Well versed in verbs? (1)

To avoid making mistakes when you use verbs:

1. Find the verb in the dictionary, and note its number, e.g. \([1]\).
2. The number links to the verb tables on the blue pages in your dictionary.

All verbs number \([1]\) follow the same pattern as the verb \([1]\) in the list (aimer), so they take the same endings.

For example: if you want to say My parents chat a lot.

1. Look up chat:
   chat verb causer \([1]\)

2. Look up pattern \([1]\)
   in the blue pages. The form you need is they = ils.
   ils aiment

3. Add the ending you need to your verb:
   My parents chat a lot = Mes parents caissent beaucoup.

After the disco

Look at these French sentences. Find the missing French verb and write the correct form of the present tense in the sentence. Then number the sentences correctly to tell a dramatic story.

1. Henri retrouve Julie à une disco.

2. Henri roule trop vite.

3. Une ambulance arrive à un hôpital.

4. Henri a une Porsche.

5. Aie! Nous skid.

6. Henri, tu bleed !

7. Une fille téléphone à un hôpital.

8. Tu dance super-bien, Julie!


10. Il rain.
Well versed in verbs? (2)

When looking up a verb:

1. Find the verb in the dictionary and note its number, e.g.

   to say verb dire [9]
   to leave verb partir [58]

2. The number links to the verb tables on the blue pages in your dictionary. There you’ll find:

   - Verbs 1–14 are given in full. Just pick the form that you need in your sentence, so:
     - Ils disent beaucoup.
   - The top line is the present tense, so:
     - Ils partent à 8h.

1. Verb numbers

   Write the verbs with these numbers:

   - [5] _______ to have
   - [47] _______ to forbid
   - [64] _______ to take
   - [69] _______ to laugh
   - [72] _______ to go out

EXTRA Jumble the first letters of the five verbs, and you’ll get the name of a European capital city:

   ____ ____ ____

2. Activities

   - Look up the bold verbs in your dictionary and note their numbers.
   - Look up the verbs in the blue pages and copy the form you need in each sentence.

   1. I run fast.
      e.g. run = [29] je cours vite.

   2. He often goes to the ice rink.
      go = [___]
      Il ________ souvent à la patinoire.

   3. We read a lot.
      read = [___]
      Nous ________ beaucoup.

   4. They lay the table every day.
      lay = [___]
      Ils ________ la table tous les jours.
Using the verb lists (1)

The past tense is called the ‘perfect’ and it uses the past participle.
When you look up verbs in the past in English (e.g. they waited):

- look up the infinitive of the verb. e.g. I waited, j’ai attendu. Note the number in square brackets.[3].
- look up the verb in the verb lists [3]. Find the perfect tense, and the form of the verb you want: > they waited ils ont attendu

Note: Verbs 15–82 give the present tense first and the past participle second:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present tense</th>
<th>Past participle needed for the perfect tense.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[37] dormir</td>
<td>- 1 je dors, nous dormons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 2 dormi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 3 je dormais</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 4 je dormirai</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Four steps to the French perfect tense
Write the French for each sentence. Follow the four steps a, b, c, and d.

Example: I had to phone Nathalie.

a What is the infinitive in English?
   have to

c Look up verb table [8]. Find the perfect in the form you need.
   j’ai dû

b Look this up in the English side of your dictionary.
   devoir [8]

d Complete the sentence.
   J’ai dû appeler Nathalie.

1 They suffered a lot.
   a suffer

   b __________________________

   c __________________________

   d __________________________ beaucoup __________________________

2 We had a dog.
   a __________________________

   b __________________________

   c __________________________

   d __________________________

3 You went out last night.
   a __________________________

   b __________________________

   c __________________________

   d __________________________

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When you look up verbs which are irregular in French, you’ll find a number in square brackets, e.g. to do verb faire [10], or to paint verb peindre [60].

Look up these verbs in the lists in the middle of your dictionary:

- verbs 1–14 give you the full present, perfect, imperfect, future and conditional tenses.
- verbs 15–82 give you the information in a more condensed form:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>[82] vivre</th>
<th>Present tense</th>
<th>Past participle</th>
<th>Imperfect tense</th>
<th>Future tense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 je vis, nous vivons</td>
<td>2 vécu</td>
<td>3 je vivais</td>
<td>4 je vivrai</td>
<td>When you need the endings for other persons in these tenses they are regular so look at one of the verbs 1–14.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A letter

- Look up each numbered English verb and note the French verb and its number.
- Now fill in the correct form of each verb.

Hi Karima,
I received (1) your postcard last week - many thanks. I wanted (2) to write to you at the weekend, but I had (3) too much work. But luckily I’ll see (4) you next week! My mum will drive (5) me to Paris on Thursday and I hope we’ll be able (6) to go to town.
All the best,
Marie

Chère Karima,
J’ai reçu ta carte postale la semaine passée - un grand merci. J’_____ _______ t’écrire le week-end, mais j’_____ _______ trop de travail. Mais heureusement je te _________ la semaine prochaine! Ma mère me _________ à Paris jeudi, et j’espère que nous _________ aller en ville.
Amicalement,
Marie

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Villainous verbs made harmless

Remember, some verbs take être in the perfect tense. Your dictionary points them out with this symbol: ê
to break down  tomber [1] en panne

So: We broke down in Calais.
Nous sommes tombés en panne à Calais.

* TIP
Forgotten the parts of the verb être?
No problem! Look up the verb [6] être in your verb lists, and select the form you need.

1 Verbs that take être

Use your dictionary to complete the French sentences.

1 We left.
Nous

2 Marianne went out.
Marianne

3 Sophie and Lucien went up.
Sophie et Lucien

4 Paul, did you go down?
Paul, tu

Reflexive verbs also take être in the perfect tense, and they also have the ê symbol. e.g.
to make friends  se faire [10] des amis

So: I've made some friends.
Je me suis fait des amis.

* TIP
[10] faire will give you the parts of faire.
[4] se laver will give you the reflexive particles:
je me ..., tu te ..., il se ... etc.

2 Reflexive verbs

1 Luc broke his arm.
Luc

2 They got married in July.
Ils

3 Marie ran away.
Marie

4 Did you all sit down?
Vous

Unjumble all the boxed letters to find the French word.
A very useful book – un d ____________________________ .

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Many English verbs have two parts, e.g. cut down, cut out, cut up.
They are listed alphabetically at the end of the entry for the verb, e.g.

TIP
Look out for the blue bullet points at the end of the dictionary entry for the verb.

1. Lots of verbs with ‘put’
   Complete the word web.

   (clothes) on  
   1 mettre des vêtements

   (the light) off  
   2 ____________

   something away  
   3 ____________ quelque chose

   something back  
   4 ____________ quelque chose

   (your hand) up  
   5 ____________ la main

   something down  
   6 ____________ quelque chose

   (the light) on  
   7 ____________ la lampe

2. Lots of verbs with ‘get’
   Now do the word web below – you can choose your own words.

   out of the car  
   1 descendre de la voiture

   ____________

   ____________

   ____________

   into the car  
   7 monter dans la voiture
Victory with verbs (1)

Verbs are used in various forms and tenses, but dictionaries list the infinitive.

- Look for entries labelled verb. The infinitives will end in -er, -re, or -ir.
- Read all the meanings given. Yours needn’t be the first one!

**Il a enregistré l'interview sur CD.**

**enregistrer** verb [1]
1 to record

- He recorded the interview on CD.

**Elle a suivi l'équipe de football.**

**suivre** verb [75]
1 to follow

- She followed the football team.

Amateur journalists
Look up the underlined verbs in your dictionary, and write the infinitives of the verbs in the puzzle.

Nous avons fondé un journal de classe.
Le maire nous a permis de l'interviewer.
Marc a rendu visite au maire.
Il a enregistré l'interview sur CD.
Suzanne a suivi l'équipe de football de la ville.
Elle a décrit la finale dans son article.
Elle a réussi à interviewer la capitaine.
L'équipe nous a offert de l’argent.
Anne et Hugo sont descendus au commissariat de police.
Ils ont recueilli des statistiques sur le crime.
C'était génial, tout le monde a participé.
Même notre prof de français s’est jointe à nous.

* TIP
permis ... mis is the past participle of mettre.

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Victory with verbs (2)

Remember reflexive verbs? They’re the ones used with an extra particle: Je me lève I get up
Il se lave He gets washed

- The infinitive of a reflexive verb has se or s’ in front of it, e.g. s’habiller.
- To find verbs like these in the dictionary, look under the first letter of the main part of the verb, i.e. s’habiller is under H.
- Watch out! Most reflexive verbs are listed after a form of the verb which is not reflexive. So make sure you find the right entry!

Read the French sentences and then
- circle the first letter of the main part of the reflexive verb
- look up the verb in your dictionary and write the infinitive
- write what the verb means in English.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>infinitif français</th>
<th>verbe anglais</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Nous nous entendons bien.</td>
<td>s’ e n t e n d r e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Ne t’inquiète pas.</td>
<td>s’ _______ _______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Le soir, je me détends.</td>
<td>se _______ _______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Tu te souviens de moi?</td>
<td>se _______ _______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 On se retrouve devant la gare?</td>
<td>se _______ _______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Le bébé s’est endormi?</td>
<td>s’ _______ _______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Tu t’es baignée dans la mer?</td>
<td>se _______ _______</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Write the boxed letters in the order given to find a useful verb.
En français: s’
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

En anglais: to ____________________________