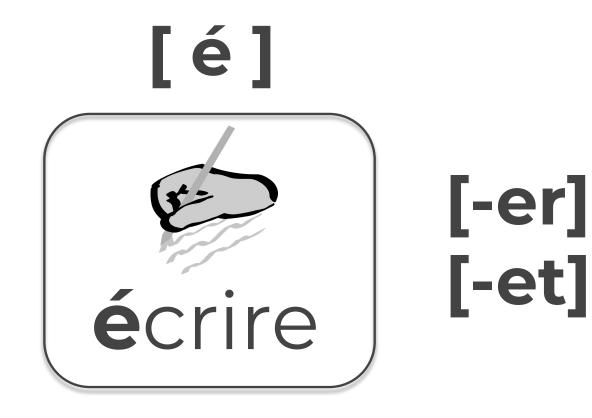
French

Saying What You Do and Did on Holiday [4/4] - The Perfect Tense with Être and Reflexive Verbs

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[SFC]



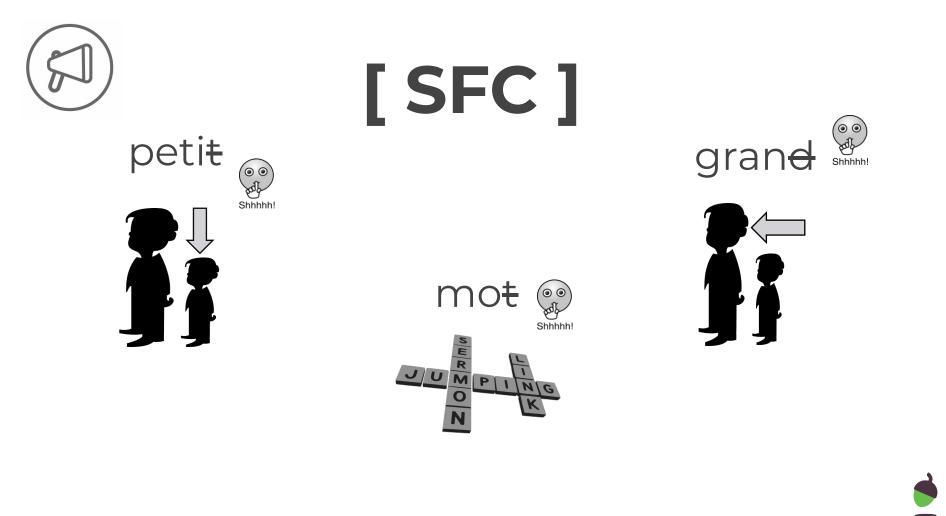




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l'année dernière	last year
l'été dernier	last summer
il y a X ans / mois	X years/months ago
souvent	often
se baigner dans la mer	to bathe/bathing in the sea
se promener à la campagne	to walk/walking in the countryside
se reposer sur la plage	to relax/relaxing on the beach
aller aux musées	to go/going to the museums
rester chez moi	to stay/staying at home
arriver à l'hôtel	to arrive/arriving at the hotel



(i) Meanings of the perfect tense

1. The perfect tense is used to talk about completed actions in the past

2. Verbs conjugated in the perfect tense in French have two meanings in English. J'ai mangé = **I ate** and **I have eaten.**

Most verbs use the conjugated form of **'avoir'** as their **auxiliary** verb - J'**ai** mangé.

4. Certain verbs use the conjugated form of 'être' as their auxiliary verb.

5. Most of these verbs concern **movement** : going, arriving, staying

6. All reflexive verbs use 'être' as their auxiliary verb



The perfect tense with être

- 1. Some verbs use the conjugated form of **'être'** as the auxiliary (second part) of the past tense
- 2. Most of these verbs concern movement: going, arriving, staying
- 3. All reflexive verbs use 'être' as the auxiliary verb
- 4. When using the perfect tense with être, the past participle must agree in gender and number with the pronoun

Je (I)	suis (have)	allé(e)(s) arrivé(e)(s) resté(e)(s)	é(e)(s) (went) ivé(e)(s) (arrived) té(e)(s) (stayed)
On (We)	est (have)		

Je (I)	me	suis (have)	baigné(e)(s)	(bathed) (relaxed) (walked)
On (We)	s'	est (have)	reposé(e)(s) promené(e)(s)	





- 2. When the subject of the sentence is feminine, we add <u>lel</u> onto the past participle.
- 3. When using the pronoun 'on', we add [s] _ onto the past participle.
- 4. I walked = Je me suis promené
- 5. We bathed = On s' est baignés

