \_\_\_\_\_ submergé dans sa bière. Il (*être*) \_\_\_\_\_ furieux, jure, crie. L'Espagnol voit la mouche, (*faire*) \_\_\_\_\_ un geste et sort du café. L'Allemand enlève la mouche et boit la bière. Le Russe boit la bière avec la mouche. Le Chinois prend la mouche dans ses doigts, inspecte le pauvre insecte, mange la mouche et après bois la bière.

For a bit of a challenge, try translating the text above into English:

### Time expressions used with the present tense:

Normalement = usually  
généralement = generally  
d'habitude = usually  
tous les jours = every day  
tous le temps = all the time  
maintenant = now

toujours = always  
never = never  
parfois = sometimes  
souvent = often  
de temps en temps = from time to time  
aujourd'hui = today

# The perfect tense / le passé composé

## I played / I have played

● The Perfect tense is used to describe a single, completed action in the past or an action that took place over a defined period of time.

Ex: Last summer I spent 3 weeks in Cuba = L'été dernier, j'ai passé 3 semaines à Cuba.

Le passé composé is made up of 2 parts:

- 1) The auxiliary verb (the present tense of AVOIR or ÊTRE)
- 2) The past participle (donné, parlé, sorti, fait, etc)

### A. Regular Verbs / les verbes régulier avec avoir

1	<u>Use the correct form of « avoir »</u>	2	<u>use the past participle of the verb using this pattern</u>		
	j'ai tu as il/elle a nous avons vous avez ils/elles ont		+	verbs in - ER	-er becomes é manger > mangé
				verbs in - IR	-ir becomes i finir > fini
				verbs in - RE	-re becomes u vendre > vendu

#### Example:

chanter - to sing > I sang/I have sung = J'ai chanté  
rougir - to blush > you blushed/have blushed = tu as rougi  
vendre - to sell > we sold/have sold = nous avons vendu

#### Irregular AVOIR verbs

There is a group of irregular verbs that take AVOIR in le passé composé. These verbs are formed with the present tense of avoir + the irregular past participle

avoir	to have	eu	had	lire	to read	lu	read
être	to be	été	been	mettre	to put	mis	put
boire	to drink	bu	drank/drank	ouvrir	to open	ouvert	opened
connaître	to know	connu	knew/known	pouvoir	to be able	pu	could
courir	to run	couru	ran/run	prendre	to take	pris	took/taken
croire	to believe	cru	believed	recevoir	to receive	reçu	received
devoir	to have to	dû	had to	savoir	to know	su	knew/known
dire	to say/tell	dit	said/told	voir	to see	vu	saw/seen
écrire	to write	écrit	wrote/written	vouloir	to want	voulu	wanted
faire	to make/do	fait	did/done				

## Practice - Exercices

1. Fill in the perfect tense of regular verbs using the infinitives given below.

enseigner (to teach)	grandir (to grow up)	voyager (to travel)	traverser (to cross)	dormir (to sleep)	attendre (to wait)
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- a. They taught \_\_\_\_\_
- b. He grew up \_\_\_\_\_
- c. I travelled \_\_\_\_\_
- d. We slept \_\_\_\_\_
- e. You (sg) have waited \_\_\_\_\_
- f. She crossed \_\_\_\_\_
- g. You (pl) have slept \_\_\_\_\_
- h. I have grown up \_\_\_\_\_
- i. We taught \_\_\_\_\_
- j. You (pl) waited \_\_\_\_\_
- k. They travelled \_\_\_\_\_
- l. You (sg) crossed \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Fill in these irregular « avoir » verbs in the perfect tense (passé composé).

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- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. I had _____</li> <li>b. They saw _____</li> <li>c. We were able _____</li> <li>d. I opened _____</li> <li>e. He has been _____</li> <li>f. You (sg) said _____</li> <li>g. They drank _____</li> <li>h. She did _____</li> <li>i. I took _____</li> <li>j. You (pl) wanted _____</li> <li>k. I was (<i>estar</i>) _____</li> <li>l. We have read _____</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>m. You (sg) knew _____</li> <li>n. We ran _____</li> <li>o. He did _____</li> <li>p. They put _____</li> <li>q. I knew _____</li> <li>r. We knew _____</li> <li>s. You (pl) believed _____</li> <li>t. She wrote _____</li> <li>u. You (sg) had _____</li> <li>v. I have received _____</li> <li>w. I said _____</li> <li>x. We wanted _____</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

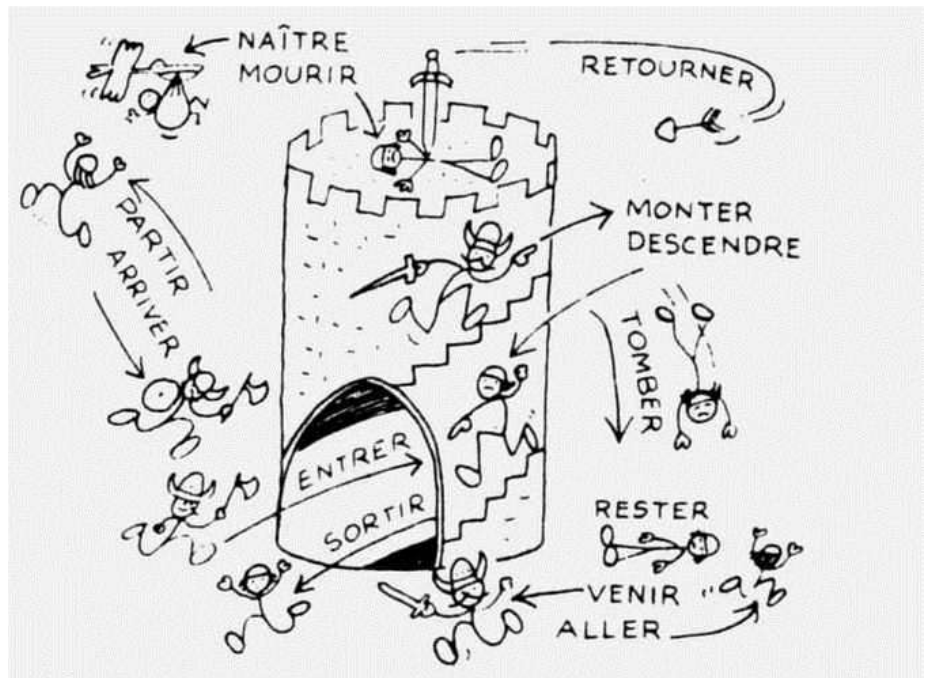
## B. Verbs using « être » / Mrs Van Der Tramps Verbs

A small group of verbs take the present tense of “être” as their auxiliary verb.

Here are two different ways to help you remember them.

### MRS VAN DER TRAMP

<b>M</b> ourir	to die
<b>R</b> etourner	to return
<b>S</b> ortir	to go out
<b>V</b> enir	to come
<b>A</b> rriver	to arrive
<b>N</b> aissance	to be born
<b>D</b> escendre	to go down
<b>E</b> nter	to enter
<b>R</b> evenir	to come back
<b>T</b> omber	to fall
<b>R</b> ester	to stay
<b>A</b> ller	to go out
<b>M</b> onter	to go up
<b>P</b> artir	to leave



1) They are formed using the present tense of **être** + 2) past participle

<p><b>1</b> <u>Use the correct form of « être »</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">je suis tu es il/elle est nous sommes vous êtes ils/elles sont</p>	<p><b>2</b> <u>use the past participle of the verbs</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Mourir</td><td>mort*</td></tr> <tr><td>Retourner</td><td>retourné</td></tr> <tr><td>Sortir</td><td>sorti</td></tr> <tr><td>Venir</td><td>venu*</td></tr> <tr><td>Arriver</td><td>arrivé</td></tr> <tr><td>Naître</td><td>né*</td></tr> <tr><td>Descendre</td><td>descendu</td></tr> <tr><td>Entrer</td><td>entré</td></tr> <tr><td>Revenir</td><td>revenu*</td></tr> <tr><td>Tomber</td><td>tombé</td></tr> <tr><td>Rester</td><td>resté</td></tr> <tr><td>Aller</td><td>allé</td></tr> <tr><td>Monter</td><td>monté</td></tr> <tr><td>Partir</td><td>parti</td></tr> </table>	Mourir	mort*	Retourner	retourné	Sortir	sorti	Venir	venu*	Arriver	arrivé	Naître	né*	Descendre	descendu	Entrer	entré	Revenir	revenu*	Tomber	tombé	Rester	resté	Aller	allé	Monter	monté	Partir	parti
Mourir	mort*																												
Retourner	retourné																												
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Arriver	arrivé																												
Naître	né*																												
Descendre	descendu																												
Entrer	entré																												
Revenir	revenu*																												
Tomber	tombé																												
Rester	resté																												
Aller	allé																												
Monter	monté																												
Partir	parti																												

**N.B:** The past participle must 'agree with' who did the action.

- If the person who did the action was one **male**, then the past participle **does not change**:  
e.g. il est parti - *he left*.
- If **two or more males** did the action add -s:  
e.g. ils sont partis - *they left*.
- If the person was **female** you must add an extra -e to the end of the past participle:  
e.g. elle est partie - *she left*.
- If **two or more females** did the action you must add -es:  
e.g. elles sont parties - *they left*.

## Practice - Exercices

1. Fill in the perfect tense of the Mrs Van Der tramp verbs.

- a. They came \_\_\_\_\_
- b. He was born \_\_\_\_\_
- c. I went up \_\_\_\_\_
- d. We went down \_\_\_\_\_
- m. You (sg) stayed \_\_\_\_\_
- n. She has fallen \_\_\_\_\_
- o. You (pl) have arrived \_\_\_\_\_
- p. I left \_\_\_\_\_
- q. We went out \_\_\_\_\_
- r. You (pl) came back \_\_\_\_\_
- s. They died \_\_\_\_\_
- t. You (sg) have entered \_\_\_\_\_

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### C. Reflexives verbs in the perfect tense - les verbs pronominaux au passé composé

1. Reflexive verbs use **être** as auxiliary
2. the past participle **has to agree**, i.e. add an 'e' for feminine and 's' for plural
3. You will need

**the reflexive pronoun** →

je me	tu te	il/elle se	nous nous	vous vous	ils/elles se
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In summary, you need four parts:

1. Person
2. Reflexive pronoun (as above)
3. Appropriate part of **être**
4. Past participle, (watch out for irregulars), agreed if necessary

#### EXERCICE: Write the following in French

1. I got engaged\_\_je me suis fiancé(e)
2. You (sg) got dressed\_\_\_\_\_
3. He worried\_\_\_\_\_
4. She got washed\_\_\_\_\_
5. We put makeup on\_\_\_\_\_
6. You (pl) got married\_\_\_\_\_
7. They (m) combed their hair\_\_\_\_\_
8. They (f) rushed\_\_\_\_\_
9. You (sg) shaved\_\_\_\_\_
10. He met\_\_\_\_\_
11. They (m) made a mistake\_\_\_\_\_
12. We woke up\_\_\_\_\_

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Here are the verbs you will need	
<i>se fiancer</i>	<i>to get engaged</i>
<i>s'habiller</i>	<i>to get dressed</i>
<i>s'inquiéter</i>	<i>to worry</i>
<i>se laver</i>	<i>to get washed</i>
<i>se maquiller</i>	<i>to put makeup on</i>
<i>se marier</i>	<i>to get married</i>
<i>se peigner</i>	<i>to comb one's hair</i>
<i>se précipiter</i>	<i>to rush</i>
<i>se raser</i>	<i>to shave</i>
<i>se réunir</i>	<i>to meet</i>
<i>se tromper</i>	<i>to make a mistake</i>
<i>se réveiller</i>	<i>to wake up</i>



Practice of all types of verbs in the perfect tense -  
Exercices avec tous les types de verbes au passé composé

- Fiona: Corey, est-ce que tu \_\_\_\_\_ de l'insecticide? (boire)
- Tex: J' \_\_\_\_\_ de nouveaux poèmes. (écrire)
- Fiona: Moi, je \_\_\_\_\_ à la maison hier soir. (rester)
- Tex et Edouard \_\_\_\_\_ le match de foot. (regarder)
- Tex et Tammy \_\_\_\_\_ des amis hier soir. (rencontrer)
- Tammy \_\_\_\_\_ beaucoup de crêpes pour la fête. (préparer)
- Tex \_\_\_\_\_ visite à Paw-Paw. (rendre)
- Tammy \_\_\_\_\_ en France il y a un an. (aller)
- Joe-Bob et Corey \_\_\_\_\_ très tard. (se coucher)
- Edouard \_\_\_\_\_ en retard, comme toujours. (arriver)
- Corey et Joe-Bob, est-ce que vous \_\_\_\_\_ mes devoirs dans le frigo? (voir)
- Hier Tammy \_\_\_\_\_ dans le cours d'aérobique 'step'. (tomber)
- Nous \_\_\_\_\_ n'est-ce pas, Tex? (mincir)
- Corey et Joe-Bob, vous \_\_\_\_\_ très tard après la fête. (rentrer)
- Joe-Bob, est-ce que tu \_\_\_\_\_ la leçon? (comprendre)
- Hier soir, Tex et moi, nous \_\_\_\_\_ près de la rivière. (se promener)
- Corey \_\_\_\_\_ très vite ce matin. (s'habiller)
- Les étudiants \_\_\_\_\_ à Tex. (ne pas obéir)
- Tex, pourquoi est-ce que tu \_\_\_\_\_ avec Bette? (partir)
- Mes parents \_\_\_\_\_ sur l'autoroute. (mourir)
- Alors, est-ce qu'on \_\_\_\_\_ le film? (aimer)
- Tammy \_\_\_\_\_ contre Tex à la fête. (se fâcher)
- Edouard et Tex \_\_\_\_\_ après la course. (se reposer)
- Tammy et Bette \_\_\_\_\_ ensemble. (venir)
- Les enfants de Rita \_\_\_\_\_ en mai. (naître)
- Je \_\_\_\_\_ une fois avec une fille qui s'appelle Marianne. (sortir)
- Après la guerre, Paw-Paw \_\_\_\_\_ héros. (devenir)
- Tex et Tammy \_\_\_\_\_ au rez-de-chaussée. (descendre)
- Je \_\_\_\_\_ en classe aujourd'hui. (s'endormir)
- Bette et Tammy \_\_\_\_\_ au gymnase. (s'amuser)
- Joe-Bob, est-ce que tu \_\_\_\_\_ en cours aujourd'hui? (s'ennuyer)
- Qu'est-ce qui \_\_\_\_\_ à l'arrêt d'autobus? (se passer)
- Bette \_\_\_\_\_ à côté de Tex. (s'asseoir)
- Je \_\_\_\_\_ cent fois ce matin. (se laver)

# The Future tenses / le futur

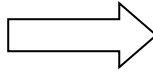
## I am going to play / I will play

### 1. The Immediate Future

In English: I am going to play  
 He is going to see  
 You're going to do

Use the appropriate part of the verb ALLER (to go) + infinitive.

ALLER
je vais - I'm going
tu vas - you're going
il/elle va - he/she's going
nous allons - we're going
vous allez - you're going
ils/elles vont - they're going



jouer = to play  
 We are going to play  
**Nous allons jouer**  
 Part of aller + infinitive

### Practice - Exercice

1. Fill in the immediate future tenses using the infinitives given below and the verb aller.

aimer (to love)	retourner (to return)	grimper (to climb)	courir (to cover)	être (to be)
promettre (to promise)	vendre (to sell)	enseigner (to teach)	dire (to say)	étudier (to study)

- a. He is going to return. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. We are going to cover. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. I am going to climb. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. They are going to teach. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. You (pl) are going to say. \_\_\_\_\_
- f. She is going to sell. \_\_\_\_\_
- g. You (sg) are going to promise. \_\_\_\_\_
- h. It is going to be. \_\_\_\_\_
- i. They are going to love. \_\_\_\_\_
- j. I am going to study. \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Fill in the gaps in these future plans using the words in the box.

Demain, je \_\_\_\_\_ sortir avec ma mère. Nous allons \_\_\_\_\_ du shopping dans la ville de Bordeaux. Nous \_\_\_\_\_ prendre le train à neuf heures et demie, et le train \_\_\_\_\_ arriver à Bordeaux à onze heures. Je vais \_\_\_\_\_ des vêtements pour mes vacances et un cadeau d'anniversaire pour mon petit ami. Ma mère et moi allons \_\_\_\_\_ dans un restaurant où mon cousin travaille. Ma tante \_\_\_\_\_ aussi venir au restaurant. Ma mère va \_\_\_\_\_ à la maison pour trois heures, et je vais \_\_\_\_\_ à la maison de ma tante.

acheter	aller	allons
faire	manger	rentrer
va	va	vais

9

## 2. The Future tense of regular verbs / le future des verbes réguliers

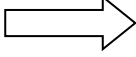
In English: I **will** play

He **will** see

You **will** do

The Future Tense is formed by adding endings onto the infinitive:

<b>ENDINGS</b>	Je	<b>-ai</b>
	Tu	<b>-ais</b>
	il/elle	<b>-a</b>
	nous	<b>-ons</b>
	vous	<b>-ez</b>
	ils/elles	<b>-ont</b>



<u>parler = to talk</u>	
je	parler <b>ai</b>
tu	parler <b>as</b>
il	parler <b>a</b>
nous	parler <b>ons</b>
vous	parler <b>ez</b>
ils	parler <b>ont</b>

**Be careful** : the verbs from the -RE group lose their final **E** before adding the future endings:

e.g: vendre > Vendr- = I will sell > je vendr**ai**

## Practice - Exercices

Fill in the Future Tenses using the infinitives given below.

manger (to eat)	appeler (to call)	finir (to finish)	vendre (to sell)	découvrir (to discover)	comprendre (to understand)
--------------------	----------------------	----------------------	---------------------	----------------------------	-------------------------------

- a. You (sg) will call \_\_\_\_\_
- b. They will understand \_\_\_\_\_
- c. I will finish \_\_\_\_\_
- d. You (pl) will sell \_\_\_\_\_
- e. He will eat \_\_\_\_\_
- f. We will discover \_\_\_\_\_
- g. She will finish \_\_\_\_\_
- h. You (sg) will understand \_\_\_\_\_
- i. I will discover \_\_\_\_\_
- j. We will eat \_\_\_\_\_

<b>10</b>

### 3. The Future tense of irregular verbs / le future simple des verbes irréguliers

These verbs change their infinitive to take an irregular stem to which you add the regular future endings

Infinitive	Future stem	Infinitive	Future stem	Infinitive	Future
être - to be	ser-	devoir - to have to	devr-	savoir - to know	saur-
avoir - to have	aur-	pouvoir - can/to be able to	pourr-	venir - to come	viendr-
aller - to go	ir-	vouloir - to want	voudr-	voir - to see	verr-
faire - to do	fer-	recevoir - to receive	recevr-	courir - to run	courr-

For these verbs, use the irregular stem and add the regular endings:

aller - I will go > j'**irai**

vouloir - we will want > nous **voudrons**

voir - they will see > ils **verront**

## Practice - Exercices

Fill in the irregular Future Tenses.

- |                           |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. I will be _____        | m. You (sg) will come _____ |
| b. We will receive _____  | n. He will do _____         |
| c. She will have _____    | o. They will know _____     |
| d. You (pl) will do _____ | p. I will run _____         |
| e. He will want _____     | q. She will have to _____   |
| f. She will go _____      | r. We will see _____        |
| g. You (sg) will do _____ | s. I will want _____        |
| h. It will have _____     | t. We will do _____         |
| i. They will come _____   | u. I will be able _____     |
| j. They will be _____     | v. We will know _____       |
| k. You (pl) will do _____ | w. He will receive _____    |
| l. She will be able _____ | x. You (pl) will want _____ |

# The Imperfect tense / l'Imparfait

## I used to play / I was playing

☛ It is also used to indicate what used to happen in the past, habitual or repeated actions in the past  
ex: I **used to go out** every night last summer = je **sortais** tous les soirs l'ete dernier.

☛ It is also used for description in the past:

ex: It **was raining** every day = il **pleuvait** tous les jours

### 1. Regular Verbs / les verbes réguliers

Put the verb in the "nous" form in the present and remove the "ons" then add these endings

ENDINGS	je	ais
	tu	ais
	il/elle/on	ait
	nous	ions
	vous	iez
	ils/elles	aient

choisir = to choose > nous form in the present = nous choisissons > remove ons = choisiss-

To form "We used to choose"

choisiss- > nous choisiss**ions**

### Practice - Exercices

Fill in the regular imperfects

jouer (to play)	signer (to sign)	choisir (to choose)
oublier (to forget)	chercher (to search)	promettre (to promise)

1. I was playing \_\_\_\_\_
2. You (pl.) were playing \_\_\_\_\_
3. You (pl.) were signing \_\_\_\_\_
4. You (sing.) used to search \_\_\_\_\_
5. He used to promise \_\_\_\_\_
6. They used to promise \_\_\_\_\_
7. You (sing.) were choosing \_\_\_\_\_
8. We were promising \_\_\_\_\_
9. I used to forget \_\_\_\_\_
10. You (pl.) used to choose \_\_\_\_\_
11. She was searching \_\_\_\_\_
12. They were forgetting \_\_\_\_\_

12

### 2. Irregular Verbs = le verbe irrégulier

	Etre (to be)
je	étais
tu	étais
il/elle/on	était
nous	étions
vous	étiez
ils/elles	étaient

# The Conditional tense / le Conditionnel

In English: I **would** play  
 He **would** see  
 You **would** do

The Conditional Tense is formed by adding endings onto the infinitive (-RE verbs lose their E):

<b>ENDINGS</b>	je	<b>ais</b>
	tu	<b>ais</b>
	il/elle/on	<b>ait</b>
	nous	<b>ions</b>
	vous	<b>iez</b>
	ils/elles	<b>aient</b>

➔

	<b>parler</b>	<b>choisir</b>	<b>vivre</b>
je	<b>parlerais</b>	<b>choisirais</b>	<b>vivrais</b>
tu	<b>parlerais</b>	<b>choisirais</b>	<b>vivrais</b>
il	<b>parlerait</b>	<b>choisirait</b>	<b>vivrait</b>
nous	<b>parlerions</b>	<b>choisirions</b>	<b>vivrions</b>
vous	<b>parleriez</b>	<b>choisiriez</b>	<b>vivriez</b>
ils	<b>parleraient</b>	<b>choisiraient</b>	<b>vivraient</b>

## Practice - Exercices

Fill in the Conditional Tenses using the infinitives given below.

demander (to ask)	cuisiner (to cook)	rompre* (to break)	vivre* (to live)	regarder (to watch)	decider (to decide)
----------------------	-----------------------	-----------------------	---------------------	------------------------	------------------------

- a. They would break \_\_\_\_\_
- b. He would cook \_\_\_\_\_
- c. You (pl) would ask \_\_\_\_\_
- d. We would live \_\_\_\_\_
- e. She would watch \_\_\_\_\_
- f. You (sg) would decide \_\_\_\_\_
- g. I would break \_\_\_\_\_
- h. They would cook \_\_\_\_\_
- i. I would decide \_\_\_\_\_
- j. You (sg) would watch \_\_\_\_\_

<b>10</b>
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### 3. The Conditional tense of irregular verbs / le conditionnel des verbes réguliers\*

Infinitive	Future stem	Infinitive	Future stem	Infinitive	Future
être - to be	<b>ser-</b>	devoir - to have to	<b>devr-</b>	savoir - to know	<b>saur-</b>
avoir - to have	<b>aur-</b>	pouvoir - can/to be able to	<b>pourr-</b>	venir - to come	<b>viendr-</b>
aller - to go	<b>ir-</b>	vouloir - to want	<b>voudr-</b>	voir - to see	<b>verr-</b>
faire - to do	<b>fer-</b>	recevoir - to receive	<b>recevr-</b>	courir - to run	<b>courr-</b>

**\*Notice that the verbs that are irregular in the Future tense are also irregular in the Conditional tense.**

## Practice - Exercices

Fill in the irregular Conditional Tenses.

- |    |                   |       |    |                        |       |
|----|-------------------|-------|----|------------------------|-------|
| a. | I would see       | _____ | m. | They would come        | _____ |
| b. | You (sg) would do | _____ | n. | She would do           | _____ |
| c. | I would have      | _____ | o. | He would know          | _____ |
| d. | We would do       | _____ | p. | You (pl) would do      | _____ |
| e. | She would want    | _____ | q. | I would be             | _____ |
| f. | It would know     | _____ | r. | You (sg) would run     | _____ |
| g. | They would do     | _____ | s. | You (pl) would want    | _____ |
| h. | It would be able  | _____ | t. | We would run           | _____ |
| i. | He would come     | _____ | u. | You (pl) would be able | _____ |
| j. | He would see      | _____ | v. | You (sg) would know    | _____ |
| k. | We would see      | _____ | w. | She would have         | _____ |
| l. | I would be able   | _____ | x. | We would want          | _____ |

Further practice can be done on:

[www.languagesonline.org.uk](http://www.languagesonline.org.uk) > Français > Grammar 😊

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