

The Perfect Tense - 1

To form the perfect (past) tense, you will need to use the verb **avoir**, plus a past participle.

1 Avoir – To Have

j'ai	_____	= I have
tu	_____	= you have (informal)
il	_____	= he has
elle	_____	= she has
nous	_____	= we have
vous	_____	= you have (formal)
ils	_____	= they have (masc)
elles	_____	= they have (fem)

2 What do you think is the meaning of these past participles?

joué	_____
regardé	_____
fait	_____
mangé	_____
visité	_____
fini	_____
attendu	_____

Have you spotted any patterns yet?

To make the **past participle** you need to take the infinitive and apply these simple rules:

Verbs ending in...	er	ir	re
Such as...	regarder	finir	répondre
Take off the...	er	ir	re
And replace with...	é	i	u
For example...	regardé	fini	répondu

3 What is the past participle of these verbs?

- acheter _____
- parler _____
- attendre _____
- donner _____
- choisir _____
- perdre _____
- vendre _____
- commencer _____
- réussir _____

Do you know what all of these mean in English?

Putting it all together

Remember that you need your part of avoir from section 1 plus a

past participle

J'ai joué	= I played
il a regardé	= he watched
elle a attendu	= she waited
nous avons choisi	= we chose
ils ont parlé	= they spoke

Could you explain all of this to someone else?
Sometimes it can help you to understand better!

While most verbs follow the patterns on page one, some verbs are irregular and unfortunately work differently.



4 What do these past participles mean?

- a. lu (lire) _____
- b. bu (boire) _____
- c. vu (voir) _____
- d. compris (comprendre) _____
- e. fait (faire) _____
- f. eu (avoir) _____
- g. été (être) _____
- h. pris (prendre) _____
- i. su (savoir) _____
- j. dû (devoir) _____

The infinitive is in brackets to help you!

5 Fill in the gaps:

- a. I drank = J'ai _____
- b. He took = il a _____
- c. We did = nous avons _____
- d. She saw = elle _____ vu
- e. They ate = ils ont _____
- f. I sold = J'_____ vendu
- g. He read = il a _____
- h. He had to = _____ a dû
- i. They gave = elles _____ donné
- j. You spoke = tu as _____

So remember, in order to make the perfect tense in French you need:

	Person	+	Avoir	+	Past Participle
eg.	j'		ai		mangé
	il		a		bu
	nous		avons		écouté

Then, to make a full sentence, you need to add a detail on to the end!

Translate these into French:

- a) I ate a pizza. _____
- b) He drank coke. _____
- c) We listened to music. _____
- d) They did their homework. (mixed) _____
- e) I bought a T-shirt. _____
- f) He understood the book. _____
- g) You spoke French. (sing) _____
- h) She waited for the bus. _____
- i) You chose freedom. (plural) _____
- j) They played tennis in the afternoon. _____