

French

The Perfect Tense

Avoir Verbs

The Perfect Tense in French is made up of two elements:

1. The Auxiliary verb (Avoir or Etre)
2. The Past Participle

Avoir:

J'ai	Nous avons
Tu as	Vous avez
Il a	Ils ont
Elle a	Elles ont

The Past Participle is formed as follows:

ER verbs – remove the ER and add 'é', e.g.

Donner (to give)	= donné (given)
Regarder (to watch)	= regardé (watched)

IR verbs – remove the IR and add 'i', e.g.

Finir (to finish)	= fini (finished)
Choisir (to choose)	= choisi (chosen)

RE verbs – remove the RE and add 'u', e.g.

Vendre (to sell)	= vendu (sold)
Perdre (to lose)	= perdu (lost)

So the perfect tense of donner is:

J'ai donné	= I have given OR I gave
Tu as donné	= You have given OR you gave

And finir:

J'ai fini	= I have finished OR I finished
Il a fini	= He has finished OR he finished

And vendre:

Nous avons vendu	= We have sold OR we sold
Ils ont vendu	= They have sold OR they sold