

The perfect tense with avoir

You use the perfect tense to say what you did or what you have done
J'ai mangé un hamburger. (I ate/I have eaten a burger.)

The perfect tense has two parts:

- 1 part of the verb *avoir* (a few verbs use *être* – see the next section)
- 2 the past participle.

To form the past participle of regular **-er** verbs:

take off **-er** and add **-é**.

regarder → *regardé*

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| <i>j'ai regardé</i> | I watched/have watched |
| <i>tu as regardé</i> | you watched/have watched |
| <i>il/elle a regardé</i> | he/she watched/has watched |
| <i>on a regardé</i> | we watched/have watched |

- 1 *J'ai* [] *de la pizza.*
- 2 *Tu as* [] *la télé.*
- 3 *Elle a* [] *de la musique.*
- 4 *On a* [] *à la discothèque.*
- 5 *J'ai* [] *au football.*

The perfect tense with être

Although most verbs use *avoir* to form the perfect tense, a small group of verbs use *être* instead. One important verb in this group is *aller* (to go): *je suis allé* (I went).

If the person in question is female, you add an extra **-e**: *je suis allée*.

If you are referring to more than one person, add **-s**: *on est allés* (we went).

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| <i>je suis allé(e)</i> | I went |
| <i>tu es allé(e)</i> | you went |
| <i>il est allé</i> | he went |
| <i>elle est allée</i> | she went |
| <i>on est allé(e)s</i> | we went |

- 1 *Samedi matin, j'ai/je suis allé en ville avec Julie.*
- 2 *Elle a/est mangé une glace.*
- 3 *Samedi après-midi, on a/est joué au bowling.*
- 4 *Samedi soir, tu as/es allée au cinéma?*
- 5 *Non, j'ai/je suis regardé un DVD avec Thomas.*