



Year 8 Module 2 – Paris, je t’adore - Grammaire Higher

Past tense (Perfect Tense)

To form the past tense we use the verb **avoir** + a **past participle**.
 This past tense (perfect tense) can be formed in a similar way in English
 e.g. I **have** visited
 or I visited

Avoir is an auxiliary verb as it helps to form the tense.

Past participle

To form the past participle of a verb, we start with the infinitive.

-er verbs – take of er and add **é**

-ir verbs – take off ir and add **i**

-re verbs – take off re and add **u**

Avoir (auxiliary verb)	Past Participle	English
J'ai	visit é	I visited/ have visited
Tu as	mang é	You (s) ate/ have eaten
Il a /Elle a /On a	envoy é	He/ She/We sent/ have sent
Nous av ons	regard é	We watched / have watched
Vous av ez	fin i	You (pl) finished / have finished
Ils ont /Elles ont	attend u	They waited / have waited

Irregular Past Participles

Some common verbs do not follow the normal pattern.
 We still use **avoir** as the auxiliary verb, but the past participle is irregular

J'ai bu- <i>I drank</i>	J'ai mis – <i>I put</i>
J'ai lu – <i>I read</i>	J'ai pris – <i>I took</i>
J'ai eu – <i>I had</i>	J'ai dit – <i>I said</i>
J'ai pu – <i>I could</i>	J'ai écrit – <i>I wrote</i>
J'ai voulu – <i>I wanted</i>	J'ai ri – <i>I laughed</i>
J'ai reçu – <i>I received</i>	J'ai suivi – <i>I followed</i>
J'ai su – <i>I knew</i>	J'ai fait – <i>I did / made</i>
J'ai vu – <i>I saw</i>	J'ai ouvert – <i>I opened</i>
J'ai couru – <i>I ran</i>	J'ai été – <i>I have been / was</i>
J'ai dû – <i>I had to</i>	

MRSVANDERTRAMP verbs

To form the past tense of these verbs, we use the verb **être** + a **past participle**.
Être is the auxiliary verb which helps to form the past tense of these verbs.

être (auxiliary verb)	Past Participle
Je suis Tu es Il est /Elle est /On est Nous sommes Vous êtes Ils sont /Elles sont	Monté – <i>went up / got on</i> Resté - <i>stayed</i> Sorti – <i>went out</i> Venu - <i>came</i> Allé - <i>went</i> Né – <i>was born</i> Descendu – <i>went down / got off</i> Entré – <i>entered / went in</i> Retourné - <i>returned</i> Tombé - <i>fell</i> Rentré – <i>went back in/ returned</i> Arrivé – <i>arrived</i> Mort - <i>died</i> Parti - <i>left</i>

These verbs **agree in gender and number**, just like adjectives.

m.s. + -

f.s. + e

m.pl. + s

f.pl + es

For Example

Je suis allé – I went (m.s.)


Je suis allée – I went (f.s.)

Nous sommes allés – We went (m.pl. or mixed group)

Nous sommes allées – We went (f.pl.)

Revision - Asking questions

There are 3 different ways to ask a question.

- Turn a statement into a question by **making your voice go up** at the end of the sentence
Il y a une piscine? 
Is there a swimming pool?
- **Inversion.** Swap the subject and object
Veux-tu visiter les Catacombes?
Do you want to visit the Catacombes?
 An extra **t** is added between two vowels to make pronunciation easier.
Y a-t-il vu un café?
Is there a café?
- Add **est-ce que** (literally ...is it that ?)
Est-ce que c'est fermé le mardi?
Is it closed on Saturdays?
- The same pattern is used with question words?
Tu habites où?
Où habites-tu?
Où est-ce que tu habites?

Asking questions in the past tense

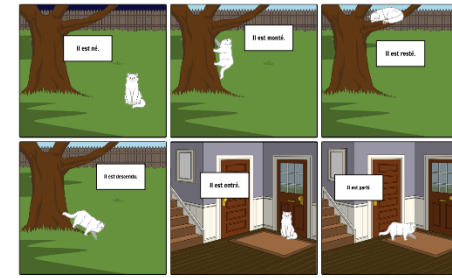
We use the same 3 ways to ask questions in the past tense.
Be careful : In English we add **did** in the question – we do not translate this in French.

Did you visit the Louvre ?

Tu as visité le Louvre ?

As-tu visité le Louvre?

Est-ce que tu as visité le Louvre ?



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Negatives in the past tense

The **ne ... pas** go around the **auxiliary verb**

Je **n'ai pas** visité Notre Dame

I didn't visit Notre-Dame

Nous **n'avons pas** mangé au restaurant

We didn't eat at the restaurant

Je **ne suis pas** allée en Tunisie

I did not go to Tunisia

The pronoun y - there

The pronoun replaces a place in the sentence.

Je suis allée **en France**

I went to France

J'**y** suis allée

I went there

It comes before the verb it refers to

Je vais **y** aller

I am going to go there



Listening for the past

There are two ways we can recognise that someone is talking about the past.

Sound

Listen for the **é (ay)** sound at the end of most past tense verbs

Time phrases

Listen for a time phrase which indicates the past.

l'année dernière – last year

hier - yesterday