

French

Describing life when I was younger [2/2]

- Using -er verbs in the imperfect tense

Mr Hodgson





[ai]



vrai



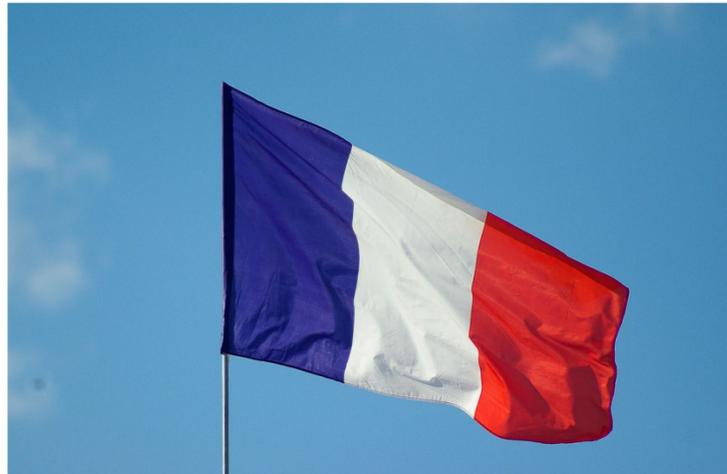


français  Shhhhh!

[ai]

fais  Shhhhh!

mauvais  Shhhhh!





[SFE] Silent Final E

[shy]

Shhhhh!

timid~~x~~

The illustration shows a person with brown skin and curly hair holding a yellow sign with the phonetic transcription [shy]. To the right is a 'shushing' emoji (a yellow face with a finger to its lips) and the text 'Shhhhh!'. Below these elements, the word 'timid' is written in a grey sans-serif font, followed by a large blue 'X' that is crossed out with a red circle, indicating that the word does not have a silent final 'e'.





[SFE] Silent Final E

monde



vie



moderne





j'étais	I was/I used to be
j'habitais	I was living/I used to live
j'allais	I used to go
j'avais	I used to have/I had
je jouais	I was playing/I used to play
j'aimais	I used to like
je détestais	I used to hate
je portais	I was wearing/I used to wear
je rêvais d'être	I used to dream of being
plus jeune	younger



How to form the imperfect tense with regular ER verbs



The **imperfect tense** refers to what we used to do on a regular basis in the past.

- Take the nous form of the present tense.
- Remove the -ons to form the **imperfect stem**.
- Add the **imperfect ending**.



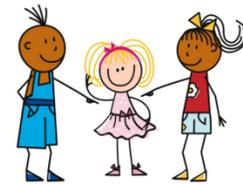
Je **jouais** - I used to play



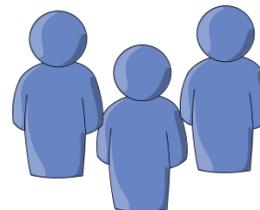
Tu **jouais** - You used to play



Il **jouait** - He used to play



Elle **jouait** - She used to play



On **jouait** - We/you used to play



The verb être in the imperfect tense



The verb être is the only verb with an irregular **imperfect stem**.
The **imperfect ending** is still the same.



J'**étais** - I used to be



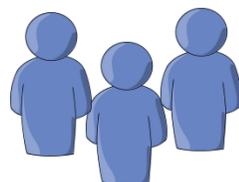
Tu **étais** - You used to be



Il **était** - He used to be



Elle **était** - She used to be



On **était** - We/you used to be



Describing life when I was younger

1. We use the imperfect tense to describe what we...
used to do (regularly)
2. I used to visit (visiter) =
je visitais
3. She used to visit (visiter) =
elle visitait
4. We used to visit (visiter) =
on visitait
5. What is the only irregular verb in the imperfect tense?
être (to be)
6. How do you say 'I was'?
j'étais

