

- regular verbs in the present
- irregular verbs in the present

Grammaire



Revisions Regular verbs in the present

1 To conjugate **er**, **ir**, and **re** verbs in the present tense (to say that something *is happening* or *happens*), drop the last two letters from the infinitive and add the endings below.

| | aimer | choisir | attendre |
|------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| je/j' | aim e | chois i s | att e nd |
| tu | aim es | chois i s | att e nd |
| il/elle/on | aim e | chois i t | att e nd |
| nous | aim ons | chois issons | att endons |
| vous | aim ez | chois issez | att endez |
| ils/elles | aim ent | chois issent | att endent |

2 To make a sentence negative, place **ne/n'... pas** around the conjugated verb.

Il attend le bus.

Il n'**attend pas** le bus.

Déjà vu!

You already know that in English any verb, for example *to play*, can be conjugated in the present tense three different ways:

I play chess.

I do play chess.

I am playing chess.

Do you remember how you would say the same sentences in French?

Je joue aux échecs.



Revisions Irregular verbs in the present

1 You've already learned many irregular verbs. Do you remember how to conjugate these verbs?

| | avoir | être | aller |
|------------|-------|--------|--------|
| je/j' | ai | suis | vais |
| tu | as | es | vas |
| il/elle/on | a | est | va |
| nous | avons | sommes | allons |
| vous | avez | êtes | allez |
| ils/elles | ont | sont | vont |

Vous avez raison!

Tu es vraiment sympa!

Je vais en Grèce cet été.

| | faire | prendre | venir |
|------------|---------|----------|----------|
| je | fais | prends | viens |
| tu | fais | prends | viens |
| il/elle/on | fait | prend | vient |
| nous | faisons | prenons | venons |
| vous | faites | prenez | venez |
| ils/elles | font | prennent | viennent |

Julien fait ses devoirs.

Tu prends l'avion pour aller en Angleterre?

Vous venez avec moi?

- the *passé composé*
- using the *passé composé* and the *imparfait*

Grammaire

vacances 2

Révisions The *passé composé*



- 1 Use the **passé composé** to say that something happened at a specific time. The **passé composé** has two parts: the helping verb (**avoir** or **être**) and the past participle of the main verb. To make a sentence negative, place **ne/n'... pas** around the helping verb.
- 2 The helping verb **avoir** is used with most verbs in the **passé composé**. The helping verb **être** is used with verbs of transition and motion and with reflexive verbs.
- 3 To form the past participle of regular verbs, drop the last two letters of the infinitive and add the following endings to the stem.

-er → -é -ir → -i -re → -u

Here are the past participles of some irregular verbs you already know.

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| aller → allé | être → été | pouvoir → pu |
| avoir → eu | faire → fait | prendre → pris |
| connaître → connu | lire → lu | venir → venu |
| croire → cru | mettre → mis | voir → vu |
| devoir → dû | pleuvoir → plu | vouloir → voulu |

- 4 If the helping verb is **être**, the past participle agrees in gender and number with the subject.

Elles sont **allées** au cinéma.

If the helping verb is **avoir**, the past participle agrees in gender and number with a preceding direct object.

Tu as **lu** les livres de Pagnol? Non, je ne **les** ai pas **lus**.



Révisions

The *passé composé* and the *imparfait*



En anglais

In English, to say that you used to do something repeatedly, you use a variety of expressions in the past tense:

- When I was young,
- I **used to play** soccer.
 - I **would play** soccer.
 - I **played** soccer.

What is the difference between the above sentences and "Last weekend, I played soccer"?

In French, the *imparfait* includes all these expressions:
Quand j'étais petit(e), je jouais au foot.

- 1 To conjugate verbs in the *imparfait* take the present tense *nous* form of the verb, minus *-ons*, and add the following endings: **-ais, -ais, -ait, -ions, -iez, -aient**.

Être is the only verb that has an irregular stem in the *imparfait*: *ét-*.

- 2 To talk about events that *used to happen* or *were happening*, and to describe people, things, and situations in the past, use the *imparfait*.

Quand j'étais enfant, on allait souvent à la montagne.

Il faisait beau et la mer était bleue.

- 3 To talk about past events that happened at a *specific time in the past* or during a *well-defined period of time*, use the *passé composé*.

Hier, Fabrice est parti en vacances.

Sonia a rendu visite à ses grands-parents l'été dernier.

- 4 When a continuous action is interrupted by an event, use the *imparfait* to describe the continuous action and the *passé composé* to describe the interrupting event.

Élisa faisait sa valise quand son copain lui a téléphoné.

Un peu plus Révisions



Reflexive verbs in the *passé composé*

- Reflexive verbs always use *être* as the helping verb in the *passé composé*.
- When the main verb is a reflexive verb AND the reflexive pronoun is a direct object, the past participle agrees in gender and number with the direct object.

Alice s'est lavée.

- If the direct object of the reflexive verb is placed after the verb, there is no agreement of the past participle.

Alice s'est lavé les cheveux.

