

Get the perfect tense right!

Present tense of être or avoir
+ past participle

être

je suis
tu es
il/elle est
nous sommes
vous êtes
ils/elles sont

avoir

j'ai
tu as
il/elle a
nous avons
vous avez
ils/elles ont



Having trouble remembering the verbs that take être in the perfect tense?

Try these two mnemonics

DR & MRS VAN DER TRAMP

Devenir
Revenir
&
Monter
Rester
Sortir

Venir
Aller
Naître

Descendre
Entrer
Rentrer

Tomber
Retourner
Arriver
Mourir
Partir

ADVENT

This time the verbs are
in pairs of opposites
(= 1 extra!)

Arriver – Partir
Descendre – Monter
Venir – Aller
Entrer – Sortir
Naître – Mourir
Tomber – Rester
Retourner

Apprendre le français Learn French



Did you know?

- 73% percent of employers are looking to employ people with conversational language skills.
- Recent graduates who study Modern Foreign Languages have entered careers in public administration, business consultancy, the media, education, IT, marketing, banking, the law, the civil service, and tourism.
- In a poll of 500 employers, two in five recruiters said speaking a second language gives a candidate the 'x-factor' when applying for a job.
- Speaking a second language also boosts earnings. Research reveals the mean salary of language graduates three years after finishing university is ahead of engineering, maths, physics and astronomy, and chemistry graduates.
- 1 in 10 British people are living and working abroad after learning a foreign language.

Virelangues *Tongue twisters*

Tatie, ton thé t'a-t-il ôté ta toux ?
Tatie (aunt), has your tea cured your cough?

Combien sont ces six saucissons-ci ?
Ces six saucissons-ci sont six sous.
Six sous ! C'est trop cher !
*How much are these six sausages?
These six sausages are six sous.*
Six sous! That's too expensive!*

Les chaussettes de l'archiduchesse sont-elles sèches ? Elles sont sèches, archi-sèches.
*Are the socks of the archduchess dry?
They are dry, extra dry.*

**a sou is an old French coin which was worth around five centimes*



Les faux amis *False friends*

La journée (day), and **le voyage** (journey)
Les informations and **l'actualité/les actualités**
both refer to the news

Beware of English words used in French, but not as you might expect:
un smoking (a dinner jacket)
les people (celebrities)
les tongs (flip flops)
des baskets (trainers, sports shoes)

A lot of confusion seems to surround the three words:
une boisson (drink)
un poisson (fish)
un poison (poison)

It pays to work on your accent and your genders...

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