

COURSE GUIDE

FRE 102 **FRENCH GRAMMAR II**

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Printed: 2021

ISBN: 978-978-058-101-5

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This course is a one-semester course in the first year of B.A. (Hons) Degree in French Studies. It is two (2) credits course of twenty units. It intends to introduce you (students) to the Basic Grammar of French Language.

FRE102, FRENCH GRAMMAR II, is the continuation of the Basic Grammar that prepares you for a more advanced grammar that will be taught in 200 Level. Grammar, being the life wire of any human language is highly important for it allows the learners to read, understand and analyse the grammatical structure, with which the contents of other language courses are documented. This course is thus essential and will be beneficial to any French student because it will enhance your linguistic capability to cope with the grammatical structure of French Language. It will also enable you to learn and put into practice the grammar of French necessary for your successful completion of the French B.A. (Hons) Degree programme.

In this course guide, we hope to tell you briefly what the course is all about the course materials you will use to achieve the objectives of the course, suggestions on some general guidelines on the amount of time you are likely to spend on each unit of the course in order to complete it successfully. We also provide a detailed separate Assignment File for you.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN IN THIS COURSE

As earlier explained, the general aim of FRE 102: FRENCH GRAMMAR II is to introduce you to the basic grammar of French language. This course is centred around conjugation of French verbs. It will expose you to various techniques of how to conjugate various groups of French verbs into various tenses.

COURSE AIMS

The aims of this course are:

- To tell you about the importance of verbs in the grammar of any human language like French.
- To draw your attention on how to identify various types of verbs in French Language.
- To teach you various techniques, through which you can conjugate French verbs into various tenses, taking into consideration their mood (mode) and aspects.

These aims will be achieved through:

- A detailed introduction of verbs as the most important aspect of parts of speech.
- Presentation of various types of verbs in French language.
- Provision of some grammatical traits that could help you in identifying some verbs and their conjugation groups.
- Introduction of techniques and grammatical rules that will help you in conjugating French verbs of various conjugation groups.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

It is on completion of the entire units of this course that the aims set above could be completely achieved. Each unit has its specific objectives. The unit objectives are found at the beginning of each unit. You need to read them before you start working on the unit. You may want to refer to them during your study of the unit in order to check on your progress in the course. There is need for you to always look at the unit objectives after completing a unit to ensure that you have done what is required.

Let me itemise the general objectives of the course in an explicit and methodical manner. If you are able to meet these objectives as stated below, you would have achieved the aims of this course.

On successful completion of the course, you should be able to:

1. State the importance of verbs in the grammar of any natural language.
2. Identify the three types of French verbs (according to their endings)
3. Classify French verbs into regular and irregular groupings
4. State the techniques and steps to follow when conjugating French regular and irregular verbs into various tenses
5. State the modal conditions that set indicative, subjunctive, imperative and conditional moods apart.
6. Identify the endings and other grammatical traits with which one could classify the conjugation of French verbs on consideration of their tenses and moods.

WORKING THROUGH THIS COURSE

To complete this course, you are required to read the study unit, read set books and other materials related to French grammar. Each unit contains self-

assessment exercises. You will also have to submit your Tutor-Marked Assignments to your tutors.

The course will take you between 20 and 25 weeks to complete. Find below the components of the course, what you have to do and how you should allocate your time to each unit in order to complete the course successfully on time.

COURSE MATERIALS

Major components of the course are:

1. Course Guide
2. Study Units
3. Textbooks
4. Assignments File

Module 1

- | | |
|--------|---|
| Unit 1 | Identification of conjugation groups |
| Unit 2 | Conjugation of verbs ending with er and other regular verbs in the <i>présent de l'indicatif</i> |
| Unit 3 | Conjugation of irregular verbs ending with re in the <i>présent de l'indicatif</i> |
| Unit 4 | Conjugation of irregular verbs ending with ir/oir in the <i>présent de l'indicatif</i> |
| Unit 5 | Conjugation of impersonal and reflexive verbs in the <i>présent de l'indicatif</i> |

Module 2

- | | |
|--------|---|
| Unit 1 | Conjugation of verbs ending with er and other regular verbs in the <i>futur simple</i> |
| Unit 2 | Conjugation of irregular verbs in the <i>futur simple</i> |
| Unit 3 | Conjugation of impersonal and reflexive verbs in the <i>futur simple</i> |
| Unit 4 | Conjugation of verbs using the auxiliary <i>avoir</i> in the <i>passé composé</i> |
| Unit 5 | Conjugation of verbs using the auxiliary <i>être</i> in the <i>passé composé</i> |

Module 3

- | | |
|--------|---|
| Unit 1 | Conjugation of impersonal and reflexive verbs in the <i>passé</i> |
|--------|---|

	<i>composé</i>
Unit 2	Rules of agreement in the <i>passé composé</i>
Unit 3	Conjugation of verbs ending with er and other regular verbs in <i>l'imparfait</i>
Unit 4	Conjugation of irregular verbs in the present de <i>l'imparfait</i>
Unit 5	Conjugation of impersonal and reflexive verbs in <i>l'imparfait</i>

Module 4

Unit 1	Conjugation of verbs in the <i>impératif</i> (positive and negative)
Unit 2	Conjugation of verbs in the <i>conditionnel présent</i>
Unit 3	Conjugation of verbs in the <i>conditionnel passé</i>
Unit 4	Conjugation of verbs in the <i>subjonctif présent</i>
Unit 5	Conjugation of verbs in the <i>subjonctif passé</i>

As you can see above, Units 1 to 5 are based on the simple conjugations of various verbs into *présent de l'indicatif*. Units 6-12 focus on more technical conjugations such as *futur simple* and *passé composé*. As from Units 13 to 20, the conjugations become tougher. But if you follow the simplified manner with which the conjugation technics are presented, you will find them easier to comprehend and practice. Each unit can be studied in one to two weeks. Note also that each unit has its specific objectives, detailed explanation and set of reading materials. It also contains self-assessment exercises and Tutor-Marked Assignments. All these will surely assist you in achieving the learning objectives of the unit and the whole course.

SET TEXTBOOKS

Ade Ojo, Samuel (2002): *A comprehensive Revision Handbook of French Grammar*. Ibadan: Signal Educational Services Ltd.

Adeleke, Joseph (2014): *A Short French Grammar, 2nd edition*, Gad Press and Ventures Ltd, Lagos, 2010.

Akeusola, Olu (1995): *French grammar for Anglophone Students*, Tobak Publishers, Lagos.

Akeusola, Olu (2004): *Basic French Grammar for beginners*, Tobak Publishers, Lagos.

Bescherelle (1990) : *La Conjugaison 12,000 Verbes*, Paris, Hâtier.

Beschrelle (1992): *Junior : Grammaire, Orthographe grammatical d'Usage, Conjugaison, Vocabulaire*. Paris: Hâtier, 1992.

Eruanga, Oluremi (2018): *A New Approach to Contemporary French*. Lagos: Ocean Gate Books Consult.

Glaud, Ludivine; Lannier, Muriel & Loiseau, Yves (2015): *Grammaire essentielle du français A1-A2*. Paris: Editions Didier.

Lee, Wendy et al. (2004): *Collins Easy Learning French Grammar*. Glasglow: Harper Collins.

ASSIGNMENT FILE

This course material also contains an Assignment File where more than twenty assignments are provided. The assignments carry 40% of the total mark for the course. The mark you obtain in the assignment will count towards the final mark you obtain for this course.

ASSESSMENT

The assessment of this course is divided into two main parts. The first part is made up of all the tutor-marked assignments and the second part is a written examination. The assignments must be submitted to your tutor for formal assessment in accordance with the deadline stated by the tutor.

Note that the work submitted to your tutor for assessment will count for 40% of your total course mark. You will sit for a final examination of three hours duration at the end of the course. This examination will also count for 60% of your total course mark.

TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT (TMAs)

There are twenty tutor-marked assignments in this course. You need to submit only six of the twenty assignments of which the highest four marks will be taken into consideration. Each assignment counts 10% toward your total course mark.

Whenever you complete any of your assignment, send it together with a TMA (tutor- marked assignment) form, to your tutor. Make sure that each assignment reaches your tutor on or before the deadline given to you.

FINAL EXAMINATION AND GRADING

The final examination for FRE102 will be of three hours' duration and it

carries 60% of the total course grade. The examination will reflect the types of self-testing, and tutor-marked assignments. The examination covers information from all parts of the course.

Therefore, you need to revise before you sit for the final examination. You may need to revise the self-assessment tests and all tutor marked assignments and comments on them before the examination.

COURSE MARKING SCHEME

The table below shows the breakdown of the course marking.

Assessment	Marks
Assignment 1-6	Six assignments, best four marks of the six count @ 10% each =40 of course marks
Final examination	60% of overall course marks
Total	100% of course marks

COURSE OVERVIEW

There are twenty (20) units in this Course. You are to spend one week on each unit. Assignment 1 will come at the end of the unit 3. Assignment 2 at the end of unit six. Assignment 3 after finishing unit nine. Assignment 4 at the end of unit 12. Assignment 5 at the end of unit sixteen and assignment 6 comes up after completing unit 20.

HOW TO GET THE MOST FROM THIS COURSE

The advantage of distance learning is that, you can read and work through specially designed study materials at your own pace, and at your convenient time and place. The course material replaces the lecturer that stands before you in a face of face situation.

Each of the units has a common format. The first item is an introduction to the subject matter of the unit and how a particular unit is integrated into the other units and the course as a whole. You also have a set of learning objectives of the units. Those objectives tell you what you should be able to

know on completion of the unit. When you finish an unit, you need to go back to the unit objectives in order to confirm whether you have achieved those objectives.

The main body of each unit starts with an explanation about the content of the unit. Self-assessment tests are spread all over the units. Working through these tests will help you tremendously to achieve the objectives of the units and prepare you for the assignments and examination. Ensure that you follow the guidelines given in the units.

SUMMARY

FRE102: FRENCH GRAMMAR II intends to introduce you to the basic techniques of how to conjugate various French verbs. On successful completion of this course, you will be equipped with the basic knowledge of French grammar as it affects conjugations of various verbs to various tenses, moods and aspects.

You will be able to:

- State the importance of verbs in the grammar of any natural language.
- Identify the three types of French verbs (according to their endings)
- Classify French verbs into regular and irregular groupings
- State the techniques and steps to follow when conjugating French regular and irregular verbs into various tenses
- State the modal conditions that set indicative, subjunctive, imperative and conditional moods apart.
- Identify the endings and other grammatical traits with which one could classify the conjugation of each of these verbs on consideration of their tenses and moods.

**MAIN
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MODULE 1 IDENTIFICATION OF CONJUGATION GROUPS

Unit 1	Identification of conjugation groups
Unit 2	Conjugation of verbs ending with er and other regular verbs in the présent de l'indicatif
Unit 3	Conjugation of irregular verbs ending with re in the présent de l'indicatif
Unit 4	Conjugation of irregular verbs ending with ir/oir in the présent de l'indicatif
Unit 5	Conjugation of impersonal and reflexive verbs in the présent de l'indicatif

UNIT 1 IDENTIFICATION OF CONJUGATION GROUPS

CONTENTS

1.0	Introduction
2.0	Objectives
3.0	Main Content
3.1	Identification of French conjugation groups
3.2	Er verbs groupings and their examples
3.3	Re verbs groupings and their examples
3.4	Ir and -Oir verbs groupings and their examples
3.5	Self-Assessment Exercise
4.0	Conclusion
5.0	Summary
6.0	Tutor Marked Assignment
7.0	References and Other Resources

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This unit will introduce you to the identification of French conjugation groups. You will be taught about French verbs, their conjugation groupings and their endings. This unit will give you a general introduction on what French verb is all about. You will also learn some basic techniques of how to identify each of the French verbs that belong to various groupings. Knowledge gained from this unit will facilitate your proper understanding of how to conjugate French verbs. It is important to note that your understanding this course better depends on the way and

manner with which you handle this unit. Therefore, you are advised to learn to study and ensure that you understand these groupings through their identification traits.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

By the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- state the importance of verbs in French language grammar
- list correctly the conjugation groupings of French verbs
- list some verbs with **er** ending
- list some verbs with **re** ending
- list some verbs with **ir/oir** ending

You are now invited into the world of French verbs.

3.0 IMPORTANCE OF VERBS IN FRENCH GRAMMAR

Verbs in French language, just like in any other languages of the world, are the most important linguistic elements. There is no other part of speech that could exist alone as a sentence and have meaning without a verb in it. Sometimes a sentence can be formed by a verb alone. If we should say “Go!”, it is a complete sentence that could portray a full meaning that a sentence with a subject, verb and object could have.

A verb could be defined as a grammatical word that states the action(s) performed or the relationship that exists between a subject and an object in a given sentence. As the link and the presenter of the actions performed or the relationship that exist between the ‘performer’ and the ‘action performed’, the verb is then the most important aspect of the nine grammatical parts of speech in French grammar. Any of your sentences in French grammar will be incomplete if you should fail to add at least a verb to it.

3.1. IDENTIFICATION OF CONJUGATION GROUPS

French verbs are classified into three major conjugation groups, in consonance with the ending of their infinitive. They are the **er** verbs, the **re** verbs and the **ir/oir** verbs.

The possibility of each of these verbs to be conjugated in accordance with a rule that is applicable to a whole group introduces another sub-division of regular and irregular verbs. A regular verb is a verb whose conjugation follows the normal and general rule established for its group while an irregular verb violates and contradicts the general principle of conjugation of verbs in its group (or a group of verbs that does not have a definite and appropriate way of conjugation).

You should therefore note that there are three conjugation groups of verbs in French Language namely the **er** verbs, the **re** verbs and the **ir/oir** verbs. The **er** verbs are verbs that have **er** letters at their tail end, the **re** verbs are the verbs that contain **re** at their tail ending while the **ir/oir** verbs are the verbs that end in **ir/oir**.

***Er* Grouping Verbs and Their Examples**

As earlier said, the **er** verbs are verbs that have **er** letters at their tail end. In French grammar, the ending of a verb is called ‘terminaison’. Therefore, a verb that has the **er** ‘terminaison’ is so tagged the **er** verb in French grammar. Most verbs in this group are regular verbs. It is only the verb **aller** that has the **er** ending that is considered as an irregular verb in conjugation. Apart from the verb **aller** (to go) which is irregular, almost all the verbs in this group (ending with **er**) are regular verbs. You should also note that the group contains the largest number of French verbs. Most of the borrowed verbs (from another language) as well as newly formed or coined verbs are also part of this group. Examples of such verbs are:
abandonner (to abandon – to leave – to give up etc ...) abîmer (to damage – to spoil)

accepter (to accept – to agree to)

acclamer (to cheer – to acclaim) accompagner (to go with) - to accompany) accuser (to accuse)

agresser (to attack)

agacer (to irritate – to tease) aider (to help)

aimer (to like/love) ajouter (to add) bavarder (to talk)

caresser (to caress – to stroke) commencer (to start)

danser (to dance)

effacer (to clean – to erase – to wipe off)

fabriquer (to make – to produce - to manufacture) gêner (to disturb – to hamper)

habiter (to live in) identifier (to identify) jurer (to swear) kidnapper (to kidnap) labourer (to plough) manger (to eat) Nager (to swim) oublier (to forget)

parler (to speak – to talk) écouter (to listen)

quitter (to leave)

rester (to stay)

semer (to sow)

tricher (to cheat) uriner (to urinate) viser (to aim at)

zigzaguer (to zigzag (along))

***-RE* GROUPINGS AND THEIR EXAMPLES**

As explained in the introduction, remember that the **re** verbs are verbs that have **re** letters at their tail end. Apart from the **er** group that contain the largest number of verbs generally and largest number of regular verbs

in particular, most verbs in this group (as well as the third group) are irregular verbs. Examples of such verbs are:

abattre (to cut down – to knock down)
 accroître (to increase)
 dire (to say)
 comprendre (to understand)
 prendre (to take)
 faire (to do – to make)
 fendre (to split – to crack – to break)
 mordre (to bite)
 pondre (to lay)
 répondre (to answer)
 tendre (to tighten – to stretch – to set etc)
 vendre (to sell)

IR/OIR GROUPINGS AND THEIR EXAMPLES

As a follow up to the explanation given at the beginning of this unit, the **ir/oir** verbs are verbs that have **ir/oir** letters at their tail end. Note also that most verbs in this category are irregular verbs. Examples of such verbs are:

abolir (to abolish – to do away with)
 accomplir (to carry out – to achieve – to perform) affermir (to consolidate)
 affranchir (to free – to stamp)
 anéantir (to annihilate)

applaudir (to clap – to applaud) arrondir (to round – to round up)
 asservir (to enslave – to subjugate)
 attendrir (to soften – to melt) faiblir (to weaken – to wane) gémir (to moan – to groan)
 haïr (to hate – to detest)
 jaillir (to spurt out)
 languir (to languish) maudire (to curse) mourir (to feed) obscurcir (to darken) pâlir (to go pale)
 ralentir (to slow down)
 saisir (to seize – to grasp) trahir (to betray)
 unir (to unite - to bind) vomir (to vomit)
 voir (to see)
 pouvoir (to be able to)

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

- i. Give the three group of verbs in French
- ii. List five verbs ending with **er**
- iii. List five verbs ending with **re**

- iv. List five verbs ending with **ir**
- v. List five verbs ending with **oir**

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, you have learned the importance of verbs in French language grammar. You have also learned how you can identify and list correctly the conjugation groupings of French verbs. By now it is believed that you can identify and list some verbs with **er** ending, some verbs with **re** ending and some other verbs with **ir/oir** ending.

5.0 SUMMARY

This unit has equipped you with the basic techniques of how to identify the conjugation grouping of French verbs. You have learned how you can identify verbs with **er** ending, some verbs with **re** ending and some other verbs with **ir/oir** ending. By now we believe that your vocabulary should have been enriched through the translated examples of verbs listed under each group. We intentionally did this so as to enrich your vocabulary. A good grammarian needs to store many vocabularies in his/her memory.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. What is a verb and of what importance a verb to the grammar of French language?
2. With at least ten examples per group, identify the three groups of verbal conjugation in French grammar.

7.0 REFERENCES/FURTHER READING

Ade Ojo, Samuel (2002): *A comprehensive Revision Handbook of French Grammar*. Ibadan: Signal Educational Services Ltd.

Adeleke, Joseph (2014): *A Short French Grammar, 2nd edition*, Gad Press and Ventures Ltd, Lagos, 2010.

Akeusola, Olu (1995): *French grammar for Anglophone Students*, Tobak Publishers, Lagos.

Akeusola, Olu (2004): *Basic French Grammar for beginners*, Tobak Publishers, Lagos.

Bescherelle (1990) : *La Conjugaison 12,000 Verbes*, Paris, Hâtier.

Beschrelle (1992) : *Junior : Grammaire, Orthographe grammatical d'Usage, Conjugaison, Vocabulaire*. Paris: Hâtier, 1992.

Eruanga, Oluremi (2018): *A New Approach to Contemporary French*. Lagos: Ocean Gate Books Consult.

Glaud, Ludivine; Lannier, Muriel & Loiseau, Yves (2015) : *Grammaire essentielle du français A1-A2*. Paris: Editions Didier.

Lee, Wendy et al. (2004): *Collins Easy Learning French Grammar*. Glasglow: Harper Collins.

UNIT 2 CONJUGATION OF VERBS ENDING WITH **-ER** AND OTHER REGULAR VERBS IN THE “PRESENT DE L’INDICATIF” (PRESENT TENSE)

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- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
 - 3.1 Exceptionalities in the Conjugation of verbs ending with **-er** and other regular verbs in the “present de l’indicatif”
 - 3.1.1 Verbs ending with **-cer**
 - 3.1.2 Verbs ending with **-ger**
 - 3.1.3 Verbs with **e** and ending with **-er**
 - 3.1.4 Verbs with **é** and ending with **-er** Verbs
 - 3.1.5 Verbs ending with **eler** and **eter** verbs
 - 3.1.6 Verbs ending with **-yer** verbs
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References and Other Resources

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This unit will introduce you to the conjugation of **er** and other regular verbs in the “présent de l’indicatif”. You will read to know about the easier techniques with which a French grammar learner like you could apply in conjugating French verbs in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’. It is in this unit also you will be exposed to some minor peculiarities that are known for some verbs ending with **er** (irrespective of the notion of their being regular). Knowledge gained from this unit will initiate your properly into how to conjugate French verbs in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’. Note that your better understanding of French conjugation, in particular, and French grammar, generally, depends on the way and manner with which you handle this unit. Therefore, you are implored to learn the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating verbs ending with **er** as they will be taught here.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify the Stem/Radical of verbs ending with **er**
- Identify the ending/terminaison of **er** verbs when conjugated in the “présent de l’indicatif”

- identify the morphemes (suffixation) with which the endings could be replaced thus facilitating grammatically correct conjugation
- identify some verbs that are noted as being regular but have some peculiarities

You are now invited into the world of conjugation of **er** verbs in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’.

3.0 MAIN CONTENT

Apart from the verb aller (to go) (conjugated in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’ below) which is irregular, almost all the verbs in the **er** group are regular verbs:

Aller

Je vais	– I am going/I go
Tu vas	- You are going/You go
Il/elle va	– He /she is going/ He/she goes
We are going/we go	Nouns allons –
Vous allez	– you are going/you go
Ils/elles vont	– They are going/they go

The general rule of the conjugation of all other **er** verbs in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’ is getting the infinitive divided or separated into the stem/radical and the ending.

Examples: manger - **mang** (stem/radical) **er** (ending)
regarder - **regard** (stem/radical) **er** (ending)

Then, you replace the ending, by adding the underlisted new endings to the stem or radical so as to form the conjugated verbs:

e	for 1 st person singular	es	for 2 nd person singular	e
	for 3 rd person singular	ons	for 1 st person plural	
ez	for 2 nd person plural	ent	for 3 rd person plural	

For example, here is the technique to follow in conjugating the verb **parler** (to speak) in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’:

Parl	er
Verbal stem/Radical	Verbal
↓ ending/terminaison.	↓

As earlier explained, the conjugation rule says that you should drop the **er** ending and replace it as follows:

e for 1st person singular = Je parle

	es	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu parles
	e	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/Elle parle
ons		for 1 st person plural	=	Nous parlons
ez		for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous parlez
ent		for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/Elles parlent

(Note 1. Please note that when a verb is conjugated into the French present indicative tense (présent de l'indicatif), it has two meanings cum grammatical functions in English. It could function as simple present - **Je parle = I speak** – and it could be present continuous tense – **Je parle = I am speaking**. Care should be taken when translating from English to French or vice versa.

Note 2: Although the 2nd person plural form – **vous** – is for two or more people. It is allowed in French to be used as a mark of respect for a single person also. So, you could say:

--- *Où allez – vous monsieur? Where are you going sir?*

Let us look at another example of the **er** group verb which is **Aimer** (to like/to love)

The radical/stem of the infinitive **aimer** is **aim** while the ending is **er**. If we follow the rule that says one should drop the **er** ending and replace it with the identified endings, the conjugation of **aimer** in the 'présent de l'indicatif' is as follow:

J' aim e	I like/love
Tu aim es	You like/love
Il/elle aim e	He/she likes/loves
Nous aim ons	We like/love
Vous aim ez	You like/love
Ils/elles aim ent	They like/love

A lot of verbs ending with **er** are conjugated in this form.

(Note 3: You will discover that we wrote **J'aim**e instead of **Je aime**. In French when a verb to be conjugated has an initial vowel, there will be an assimilation of a vowel whereby the vowel ending the pronoun would be dropped for that of the verb. And the vowel that is omitted is represented by an apostrophe (').

Exceptionalities in The Conjugation of Verbs Ending With -Er And Other Regular Verbs into Present De L'indicatifs

Although verbs in the **er** group are said to be regular, there are some small peculiarities you have to know for some of the verbs when they are conjugated in the 'présent de l'indicatif'. These sets are special and they need to be treated thus. Their examples are as follow:

Verbs ending with -cer:

In French, letter **c** plays a dual phonological role when you use it in words. It sounds like /k/ when it precedes vowels **a, o, u** (**classe, court, cul**). Whereas it sounds /s/ when it is in front of vowels **i, e** (**ciel, cercle**). In case it precedes any of the vowels **a, o, u** and you want it to be pronounced /s/ instead of its normal /k/, phonological rule says that you must put ‘cedille’ (ç) at the bottom of the **c**. So, you should not be surprised to see this ‘strange’ mark in the conjugation of verbs like (**placer** – to place) when it is conjugated in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’:

Je place	Nous plaçons
Tu places	Vous placez
Il/elle place	Ils/elles placent

This conjugation technique is applicable to all French verbs ending with **cer**.

Verbs ending with -ger

Like letter **c**, letter **g** plays a dual role also in the French phonology. It sounds /g/ when it precedes vowels like **a, o, u** (**garçon, gomme, gulot**). But it sounds / / when it precedes vowels **i, e** (**légion, Liège**). In a situation where the infinitive dictates that the **g** must have / / sound even when it is to be followed by either **a, o,** or **u**, the French phonological cum grammatical rule says that you must add an additional **e** before you write the **a, o,** or the **u**. So, when conjugating a verb like **manger** – (to eat) in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’, you normally have **nous mangeons**:

Je mange	Nous mange ons
Tu manges	Vous mangez
Il/elle mange	Ils/elles mangent

Note: Verbs ending with **guer** (such as **blaguer**) are not affected by this rule. Such verbs are conjugated like the other general **er** verbs.

Verbs ending with e-er emer, -ener, -eper, -erer, -eser, -ever, -evrer:

Verbs ending with **-ecer, -emer, -ener, -eper, -erer, -eser, -ever, -evrer** have one peculiarity. In their infinitive, they have closed silence **ɛ** in the last syllable of their stem. It is this **ɛ** that is next to the single or double consonants that end their stem/radical: **lev/er**. When conjugating in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’, this **ɛ** changes its silence **ɛ** sound to an opened **è** sound in the first person, second person, third person singular and third person plural. And to mark this change in pronunciation, you must put an accent ‘grave’ on the **e** so as to become **è** that falls in this category.

Let us look at the conjugation of the verb **lever** (to rise):

Je lève	Nous levons
---------	-------------

Tu lève Vous levez
Il/elle lève Ils/elles lèvent.

Verbs ending with er but having é in the stems/radicals

There are some other French verbs whose letter **e** in the last syllable of the infinitive is carrying an acute accent (aigu) – **é** - already in the infinitive. This acute accent, (**´**), when the verb is conjugated in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’, normally changes to a grave accent (**`**) – **è** - in the first person, second person, third person singular and third person plural. This peculiarity is found among verbs ending with -ébrer, -écer, -écher, -écrer, -éder, -égler, -égner, éguer, -éler, -émer, -éner, -éper, -équér, -érer, -éser, -éter, -étrer, -éver.

Example: **célébrer** (to celebrate)

Je célèb**è**re Nous célèb**è**rons
Tu célèb**è**res Vous célèb**è**rez Il/elle célèb**è**re Ils/elles célèb**è**rent

Note: You will discover that this peculiarity does not affect the 1st and 2nd person plural of groups’ 3.1.3 and 3.1.4 of our exceptions. There is no problem of change in the pronunciation of e at these levels).

Verbs ending with eler and eter

When conjugating French verbs ending with eler or eter in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’, the single **l** or **t** in the infinitive is doubled in the first person, second person, third person singular and third person plural. This change becomes inevitable so as to allow for easy pronunciation. you must note that the e before the **l** or **t** is pronounced / / in the infinitive. Whereas you would want it pronounced / / when used in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd persons singular and 3rd person plural. In order to facilitate this pronunciation, you must double the **l** or the **t**. And, that is why the pronunciation of e would not change from being /e/ in the 1st and 2nd persons plural where we do not normally double these consonants. Examples are:

Appeler (to call)

J’appelle Nous appelons
Tu appelles Vous appelez Il/elle appelle Ils/elles appellent

Jeter (to throw)

Je jette Nous jetons
Tu jettes Vous jetez
Il/elle jette Ils/elles jettent

Note: There are some exceptions to this general rule. Some verbs ending with -eler and -eter do not double their **l** or **t** in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd persons

singular and 3rd person plural when conjugated in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’, so as to enhance the evolution of the pronunciation of the vowel e, before the consonant **t** or **l** from / / to / / sound. Such verbs are : **modeler, celer, déceler, receler, ciseler, démanteler, écarteler, geler, congeler, surgeler, marteler, peler, acheter, racheter, bégueter, and corseter**. They only take accent grave (̀) on the e at the 1st, 2nd, 3rd persons singular and 3rd person plural. Example:

acheter (to buy):

J’achète	Nous achetons
Tu achètes	Vous achetez
Il/elle achète	Ils/elles achètent

Verbs ending with -yer :

You must have been taught that in phonetics (as well as in French phonology), consonant y is taken to be a semi-vowel or semi-consonant. It is also viewed by some linguists as the variant of /i/ sound. That is to say it could easily change to vowel ‘i’ or the vowel ‘i’ changes to y. That explains why the semi-vowel /y/ in the infinitive of verbs ending with **yer** changes to **i** in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd persons singular and 3rd persons plural. A better example of this peculiarity could be seen in the conjugation of the verb **envoyer** (to send) in the present tense:

J’envoie	Nous envoyons
Tu envoies	Vous envoyez
Il/elle envoie	Ils/elles envoient

Note: You must note that the **y** does not change in the 1st and 2nd persons plural. It is retained so as to maintain a good and balanced pronunciation at these levels. And you should have been noting also that any peculiarity introduced into any of the verbs do not normally affect these sections of the conjugation. This is as a result of special and different way these two sets are pronounced. They differ in pronunciation from the other four.

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Conjugate the verbs “regarder”, “travailler”, “nager”, “lever” and “apporter” in the “présent de l’indicatif”

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, you have learned the rules governing the conjugation of French verbs ending with **er** in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’. Although this group of conjugation is said to have the largest number of regular verbs, yet you have discovered some peculiarities in the conjugation of some of the verbs in this grouping. By now we believe you can conjugate different

categories of verbs with **er** ending.

5.0 SUMMARY

You must have been adequately informed in this unit about the basic techniques of how to conjugate **er** verbs in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’. You must have learned also some peculiarities in the conjugation of some of the verbs in this category. By now it is believed that your knowledge of the techniques of conjugation of verbs has been enriched through the explanation and examples of verbs given under each classification above.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

Conjugate the following verbs in ‘présent de l’indicatif’:

1. Parler,
2. Nager,
3. Balayer,
4. Lancer,
5. Soulever,
6. Célébrer,
7. Monter, 8. Rejeter,
9. Payer,
10. Blaguer.

7.0 REFERENCES/FURTHER READING

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UNIT 3 CONJUGATION OF IRREGULAR VERBS ENDING WITH -RE IN THE ‘PRESENT DE L’INDICATIF’

CONTENTS

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- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Objectives
 - 3.1 Conjugation of three (3) common irregular verbs
 - 3.2 Techniques guiding the Conjugation of irregular verbs ending with *-re* in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’
 - 3.2.1 Conjugation of irregular verbs ending with ‘*ttre*’
 - 3.2.2 Conjugation of irregular verbs ending with ‘*ndre*’
 - 3.2.3 Conjugation of irregular verbs ending with ‘*aincre*’
 - 3.2.4 Conjugation of ‘*faire*’ and ‘*dire*’
 - 3.2.5 Conjugation of irregular verbs ending with *aire*, *aitre*, *oitre*, *oire* and others verbs.
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References and Other Resources

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This unit will introduce you to the conjugation of irregular verbs ending with **re** in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’. You will also read about the techniques a French grammar learner like you can adopt in conjugating French irregular verbs ending with **-re** in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’.

Knowledge gained from this unit will initiate your properly into how to conjugate

French irregular verbs ending with **-re** in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’. Be warned once again that your better understanding of conjugation generally depends on the way and manner with which you handle this unit. Therefore, you are advised to learn the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating irregular verbs as they will be taught here.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify the stem/radical of irregular verbs ending with **-re**.

- Identify the ending/’terminaison’ of these irregular verbs when conjugated in the present tense and use them appropriately.
- Identify the morphemes (suffixation) with which the endings could be replaced when conjugated in the present tense and use them appropriately.

You are now invited to follow the method of conjugation of irregular verbs ending with **-re** in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’.

General Techniques Guiding

The Conjugation of Irregular Verbs Ending With **-Re** in the “Present De L’indicatif”

As you verbs. Apart from these **er** verbs, other verbs, such as verbs have ending with **-re**, that we are about to treat in this unit, are irregular been verbs. The general rule of conjugating the **re** verbs is that you told break the infinitive into two: the stem/radical and the ending. You earlier, then replace the ending **er** with **s, s, t, ons, ez, ent**.

only A verb is said to be irregular when its stem (and even the endings verbs in some other cases like infinitive **faire, dire**) changes from one ending person to the other. Compare these two conjugations (of parler – with **er** to speak and être – to be):

have

the **parler:**

largest Je parle

numbe Tu parles

r of Il/Elle parle

regular **être :**

Je suis

Tu es

Il/elle est

Nous parlons

Vous parlez

Ils/Elles parlent

Nous sommes

Vous êtes

Ils/elles sont

Conjugation of the 3 Common Irregular Verbs: Être, Avoir, Aller

There are three common irregular verbs that are frequently used in day-to-day discussion in French. They are être (to be), avoir (to have) and aller (to go):

(a) Être		(b) Avoir	
Je suis	Nous sommes	J'ai	Nous
avons			
Tu es	Vous êtes	Tu as	Vous avez
Il/elle est	Ils/elles sont	Il /elle a	Ils /elles
ont			
(b) Aller			
Je vais	Nous allons		
Tu vas	Vous allez		
Il/elle va	Ils/elles vont		

As you can see clearly, the conjugation of these 3 verbs is quite different from that of the verbs ending with **-er** .

Techniques and Examples Guiding The Conjugation of Verbs Ending With **-Re** in the ‘Présent De L’indicatif’

The general rule established for conjugating verbs in this group state that you divide the infinitive into the stem and ending. You will then drop the **re** ending of the infinitive and replace it by **s, s, t/d, ons, ez, ent**, endings. The **t/d** in the 3rd person singular is saying that in case the infinitive concerned is among verbs ending with **dre, andre, endre, ondre, ordre**, you will not add the consonant ‘**t**’ of the 3rd person singular to the consonant **d** that ends the radical. Instead, you will use the consonant **d** to stand – in for the consonant **t** that ends the 3rd person singular in the conjugation of other groups. For example, let us take a look at the conjugation of **rendre** and **prendre**.

(a) **Rendre** = to give back (**rend**= stem/radical; **re**= ending)

Je rends	Nous rendons
Tu rends	Vous rendez
Il /elle rend	Ils/elles rendent

(b) **Prendre** = to take (**prend**=stem/radical; **re**= ending)

Je prends	Nous prenons
Tu prends	Vous prenez
Il/elle prend	Ils/elles prennent

Note: In the case of **prendre** and other verbs in its group, you should drop the consonant **d** in the plural form and you double the **n** in the stem of the 3rd person plural.

Conjugation of verbs ending with -ttre:

You should note, when conjugating, that this set of verbs drops one of the double **t** in their singular form (first to third person singular) but maintain them in plural (first to third person plural).

(a) **Battre** (to beat)

Je bats	Nous battons
Tu bats	Vous battez
Il/elle bat	Ils/elles battent

(b) **Mettre** (to put)

Je mets	Nous mettons
Tu mets	Vous mettez
Il/elle met	Ils/elles mettent

Conjugation of irregular verbs ending with ‘ndre’

You should take into cognizance that this group of verbs drops the **d** that ends their radical/stem in all facets of conjugation. They take additional **gn** before their verbal endings in the plural form. This strange addition is to facilitate pronunciation. Examples:

(a) **Peindre** – to paint

Je peins	Nous peignons
Tu peins	Vous peignez
Il/elle peint	Ils/elles peignent

(b) **Joindre** – to join

Je joins	Nous joignons
Tu joins	Vous joignez
Il/elle joint	Ils/elles joignent

Conjugation of irregular verbs ending with ‘aincre’

You need to know that this group maintains the **c** that ends the stem of their infinitive in the singular form. But this same consonant **c** is replaced by **qu** in the plural form. Examples:

(a) **Vaincre** – to conquer

Je vaincs	Nous vainquons
Tu vaincs	Vous vainquez
Il/elle vainc	Ils/elles vainquent

(b) **Convaincre** – to convince

Je convaincs	Nous convainquons
--------------	-------------------

Tu convaincs	Vous convainquez
Il/elle convainc	Ils/elles convainquent

Conjugation of irregular verbs ending with 'dire'

Please note also that the conjugation of these two verbs in the 'présent de l'indicatif' have a similar peculiarity; their ending in the 2nd person plural is completely different from that of the others.

Faire – to do /make

Je fais	Nous faisons
Tu fais	Vous faites
Il/elle fait	Ils/elles font

Dire – to say/tell

Je dis	Nous disons
Tu dis	Vous dites
Il/elle dit	Ils/elle disent

Note : Take good note of the spelling of the conjugated form in the second person plural, most especially letter **î**.

Conjugation of irregular verbs ending with 'aire', 'aitre', 'oitre', 'oire' and others

In order to master the conjugation of this group in the present tense, note that while some allow their vowel **i** (that ends the stem) to change to **y** in the 1st and 2nd persons plural, some do not only maintain the vowel **i**, they take an additional **s** after it before taking the verbal ending. Note also that some go to the extent of duplicating the additional **s**, whereas some change their radical (stem) completely.

Distraire – to entertain

Je distrais	Nous distraisons	Tu distrais	Vous distrayez	Il/elle
distrait	Ils distraient			

Plaire – to please

Je plais	Nous plaisons
Tu plais	Vous plaisez
Il/elle plait	Ils/elles plaisent

Connaître – to know (object)

Je connais	Nous connaissons	Tu connais	Vous connaissez
Il/elle connaît	Ils connaissent		

Naitre – to be born

Je nais	Nous naissons
Tu nais	Vous naissez
Il/elle nait	Ils/elles naissent

Croire – to believe

Je crois	Nous croyons	
Tu crois	Vous croyez	Il/elle croit
croient		Ils/elles

Boire – to drink

Je bois	Nous buvons
Tu bois	Vous buvez
Il boit	Ils boivent

Conclure – to conclude

Je conclus	Nous concluons	Tu conclus	Vous concluez
Il/elle conclut	Ils/elles concluent		

Absoudre – to absolve

J'absous	Nous absolvons
Tu absous	Vous absolvez
Il/elle absout	Ils/elles absolvent

Suivre – to follow

Je suis	Nous suivons
Tu suis	Vous suivez
Il/elle suit	Ils/elles suivent

Vivre – to live

Je vis	Nous vivions
Tu vis	Vous vivez
Il/elle vit	Ils/elles vivent

Lire – to read

Je lis	Nous lisons
Tu lis	Vous lisez
Il/elle lit	Ils/ells lisent

Rire – to laugh

Je ris	Nous rions
Tu ris	Vous riez
Il/elle rit	Ils/elles rient

Cuire – to cook

Je cuis	Nous cuisons
Tu cuis	Vous cuisez
Il/elle cuit	Ils/elles cuisent

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Conjugate the following verbs into the “Présent l’indicatif”.

- (a) Plaire, (b) descendre, (c) battre.

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, you have learned the rules governing the conjugation of French verbs ending with **-re** into ‘présent de l’indicatif’. And like you have been told from the beginning of the unit, all verbs in this category are irregular. By now we believe you can conjugate different categories of verbs with **-re** ending.

5.0 SUMMARY

You must have adequately acquired in this unit some basic techniques on how to conjugate verbs ending with **-re** into ‘présent de l’indicatif’. You must have also learned some peculiarities in the conjugation of some verbs in this category. By now, your vocabulary and technique of conjugation of verbs ending with **-re** should have been enriched through the explanation and examples of verbs given in this unit under each classification.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

Conjugate the following verbs into ‘présent de l’indicatif’:

1. lire
2. dire
3. faire
4. descendre
5. pondre
6. cuire
7. extraire,
8. connaître
9. poursuivre
10. abattre.

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UNIT 4 CONJUGATION OF IRREGULAR VERBS ENDING WITH -IR/OIR INTO PRESENT DE L'INDICATIF

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- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
 - 3.1.1 Conjugation of verbs ending with **ir** with double **s** in their plural form
 - 3.1.2 Conjugation of a second set of verbs ending with '**ir**'
 - 3.1.3 Conjugation of verbs ending with '**ir**' that take endings of '**er**' verbs
 - 3.1.4 Conjugation of other verbs ending with '**ir**'
 - 3.1.5 Conjugation of verbs ending with '**oir**'
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References and Other Resources

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This unit will introduce you to the conjugation of other irregular verbs that end with **ir** and **oir** into 'présent de l'indicatif'. You will also learn about the modern techniques with which a French grammar learner like you could apply in conjugating such French irregular verbs into 'présent de l'indicatif'. The knowledge you gain from this unit will initiate your properly into how to conjugate all French irregular verbs in the 'présent de l'indicatif'. Remember that your better understanding of conjugation generally depends on the way and manner with which you handle these first three units. Therefore, we implore you to learn the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating irregular verbs as they will be taught here.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify the Stem/Radical of irregular verbs ending with **ir** and **oir**.
- Identify the **ir** and **oir** ending/'terminaison' of these irregular verbs
- Identify the morphemes (suffixation) with which the endings could be replaced thus facilitating grammatically correct conjugation
- Conjugate French irregular verbs ending with **-ir** and **-oir**.

You are now invited to follow the method of conjugating irregular verbs ending with **-ir** and **-oir** into ‘présent de l’indicatif’.

3.0 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Irregular Verbs Ending With -Ir And -Oir Into ‘Present De L’indicatif’

You need to know from the onset that the **ir** verbs could be divided into two groups. The first group is made up of verbs that have a **double s** in the plural form when conjugated, while the second group of verbs do not normally double their consonant at those levels.

The general rule for conjugating verbs ending with **ir/oir**, as it is done with verbs ending with **re** is that you break the infinitive into two: the stem/radical and the ending. You then replace the ending **ir/oir** with **s, s, t, ons, ez, ent**. But be warned that all verbs in this category, being irregular, change their radical/stem. They only end with **s, s, t, ons, ez, ent** when conjugated.

Conjugation of the first group of verbs ending with -ir (that have a double s in their plural forms)

You should note that these verbs follow the general rule in the conjugation of their singular form. But they introduce **double s** before taking the verbal endings in the plural form. Examples of such verbs are **finir** – to finish, **haïr** – to hate, etc.

Finir – to finish

Je finis	Nous finissons
Tu finis	Vous finissez
Il/elle finit	Ils/elles finissent

Conjugation of the second group of verbs ending with ‘ir’

For this group of verbs ending with ‘ir’, although their stem may change, you do not have double **s** or double any of their consonants in all their plural form except the 3rd person plural of some of their conjugation. Verbs in this group are very numerous than that of the first type. Here are some examples:

Tenir – to hold

Je tiens	Nous tenons
Tu tiens	Vous tenez
Il/elle tient	Ils/elles tiennent

Venir – to come

Je viens	Nous venons
Tu viens	Vous venez

Il/elle vient	Ils/elles viennent
Sentir – to smell/taste	
Je sens	Nous sentons
Tu sens	Vous sentez
Il sent	Ils sentent
Vêtir – to clothe/to dress	Je vêts Nous vêtons
Tu vêts	Vous vêtez
Il vêt	Ils vêtent

Conjugation of verbs ending with ‘ir’ that are conjugated like verbs ending with ‘er’

You should also take cognizance of the fact that there are some verbs ending with ‘ir’ that end in **e, es, e, ons, ez, ent** just like we conjugate verbs ending with **er**. When conjugated, the infinitive of such verbs only drops the ‘ir’ from their radical and take the **e, es, e, ons, ez, ent** endings. Examples of this set could be found in verbs like:

(a) **Offrir** – to offer

J’offre	Nous offrons
Tu offres	Vous offrez
Il/elle offre	Ils/elles offrent

(b) **Couvrir** – to cover

Je couvre	Nous couvrons	Tu couvres	Vous	couvrez
Il/elle couvre	Ils couvrent			

(c) **Cueillir** – to pluck

Je cueille	Nous cueillons
Tu cueilles	Vous cueillez
Il cueille	Ils cueillent

(d) **Assaillir** – to attack

J’assaille	Nous assaillons
Tu assailles	Vous assaillez
Il assaille	Ils assaillent

Conjugation of other verbs ending with ‘ir’

You should learn about other forms of **ir** verbs. These sets belong to a group whose peculiarities are difficult to explain. Sometimes their radical changes completely from what is in the infinitive. And in some other cases, you only modify the radical. But they are all conjugated with the **g, s, t, ons, ez, ent**, endings. As a matter of fact, that is why such verbs are qualified as irregular verbs. Examples could be found in verbs like:

(a) **Bouillir** – to Boil

Je bous	Nous bouillons
---------	----------------

Tu bous	Vous bouillez
Il/elle bout	Ils/elles bouillent

(b) **Dormir** – to sleep

Je dors	Nous dormons
Tu dors	Vous dormez
Il/elle dort	Ils/elles dorment

(c) **Courir** – to run

Je cours	Nous courons
Tu cours	Vous courez
Il/elle court	Ils/elles courent

(d) **Mourir** – to die

Je meurs	Nous mourons	Tu meurs	Vous mourez	Il/elle meurt
	Ils meurent			

(e) **Servir** – to serve

Je sers	Nous servons
Tu sers	Vous servez
Il/elle sert	Ils/elles servent

(f) **Fuir** – to run away

Je fuis	Nous fuyons
Tu fuis	Vous fuyez
Il/elle fuit	Ils/elles fuient

Note: As the semi-vowel **y** in verbs ending with **-er** changes to **i** in the singular form and 3rd person plural, so also is the **i** in the group of verbs like **fuir** changes to **y** in the 1st and 2nd persons plural form here as you can see in the last example above.

Conjugation of other verbs ending with ‘oir’

Like we have been emphasizing it for your attention from unit three, verbs ending with ‘oir’ are purely irregular. So, you should learn to accept and treat them that way. Like the verbs ending with **-re** and **-ir**, each of the verbs ending with **-oir** contains two or more peculiarities that we have treated in verbs of the other groups. It is therefore difficult for us to reclassify them again for detailed discussion on them.

Let us only take some examples and give you insights into the conjugation of some of them.

(a) **Recevoir** – to receive

Je reçois	Nous recevons
Tu reçois	Vous recevez
Il/elle reçoit	Ils/elles reçoivent

(b) **Voir** – to see

Je vois	Nous voyons
Tu vois	Vous voyez
Il/elle voit	Ils/elles voient

(c) **Pouvoir** – to be able

Je peux	Nous pouvons	
Tu peux	Vous pouvez	Il/elle peut
peuvent		Ils

(d) **Savoir** – to know (knowledge)

Je sais	Nous savons
Tu sais	Vous savez
Il/elle sait	Ils/elles savent

(e) **Devoir** – to be obliged

Je dois	Nous devons
Tu dois	Vous devez
Il/elle doit	Ils/elles doivent

(f) **Mouvoir** – to move

Je meus	Nous mouvons
Tu meus	Vous mouvez
Il/elle meut	Ils/elles meuvent

(g) **Valoir** – to be worth

Je vau	Nous valons
Tu vau	Vous valez
Il/elle vaut	Ils/elles valent

(h) **Vouloir** – to want: wish

Je veux	Tu veux	Il/elle veut	Nous voulons
			Vous voulez
			Ils veulent

(i) **Assoir** – sit

J'assieds		Nous asseyons
...		...
Tu assieds	Il/elle assied	Vous asseyez
		Ils asseyent

(j) Asseoir to sit	
J'assois	
·	Nous assoyons
·	
Tu assois	Vous assoyez
Il assoit	Ils assoient

Note: As you can observe, the verb ‘asseoir’ has two forms of conjugation.

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Conjugate the following verbs into “Présent de l’indicatif”

- Sortir,
- Valoir
- Asseoir.

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, you have been taught the rules governing the conjugation of irregular verbs ending with **-ir** and **-oir** into ‘présent de l’indicatif’. This group, as you should have discovered, has the largest number of irregular verbs. With our simplified explanation, we are convinced that the complication in understanding irregular verbs, which is a common problem of French language learners like you would have been alleviated. By now we believe you can conjugate different categories of verbs with **ir** and **oir** ending.

5.0 SUMMARY

Having gone this far in the conjugation of verbs, we are sure that you must have been adequately informed in this unit on the basic techniques on how to conjugation of French verbs ending with **ir** and **oir** into ‘présent de l’indicatif’. Your knowledge of conjugation of these irregular verbs must have been enriched also. By now we are confident that you should have acquired enough verbal vocabulary as well as simple techniques of conjugation of irregular verbs into *présent de l’indicatif*.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Conjugate the following verbs into *présent de l’indicatif*:
 - a. savoir,
 - b. venir,
- 3.

- c. courir,
- d. offrir,
- e. partir, f. finir,
- g. sortir,
- h. pouvoir,
- i. valoir,
- j. tenir.

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UNIT 5 CONJUGATION OF IMPERSONAL AND REFLEXIVE VERBS INTO ‘PRESENT DE L’INDICATIF’

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
- 3.1 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Impersonal Verbs into Present De L’indicatif
- 3.2 General techniques guiding the conjugation of Reflexive verbs into ‘présent de l’indicatif’
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References and Other Resources

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This unit will teach you the technique of conjugation of French Impersonal and Reflexive verbs. In this unit, you will learn about the easier techniques which a French grammar learner like you could adopt in conjugating French Impersonal and Reflexive verbs. These types of verbs are common in French language. You will see them ending with either **er**, **re**, **ir** or **oir**. The knowledge you have gained from other units, most especially Units two to four, will be useful in this unit. What we will do mostly in this unit is to teach you how to identify French Impersonal and Reflexive verbs and the peculiarities of such verbs so that you could apply your already gained knowledge in the conjugation of simple **er**, **re**, **ir** and **oir** verbs to them thus conjugating them correctly. You can then understand why we have continuously been drawing your attention to the fact that your better understanding of conjugation generally depends on the way and manner with which you handle the first four units of this course. Therefore, you are implored to learn the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating French Impersonal and Reflexive verbs as they will be taught here.

2.0. OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify and list French Impersonal verbs.
- Identify and list French Reflexive verbs
- Explain the peculiarities of these two types of verbs.
- Conjugate Impersonal and Reflexive verbs in the ‘présent de

l'indicatif'..

You are now invited to follow the method of conjugation of Impersonal and reflexive verbs into '*présent de l'indicatif*'.

3.1 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Impersonal Verbs into Present De L'indicatif

Impersonal verbs are verbs that are not generally conjugated in all the persons and classes, such as first, second, third persons, singular and plural form, like the others. They are verbs that do not describe human activities. Since such verbs often refer to abstract things, they can only be conjugated into the 3rd person singular form. Even their conjugation into the third person singular form is limited to masculine personal pronoun, **il**, alone. This explanation is meant to draw your attention to the fact that you cannot use the third person singular of feminine form to conjugate them. We would like to note also that there are no other French verbs that you can conjugate using this method. This type of conjugation is only adopted for impersonal verbs alone.

Examples could be found in:

- (a) **Pleuvoir** – to rain
Il pleut
- (b) **Falloir** – to be necessary
Il faut
- (c) **Advenir** – to happen
Il advient
- (d) **S'agir de** – to be about
Il s'agit de
- (e) **Brûmer** – to mist (hazy)
Il brume
- (f) **Venter** – to blow wind
Il vente

3.2 General Techniques Guiding The Conjugation Of Reflexive Or Pronominal Verbs Into 'Present De L'indicatif'

Reflexive verbs are what the French grammarian call "Les verbes pronominaux" hence our calling them reflexive or pronominal verbs in English so as to facilitate the ease of reference for French learners like

you. Reflexive or pronominal verbs are verbs used to refer to an action that the subject does to himself/herself. In a situation whereby you want to account for an action that you do to yourself or the action that another person does to himself or herself, you express this action through the use of reflexive or pronominal verbs in French grammar.

In order to conjugate these verbs into ‘présent de l’indicatif’, this set of verbs takes additional (direct/personal) pronoun in their conjugation. The pronouns **me te se nous vous** and **se** are used to mark this action of reflexive or pronominal of the verbs at the level of each personal pronoun from first person singular to the third person plural. For example, if the subject or the speaker wants to say that **I bath myself**, he would say: **Je me lave**.

Note: Note that in the normal conjugation of the infinitive **laver** (to wash), you are to conjugate it in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’ as **Je lave** (meaning I wash..... /I am washing ...) But in the case of reflexive or pronominal action whereby you want to say that you perform the action on yourself, another reflexive pronoun of the same person and grammatical class with that of the subject (personal pronoun) will be inserted to denote that reflexive action in the sentence. Hence, the inclusion of the reflexive pronoun, **me**, in the given example above. Here are other examples:

(a) **Se laver** – to take ones bath

Je me lave – I bath myself

Tu te laves – You bath yourself

Il/elle se lave – he/she baths himself/herself Nous nous lavons – we bath ourselves

Vous vous lavez – you bath yourselves

Ils se lavent – They bath themselves

(b) **Se taire** – to keep quiet

Je me tais – I keep quiet

Tu te tais – You keep quiet

Il/elle se tait – he/she keeps quiet

Nous nous taisons – we keep quiet Vous vous taisez – you keep quiet

Ils se taisent – They keep quiet

(c) **Se convertir** – to convert oneself

Je me convertis – I convert myself

Tu te convertis – You convert yourself

Il/elle se convertit – he/she convert himself/herself Nous nous convertissons – we convert ourselves

Vous vous convertissez – you convert yourselves Ils se convertissent – They convert themselves

(d) S'asseoir – to take ones seat

Je m'assois – I sit down/take my seat

Tu t'assois – You sit down/take your seat

Il/elle s'assoit – he/she sits down/take him/her seat
Nous nous assoyons – we sit down/take our seat
Vous vous assoyez – you sit down/take your seat
Ils s'assoient – They sit down/take their seat

Or

(e) S'asseoir – to take one's seat

Je m'assieds – I sit down/take my seat

Tu t'assieds – You sit down/take your seat

Il/elle s'assied – he/she sits down/take him/her seat
Nous nous asseyons – we sit down/take our seat
Vous vous asseyez – you sit down/take your seat
Ils s'asseyent – They sit down/take their seat**Note:** We would like you to note that there are two grammatically accepted form of conjugation of the verb *S'asseoir* in French. Whichever form you chose is correct.• **S'appeler** – to call oneself

Je m'appelle – I call myself (I am called) Tu t'appelles – You call yourself

Il/elle s'appelle – He/She calls himself/herself

Nous nous appelons – We call ourselves Vous vous appelez – You call yourselves
Ils/elles s'appellent – They call themselves**Note:** Take note of the fact that the contraction in the conjugation of **s'appeler** comes as a result of the contact in-between the vowel **e** of pronouns **me, te, se** and the infinitive of the verb **appeler** that has initial vowel **a**.**SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE**

Conjugate the following verbs into “Présent de l'indicatif”

- i. Se taire,
- ii se laver
- iii se convertir

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, you have been taught the rules governing the conjugation of Impersonal and Reflexive verbs into ‘présent de l'indicatif’. As you should have discovered, the impersonal verb is a verb that you can only conjugate with the third person masculine pronoun thus making the verb to refer to inanimate things that are not human beings. You have been taught also that a reflexive verb refers to verbs that depict an action that the subject does to himself. With the way and manner that the explanation

has been simplified in this unit, it is believed that the complication in understanding the impersonal and reflexive verbs, which is a common problem to French learners like you would have been alleviated. By now we believe you can conjugate impersonal and reflexive verbs into 'présent de l'indicatif' in French.

5.0 SUMMARY

With this unit on the conjugation of impersonal and reflexive verbs into 'présent de l'indicatif', we have completed the cycle of conjugation of verbs into 'présent de l'indicatif' in French. You should remember that having used the Unit one to do the general classification of French verbal conjugation groupings, we treated the Conjugation of verbs ending with **-er** and other regular verbs into 'present de l'indicatif' in Unit 2. Unit 3 treated the Conjugation of irregular verbs ending in **-re** into 'present de l'indicatif' while Unit 4 explained the Conjugation of irregular verbs ending with **-ir/-oir** into 'present de l'indicatif' to you. It is in this Unit 5 that we taught you the Conjugation of impersonal and reflexive verbs into 'present de l'indicatif'.

Having gone this far in the conjugation of verbs into 'présent de l'indicatif', we are sure that you must have been adequately informed in all these five units on the basic techniques of how to conjugate different verbs into 'présent de l'indicatif'.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Conjugate the following verbs into présent de l'indicatif:
 - a. Se comprendre,
 - b. Se taire,
 - c. Se voir,
 - d. S'offrir,
 - e. falloir,
 - f. pleuvoir,
 - g. venter,
 - h. S'agir,
 - i. S'habiller,
 - j. Se lever.

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MODULE 2

Unit 1	Conjugation of verbs ending with er and other regular verbs in the <i>futur simple</i>
Unit 2	Conjugation of irregular verbs in the <i>futur simple</i>
Unit 3	Conjugation of impersonal and reflexive verbs in the <i>futur simple</i>
Unit 4	Conjugation of verbs using the auxiliary <i>avoir</i> in the <i>passé composé</i>
Unit 5	Conjugation of verbs using the auxiliary <i>être</i> in the <i>passé composé</i>

UNIT 1 CONJUGATION OF VERBS ENDING WITH **-ER** AND OTHER REGULAR VERBS INTO ‘FUTUR SIMPLE’

CONTENTS

1.0	Introduction
2.0	Objectives
3.0	Main Content
	3.1 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Verbs Ending With -Er and Other Regular Verbs into <i>Futur Simple</i>
	3.2 Exceptionalities to these general rules.
4.0	Conclusion
5.0	Summary
6.0	Tutor Marked Assignment
7.0	References/Further Readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In this Unit, you will be taught the method of conjugating verbs that end with **-er** and other regular verbs into *futur simple*. You will learn about the easier techniques which a French grammar learner like you can adopt in conjugating French **er** and other regular verbs into *futur simple*. You will recall that in the last five units we talked about the conjugation of verbs into the present tense or present continuous (*présent de l’indicatif*). We have now getting to a stage where you have to learn how to express actions that will be done in the future. *Futur simple* could therefore be translated as (simple) future tense in English. It is used to express an action that will be done in the future or at a later date or time after the present moment.

Although we are talking of future tense here, it is a methodical

development on the conjugation of verbs into present tense. The knowledge you have gained from other units, most especially Units two to five will also be useful in this Unit. Let us insist on our warning you that your better understanding of conjugation generally depends on the ways and manners with which you handle all the Units that were taught earlier. Therefore, you are implored to learn the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating verbs ending with **-er** and other regular verbs into *futur simple* as they will be taught here.

2.0. OBJECTIVES

By the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify the Stem/Radical of verbs ending with **-er**
- Identify and use the ending/terminaison of **er** verbs and other regular verbs when conjugated in the *future simple*
- identify the morphemes (suffixation) with which the endings could be replaced thus facilitating grammatically correct conjugation of **-er** verbs and other regular verbs in the *futur simple* tense
- Conjugate **-er** verbs and other **-er** regular verbs in the *future simple* tense.

You are now invited to follow the method of conjugation of **-er** and other regular verbs into *futur simple*.

3.1 General Techniques Guiding The Conjugation of Verbs Ending With **-Er** and Other Regular Verbs Into *Futur Simple*

Like you have been told in the introduction to this Unit, the *Futur simple* could be translated as (simple) future tense in English. It is used to express any action that will be done in the future or at a later date or time that exceeds the present. When you want to talk about what you will do or what any other person will do later than when you are talking, you use the future tense in grammar.

Just like in the conjugation of ‘présent de l’indicatif’ earlier treated in Units 1 to 5, there are slight differences in the conjugation of this tense in the different verbal groupings. You need therefore to pay attention to the various dissimilarities in the conjugation of **-er** and other regular verbs into *futur simple* as taught in this Unit.

To conjugate **-er** and other regular verbs, such as **manger**, into future tense, you should take whole infinitive of the verb concerned (e.g. **manger**), then you should add the following endings **ai, as, a, ons, ez, ont** to it as indicated below:

ai for 1st person singular **as** for 2nd person singular **a**
 for 3rd person singular **ons** for 1st person plural
ez for 2nd person plural **ont** for 3rd person plural

Manger

Je manger ai	(I shall eat/I will eat)
Tu manger as	(You will eat)
Il manger a	(He will eat)
Nous manger ons	(We shall eat/We will eat)
Vous manger ez	(You will eat)
Ils manger ont	(They will eat)

Note: It is necessary to call your attention to the fact that these *futur simple* endings (**ai, as, a, ons, ez, ont**) look a bit like the conjugation of the verb **avoir** into ‘présent de l’indicatif.’ You are therefore advised to quickly compare these endings and the présent de l’indicatif conjugated form of the verb **avoir** for ease of reference:

Avoir

J’ ai	Nous avons
Tu as	Vous avez
Il/elle a	Ils/elles ont

If you consider the highlighted ending parts of the ‘futur simple’ conjugation of **manger** as well as that of the verb **avoir** conjugated into ‘présent de l’indicatif’, you will realize very close similarities in them. The differences you are at the level of 1st and 2nd persons plural whereby the verb **avoir** is conjugated as ‘avons’ and ‘avez’ respectively. You can through this enlightenment on the similarities to postulate a method for yourself that future tense could be formed in French language by adding completely the 1st, 2nd, 3rd Person singular and 3rd Person plural of auxiliary ‘avoir’, while the stem ‘av’ will be removed from the 1st and 2nd persons plural form leaving only the ‘**ons**’ and ‘**ez**’ forms of the verb **avoir** conjugated into ‘présent de l’indicatif’, to the ending of the infinitive of the **er** and other regular verb you want to conjugate into *futur simple*.

Let us then follow these patterns to conjugate some **-er** verbs into the *futur simple*:

a.	Parler		
ai	for 1 st person singular	=	Je parler ai as for
2 nd person singular	=		Tu parler as
a	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/elle parler a ons
	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous parler ons
ez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous parler ez

ont	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils /elles parler ont
b. Commencer			
ai	for 1 st person singular	=	Je commenc erai
as	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu commenc eras
a	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/elle commenc era
ons	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous commenc erons
ez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous commenc erez
ont	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/elles commenc eront
c. Aimer			
ai	for 1 st person singular	=	J'aim erai
as	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu aim eras
a	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/elle aim era
ons	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous aim erons
ez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous aim erez
ont	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/elles aim eront
d. Appeler			
ai	for 1 st person singular	=	J'appel erai
as	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu appel eras
a	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/elle appel era
ons	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous appel erons
ez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous appel erez
ont	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/elles appel eront

3.2 Exceptionalities to the General Rules

Remember that although **er** verbs are said to be regular at most of the conjugation groupings, some verbs in this category have some peculiarities when they are conjugated in the 'présent de l'indicatif'. The same thing is applicable when conjugating some **-er** verbs in the *future simple* tense. There are some **-er** verbs that take exceptions to the general conjugation techniques/rules in the conjugation of their *futur simple* as we have explained above in this Unit.

In as much as we cannot because of these minor dissimilarities categorize them as being irregular, we then decided to treat them as peculiarities under this category. Examples of such **-er** verbs with peculiarities include

aller, payer, balayer, rudoyer, envoyer, renvoyer, etc. You are therefore implored to pay serious attention to their conjugation peculiarities that we are about to treat as irregularities and learn them as presented to you:

e. **Aller**

ai	for 1 st person singular	=	J'irai
as	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu iras
a	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/elle ira
ons	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous irons
ez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous irez
ont	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/elles iront

f. **Payer**

ai	for 1 st person singular	=	Je paierai
as	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu paieras
a	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/elle paiera
ons	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous paierons
ez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous paierez
ont	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/elles paieront

(**Balayer, Rudoyer** are conjugated like **Payer**)

g. **Envoyer**

ai	for 1 st person singular	=	J'enverrai	as for
2 nd person singular	=	Tu enverras		
a	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/elle enverra	
ons	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous enverrons	
ez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous enverrez	
ont	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/elles enverront	

(**Renvoyer** is conjugated like **Envoyer**)

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Conjugate the following verbs into “futur simple”

- i. écouter
- ii. danser
- iii. regarder
- iv. balayer

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this Unit, you have been taught about the rules governing the conjugation of **-er** and other regular verbs into *futur simple*. You have also been told of some exceptionalities to the general rules. We believe that, by now, you can conjugate **-er** and other regular **-er** verbs into *futur simple*.

5.0 SUMMARY

Having laid the foundation for the conjugation of French verbs through the simplified presentation of conjugation of verbs in the ‘présent de l’indicatif’ in Units two to five, this Unit six has gone a little further in the conjugation techniques by focusing on the conjugation **-er** and other regular verbs into *futur simple*. Much as we discussed the **-er** verbs, in this unit, as regular verbs, we were quick in identifying and treating some elements of irregularities of some **-er** verbs at the *futur simple* level. These irregularities are what we treated as peculiarities.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Conjugate the following verbs into *futur simple*:
 - a. Aller,
 - b. b. Rudoyer,
 - c. c. Monter,
 - d. d. Nager,
 - e. e. Recommencer,
 - f. f. Renvoyer, g. Blaguer,
 - g. h. nettoyer,
 - h. i. Laver,
 - i. j. Discuter.

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UNIT 2 CONJUGATION OF IRREGULAR VERBS INTO FUTUR SIMPLE

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
 - 3.1 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Verbs Ending With -Re and Other Irregular Verbs in The 'Futur Simple' Tense
 - 3.2 Conjugation of Re Verbs into Futur Simple
 - 3.3 Conjugation of verbs ending with **-ir** verbs in the *futur simple*.
 - 3.4 Conjugation of verbs ending with **-oir** in the *futur simple*.
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References/Further Readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

You will recall that in Unit Six, we taught you the method of conjugating verbs ending with **-er** and other regular verbs into *futur simple*. In this Unit, you will be taught how to conjugate some irregular verbs in the *futur simple*. Like we did in the previous Unit, we hope to teach you about the easier techniques a French grammar learner like you can apply in conjugating French irregular verbs into *futur simple*.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

By the end of this Unit, you should be able to:

- Identify the Stem/Radical of the irregular verbs when conjugated in the *future simple*
- Identify the ending/terminaison of irregular verbs when they are conjugated in the *future simple*.
- identify the morphemes (suffixation) with which the endings could be replaced thus facilitating grammatically correct conjugation of verbs in the *future simple* tense
- Conjugate irregular verbs ending with **-re** in the *future simple*.

You are now invited to follow the method of conjugation of irregular verbs into *futur simple*.

3.1 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Verbs Ending With -Re and Other Irregular Verbs in The ‘Futur Simple’ Tense

Like you have been told in Unit six, the *Futur simple* tense could be translated as (simple) future tense in English. The tense is used to express any action that will be done in the future or at a later date or time that exceeds the present. When you want to talk about what you will do or what any other person will do later than the period you are talking, you use the future tense. The French equivalent of future tense is what is called *Futur simple*.

You will also recall that in Unit six, we have treated how to conjugate verbs ending with **-er** and other regular verbs into *Futur simple*. If you recall very well in Unit One that you were told that verbs in French language could be divided into three groups according to their endings. We have treated the conjugation of verbs ending with **-er** and other regular verbs into *Futur simple* in Unit Six. And this Unit, we are focusing on the conjugation of irregular verbs ending with **-re, -ir/-oir** in the *Futur simple*.

3.2 Conjugation of Re Verbs into Futur Simple

To conjugate verbs ending with **-re**, such as **prendre**, in the future tense, you need to first of all identify the infinitive of the verb concerned (e.g. **prendre**), then you drop the last vowel **e** of the infinitive and add the following endings **i, as, a, ons, ez, ont** to the *entire* infinitive of the verb concerned as indicated below:

ai	for 1 st person singular as	for 2 nd person singular a
	for 3 rd person singular ons	for 1 st person plural ez
	for 2 nd person plural ont	for 3 rd person plural

Prendre	=	To take
Je prendrai		(I shall take/I will take) (You
Tu prendras		will take)
Il prendra		(He will take)

Nous prendrons	(We shall take /We will take)
Vous prendrez	(You will take)
Ils prendront	(They will take)

Now, let us then follow these patterns to conjugate some **-re** verbs into the *futur simple*:

a.	Battre (to beat)		
ai	for 1 st person singular	=	Je battraï
as	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu battras
a	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/elle battra
ons	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous battrons
ez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous battrez
ont	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/elles battront

Note : The conjugation of **débattre, combattre, mettre, soumettre, plaie, connaître, paraître, naître, croître, croire, boire, conclure, absoudre, coudre, moudre, suivre, vivre, revivre, survivre, revivre, lire** etc, follow this pattern.

j.	Craindre (to be afraid/to fear)		
ai	for 1 st person singular	=	Je craindrai as
	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu craindras
a	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/elle craindra
ons	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous craindrons
ez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous craindrez
ont	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/elles
	craindront		

Note : The conjugation of **rendre, joindre, plaindre, contraindre, comprendre, rompre, corrompre, rire, interrompre, vaincre, convaincre, dire, contredire, prédire, redire, dedire, sourire, écrire, récrire, inscrire, cuire** etc, follow this pattern.

c.	Faire (to do/to make)		
ai	for 1 st person singular	=	Je ferai
as	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu feras
a	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/elle fera
ons	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous ferons
ez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous ferez
ont	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/elles feront

Note: The conjugation of **défaire, refaire**, etc, follow this pattern.

d.	Etre (to be)		
ai	for 1 st person singular	=	Je serai as for
2 nd person singular	=	Tu seras	

a	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/elle sera ons
	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous ser ons
ez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous sere z
ont	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/elles ser ont

3.3 Conjugation of Verbs Ending With -Ir in the 'Futur Simple' Tense

Note that among the irregular verbs in French language, apart from ones ending with **-re**, verbs ending with **-ir** contain more verbs that follow the same pattern of conjugation into *futur simple*. To conjugate verbs ending with **-ir** such as **finir** into future tense, you will take the infinitive of the verb concerned (e.g. **finir**), then you will add the following endings **ai, as, a, ons, ez, ont** to the *entire* infinitive of the verb concerned as illustrated below:

a. **Finir** (to finish)

ai	for 1 st person singular	=	Je finir ai as for
2 nd person singular	=		Tu finira s
a	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/elle finira
ons	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous finira ons
ez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous finira ez
ont	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/elles finira ont

Note : The conjugation of **obéir, désobéir, haïr, partir, sortir, sentir, mentir, partir, repartir, répartir, vêtir, dévêtir, revêtir, couvrir, ouvrir, offrir, souffrir, accueillir, cueillir, bouillir, dormir, servir, revivre, lire** etc, follow this pattern.

b. **Tenir** (to hold)

ai	for 1 st person singular	=	Je tiendrai as for
2 nd person singular	=		Tu tiendra s
a	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/elle tiendra
ons	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous tiendra ons
ez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous tiendra ez
ont	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/elles tiendra ont

Note : The conjugation of **venir, revenir, parvenir, subvenir** etc, follow this pattern.

c. **Courir** (to run)

ai	for 1 st person singular	=	Je courrai as	for
2 nd person singular	=	Tu courras		
a	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/elle courra ons	
	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous courrons ez	
	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous courrez	
ont	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/elles courront	

Note : The conjugation of **mourir**, etc, follow this pattern.

3.4 Conjugation Of Verbs Ending With -Oir in the ‘Futur Simple’

You need to know that, among the irregular verbs in French language, the ones ending with **-oir** have the largest number that do not follow the same pattern of conjugation in the *futur simple*. It is thus difficult to proffer a general rule that could cover all of them. You are therefore advised to master their stem in the future and other forms of the conjugation could be done easily. It is their stems that you will add the following endings : **ai, as, a, ons, ez, ont.**

a. **Avoir** (to have)

ai	for 1 st person singular	=	J’aurai as	for
2 nd person singular	=	Tu auras		
a	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/elle aura ons	
	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous aurons ez	
	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous aurez	
ont	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/elles auront	

b. **Recevoir** (to receive)

ai	for 1 st person singular	=	Je recevrai
as	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu recevras
a	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/elle recevra
ons	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous recevrons
ez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous recevrez
ont	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/elles recevront

Note : The conjugation of **apercevoir, concevoir, décevoir, percevoir**, etc. follow this pattern.

c. **Voir** (to see)

ai	for 1 st person singular	=	Je verrai as	for
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2 nd person singular	=	Tu verras
a	for 3 rd person singular	= Il/elle verra ons
	for 1 st person plural	= Nous verrons ez
	for 2 nd person plural	= Vous verrez
ont	for 3 rd person plural	= Ils/elles verront

Note : The conjugation of **entrevoir**, **revoir** etc, follow this pattern.

d. **Savoir** (to know- knowlesge)

ai	for 1 st person singular	= Je saurai as for
2 nd person singular	=	Tu sauras
a	for 3 rd person singular	= Il/elle saura ons
	for 1 st person plural	= Nous saurons ez
	for 2 nd person plural	= Vous saurez
ont	for 3 rd person plural	= Ils/elles sauront

e. **Devoir** (to be compelled)

ai	for 1 st person singular	= Je devrai as for
2 nd person singular	=	Tu devras
a	for 3 rd person singular	= Il/elle devra
ons	for 1 st person plural	= Nous devons
ez	for 2 nd person plural	= Vous devrez
ont	for 3 rd person plural	= Ils/elles devront

f. **Pouvoir** (to be able to)

ai	for 1 st person singular	= Je pourrai
as	for 2 nd person singular	= Tu pourras
a	for 3 rd person singular	= Il/elle pourra
ons	for 1 st person plural	= Nous pourrons
ez	for 2 nd person plural	= Vous pourrez
ont	for 3 rd person plural	= Ils/elles pourront

g. **Vouloir** (to wish)

ai	for 1 st person singular	= Je voudrai
as	for 2 nd person singular	= Tu voudras
a	for 3 rd person singular	= Il/elle voudra
ons	for 1 st person plural	= Nous voudrons
ez	for 2 nd person plural	= Vous voudrez
ont	for 3 rd person plural	= Ils/elles voudront

Note : The conjugation of **valoir, équivaloir, prévaloir, revaloir** etc, follow this pattern.

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Conjugate the following verbs in the “future simple” tense

- i. Apercevoir
- ii Revoir
- ii Prendre

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this Unit, you have learned the rules governing the conjugation of verbs ending with **-re, -ir** and **-oir** in the *futur simple* tense. You have also been told that most verbs in this category are irregular verbs and that you should pay serious attention in learning the stem of these infinitives when conjugated in the ‘future simple’ so that you can add the appropriate endings. We believe by now you can conjugate verbs ending with **-re, -ir** and **-oir** in the *futur simple*.

5.0 SUMMARY

As a follow up to Unit six, this Unit seven has gone a little further in teaching you the conjugation techniques to be adopted in the conjugation of verbs ending with **-re, -ir** and **-oir** in the *futur simple*. Emphasis was also laid on the fact that most verbs in this category are irregular verbs and that you should be careful in learning the future tense stem of their infinitives so as to add the future tense endings to them.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Conjugate the following verbs in the *futur simple*:
 - a. Rendre,
 - b. Refaire,
 - c. Plaire,
 - d. Sortir,
 - e. Revenir,
 - f. Mourir,
 - g. Valoir,
 - h. Revoir,
 - i. Concevoir,
 - j. être.

7.0 REFERENCES /FURTHER READINGS

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UNIT 3 CONJUGATION OF IMPERSONAL AND REFLEXIVE VERBS IN THE 'FUTUR SIMPLE'

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
 - 3.1 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Impersonal Verbs into 'Futur Simple' Tense
 - 3.2 General techniques guiding the conjugation of Reflexive verbs in the *futur simple*
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor Marked Assignment7.0
- 7.0 References/Further Readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Unit will introduce you to the technique of conjugating Impersonal and Reflexive verbs in the *futur simple* tense. In this Unit, you will learn about easy techniques with which a French grammar learner like you could adopt in conjugating French Impersonal and Reflexive verbs in the future tense. Like we you were told in Unit five, Impersonal as well as Reflexive verbs are common in French language. You will see them ending with either **er**, **re**, **ir** or even **oir**. The knowledge you have gained from other Units, most especially Units two to seven will be useful in this Unit. In this Unit, you will be taught mostly how to identify French Impersonal and Reflexive verbs and the peculiarities of such verbs so that you could apply your already gained knowledge in the conjugation of verbs ending with **-er**, **-re**, **-ir** and **-oir** in the *futur simple* to them. You can them understand why we have continuously emphasizing the fact that your better understanding of conjugation generally depends on the ways and manners with which you pay attention to all the previous Units. Therefore, you are strongly advised to learn the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating French Impersonal and Reflexive verbs in the *futur simple* as they will be taught in this Unit.

2. OBJECTIVES

By the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify and list the French Impersonal verbs.
- Identify and list the French Reflexive verbs
- Explain the peculiarities of these two types of verbs.
- Conjugate the two types of verbs in the *futur simple* tense.

You are now invited to follow the method of conjugating impersonal and reflexive verbs in the '*futur simple*' tense.

3.0 MAIN CONTENT

3.1 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Impersonal Verbs into 'Futur Simple' Tense

As you were told you in Unit five, Impersonal verbs are verbs that cannot be conjugated in all the personal persons such as first, second, third persons, singular and plural form, like the others. They are verbs that are not used to describe human beings' actions. And since they describe abstract things, they can only be conjugated in the 3rd person singular form. Even their conjugation in the third person singular is limited to masculine personal pronoun, **il**, alone. This explanation is a reminder to let you know that you cannot use the feminine form of the third person singular (**elle**) to conjugate them. Note also that it is not every other verb that you can conjugate using this method. This type of conjugation is only adopted for impersonal verbs. Here are some examples of the conjugation of impersonal verbs in the *future* simple tense:

- a) **Pleuvoir** – to rain Il pleuvra
- b) **Falloir** – to be necessary Il faudra
- c) **Advenir** – to happen Il adviendra
- d) **S'agir de** – to be about
Il s'agira de
- e) **Brûmer** – to mist (hazy)
Il brumera
- f) **Venter** – to blow wind
Il ventera

3.2 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Reflexive or Pronominal Verbs in the 'Futur Simple' Tense

Like it was explained in Unit five, Reflexive verbs are what the French grammarians call "Les verbes pronominaux" hence our calling them reflexive or pronominal verbs in English so as to facilitate the ease of reference for French learners like you. Reflexive or pronominal verbs are verbs used to refer to an action that the subject does to himself/herself. In a situation whereby you want to refer to an action that you do to yourself or the action that another person does to himself or herself, you express the action through the use of reflexive or pronominal verbs in French.

Remember also that the conjugation of this type of verbs takes additional (direct/personal) pronoun in their conjugation. The pronouns **me te se**

nous vous and **se** are used to mark this reflexive or pronominal action of the verbs.

To conjugate reflexive verbs in the *futur simple*, the following endings are then added to the stem of the main verb. For example, if the subject or the speaker wants to say that **I will/shall bath myself**, he would say: ***Je me laverai***.

Note: Take note of the fact that apart from the introduction of another reflexive pronoun of the same person with that of the subject (personal pronoun) that you will insert so as to denote that reflexive action in the sentence, you will be expected to bring into use also your knowledge of conjugation of verbs ending with **-er, -re, -ir, -oir** that you have acquired in Units six and seven. Here are some examples of conjugation:

- (e) **Se laver** – to take one’s bath
 Je me laverai – I will/shall bath myself Tu te laveras – You will bath yourself
 Il/elle se lavera – he/she will bath himself/herself Nous nous laverons – we will bath ourselves Vous vous laverez – you will bath yourselves Ils/Elles se laveront – They will bath themselves
- (f) **Se taire** – to keep quiet
 Je me tairai – I will/shall keep quiet Tu te tairas – You will keep quiet Il/elle se taira – he/she will keep quiet
 Nous nous tairons – we will keep quiet Vous vous tairez – you will keep quiet Ils/elles se tairont – They will keep quiet
- (g) **Se convertir** – to convert oneself
 Je me convertirai – I will/shall convert myself Tu te convertiras – You will convert yourself
 Il/elle se convertira – he/she will convert himself/herself Nous nous convertirons – we will convert ourselves Vous vous convertirez – you will convert yourselves Ils/elles se convertiront – They will convert themselves
- (h) **S’asseoir** – to take one’s seat
 Je m’assoierai – I will/shall sit down/take my seat Tu t’assoieras – You will sit down/take your seat
 Il/elle s’assoiera – he/she will sit down/take him/her seat Nous nous assoierons – we will sit down/take our seat Vous vous assoirez – you will sit down/take your seat Ils/Elles s’assoieront – They will sit down/take their seat

Or

- (f) **S'asseoir** – to take one's seat
 Je m'assiérai – I will/shall sit down/take my seat Tu t'assiéras – You will sit down/take your seat
 Il/elle s'assiéra – he/she will sit down/take him/her seat Nous nous assiérons – we will sit down/take our seat Vous vous assiérez – you will sit down/take your seat Ils/Elles s'assiéront – They will sit down/take their seat

Note: Take good of the fact that, just like in the conjugation of the 'présent de l'indicatif' that we did in Unit five, there are two grammatically accepted forms of conjugating the verb *s'asseoir* in the *futur simple*. Whichever form you chose or use is correct.

- (i) **S'appeler** – to call oneself
 Je m'appellerai – I will call myself (I will be called) Tu t'appelleras – You will call yourself
 Il/elle s'appellera – He/She will call himself/herself Nous nous appellerons – We will call ourselves Vous vous appellerez – You will call yourselves Ils/elles s'appelleront – They will call themselves

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Conjugate the following verbs in the "Futur simple" tense:

- i. Voir
- ii. Se taire
- iii. se lever

Tu te tairas Vous vous tairez il/elle se taira il / elles se tairont

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this Unit, you have been taught the rules governing the conjugation of Impersonal and Reflexive verbs in the '*futur simple*' tense. As explained, the impersonal verb is a verb that you can only conjugate with third person masculine pronoun (**il**) since the verb refers to inanimate things that are not human beings. You have been taught also that the *futur simple* of reflexive verb refers to an action that the subject will do to himself in the future. With the way and manner the explanation is simplified in this Unit, we are convinced that the complication in understanding the *futur simple* form of impersonal and reflexive verbs, which would have been a problem to French learners like you is alleviated. By now we believe that you can conjugate impersonal and reflexive verbs in the *futur simple* in French.

5.0 SUMMARY

With this Unit focusing on the conjugation of impersonal and reflexive verbs in the *futur simple*, we have completed the cycle of conjugation of verbs into that French tense.

Having gone this far in the conjugation of verbs in the ‘*futur simple*’, it is believed that you must have been adequately informed in all these eight units on the basic techniques of how to conjugate different verbs into ‘*présent de l’indicatif*’ and the *futur simple*.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Conjugate the following verbs in *futur simple*:

- a. Advenir,
- b. Se regarder
- c. Se taire,
- d. S’offrir,
- e. falloir,
- f. pleuvoir,
- g. venter,
- h. S’agir,
- i. e lever,
- j. Se comprendre.

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UNIT4 CONJUGATION OF VERBS USING THE AUXILLIARY AVOIR IN THE 'PASSÉ COMPOSÉ' TENSE

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
 - 3.1 General techniques guiding the conjugation of verbs using the auxiliary *avoir* in *passé composé*.
 - 3.2 Techniques guiding the conjugation of verbs ending with **-er** that use the auxiliary *avoir* in *passé composé*.
 - 3.3 Techniques guiding the conjugation of verbs ending with **-re** that use the auxiliary *avoir* in *passé composé*.
 - 3.4 Techniques guiding the conjugation of verbs ending with **-ir/-oir** that use the auxiliary *avoir* in the *passé composé*.
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References /Further Readings

INTRODUCTION

In this Unit, you will be taught how to conjugate French verbs using the auxiliary *avoir* in the *passé compose* tense. You will learn about the easier techniques which a French grammar learner like you could apply in conjugating verbs that use the auxiliary *avoir* in the *passé composé*. Recall that in the first five units we have learnt about the conjugation of verbs in the *présent de l'indicatif*, while in Units six to eight, we learnt about how to conjugate verbs in the *futur simple*. The significance of all these previous lessons is that, on the one hand, you were taught how to conjugate French verbs to express actions that one is doing at present, habitually or in present continuous manners with the conjugation of *présent de l'indicatif*, on the other hand, you were also taught how French learners like you can express actions that one is doing in the future through the conjugation of verbs in the *futur simple*.

Now we have just got to a stage where you will be taught how to express actions that are done in the past. Any action that has taken place in the past, that is before the time that you are reporting the action, is expressed in French through the *passé compose* tense. A *passé composé* tense

expresses an action that has been done and concluded a second, a minute, an hour, a day, a week, a month, a year or even a decade in the past before the time the speaker is reporting it. Note that the knowledge you have gained from all the previous Units, most especially Units two to eight will also be useful in this Unit. Be warned that your better understanding of conjugation generally depends on the way and manner with which you handle all the Units previously taught in this Course. Therefore, you are advised to learn the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating verbs with the auxiliary *avoir* into *passé composé* as they will be taught here.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

By the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify and conjugate the auxiliary *avoir* in the present tense.
- Identify and list French verbs that use the auxiliary *avoir* in the *passé composé*.
- Identify the past participle of some of the verbs that use the auxiliary *avoir* in the *passé composé*.
- Conjugate verbs that use the auxiliary *avoir* in the *passé composé* by adding the appropriate form of the auxiliary *avoir* to the past participle of the verbs concerned.

You are now invited to follow the method that could facilitate the conjugation of verbs with auxiliary *avoir* into *passé composé*.

3.0 MAIN CONTENTS

3.1 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Verbs that use the Auxiliary *Avoir* in the *Passé Composé*

As you were told you in the introduction to this Unit, the *passé composé* tense is used to express actions that have taken place in the past before the time that you are reporting the action. It is a tense that expresses an action that has been done and concluded a second, a minute, an hour, a day, a week, a month, a year or even a decade in the past before the time the speaker is reporting it.

Unlike the conjugations of *présent de l'indicatif* and *future simple tenses* whereby the conjugation centres on the single major verb, the conjugation of verbs into *passé composé* entails the usage of an auxiliary in addition to the past participle of the main verb. It is the combination of this auxiliary and the main verb that gives the tense its name: *passé composé*. In French, *composé* means *compounded, that contains more than one*

linguistic element. *Passé composé* could therefore be literally translated as *compound past* that relates past actions/tense i.e. the past perfect tense. Be informed also that '*passé composé*' is used in French as the simple past in English. A lot of Anglophone Students make the mistake of translating the *passé composé* tense as being perfect tense. For example: **J'ai été** means **I was** but not **I have been**.

The general rule for conjugating verbs in this tense says that you add the past participle of the verb you want to conjugate to the present tense of the auxiliary 'avoir' or 'être' (as the case may be): - (Auxiliaire **avoir** ou **être au présent de l'indicatif** + participe passé du verbe concerné)
Since the rule insists that you add the auxiliary *avoir*, conjugated into the *présent de l'indicatif*, to the past participle of the main verb, let us help you to recollect your knowledge of conjugating the verb *avoir* in the *présent de l'indicatif*:

Avoir

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

Let us now follow the rules to conjugate the verb **manger** in the *passé composé*: auxiliary avoir + past participle of manger (mangé)

Manger -	to eat
J'ai mangé	Nous avons mangé
Tu as mangé	Vous avez mangé
Il/elle a mangé	Ils/elles ont mangé

3.2 Techniques Guiding The Conjugation Of Er Verbs With The Auxiliary Avoir Into Passé Composé

Remember that for you to conjugate a verb in the '*passé composé*' you must first of all identify the past participle of such a verb. To form the past participle of all verbs ending with **-er** is easy: you drop the **r** at the end of the infinitive and put an acute accent (´) on the final 'é'. For example, **manger** becomes **mangé**. It is this past participle that you precede with the personal pronoun and the correct conjugated form of the auxiliary *avoir* in order to form your *passé composé*. Here are some examples of the conjugation of **-er** verbs:

(a) Parler -	to speak	J'ai parlé	(I spoke)
Tu as parlé	(You spoke)	Il/elle a parlé	(He/She spoke)
Nous avons parlé	(We spoke)		
Vous avez parlé	(You spoke)	Ils/elles ont parlé	(They spoke)

(b) **Commencer** - to start

J'ai commencé	(I started)
Tu as commencé	(You started) Il/elle a commencé
	(He/She started) Nous avons
commencé	(We started) Vous avez commencé
	(You started) Ils/elles ont commencé

(They started)

3.3 Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of - Re Verbs With Auxiliary *Avoir* in the *Passé Composé*

Majority of verbs in this category form their past participle by replacing the **re** ending by **t** or **s**. Apart from some irregular verbs such as **être** (which has **été** as its past participle) most other **-re** verbs end in **t** or **s** as their past participle. Example could be seen in **faire** whose past participle is **fait**, **dire** whose past participle is **dis**.

(a) **Etre** - to be

J'ai été	(I was)
Tu as été	(You were)
Il/elle a été	(He/She was) Nous avons été
Vous avez été	(You were) Ils/elles ont été
were)	(They were)

(b) **Faire** - to do/make

J'ai fait	(I did/made)
Tu as fait	(You did/made)
Il/elle a fait	(He/She did/made) Nous avons fait
	(We did/made) Vous avez fait
did/made) Ils/elles ont fait	(They did/made)

(c) **Dire** - to say

J'ai dit	(I said)
Tu as dit	(You said)
Il/elle a dit	(He/She said) Nous avons dit
Vous avez dit	(You said) Ils/elles ont dit
	(They said)

3.4 Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of -Ir/-Oir Verbs with The Auxiliary *Avoir* in the *Passé Composé*

Remember that you were previously told that majority of French verbs, apart from those ending with **-er** are classified as irregular verbs. Note that this irregularity also affects the formation of their past participle. While **finir** has **fini**, partially following the **-er** verbs pattern to form its past participle, the same could not be said of **voir** whose past participle is **vu**. You are then advised to learn the irregular past participle as you acquire your vocabularies. Here are some examples of conjugation in the ‘*passé composé*’.

(a) **Finir** - to finish

J’ai fini	(I finished)			
Tu as fini	(You finished)			
Il/elle a fini	(He/She finished)	Nous	avons	fini
	(We finished)	Vous	avez	fini
finished) Ils/elles ont fini	(They finished)			

(b) **Voir** - to see

J’ai vu	(I saw)			
Tu as vu	(You saw)			
Il/elle a vu	(He/She saw)	Nous	avons	vu
	(You saw)	Ils/elles	ont	vu
Vous avez vu	(They saw)			

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Conjugate the following verbs intoe “*Passé*’ *Composé*’: Regarder , Dire, Vouloir, faire.

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this Unit, you have been taught the rules governing the conjugation of verbs with auxiliary *avoir* into *passé composé*. You have also been told of how to conjugate the auxiliary *avoir* as well as how to identify the past participle of **er**, **re ir** and **oir** verbs. We believe by now you can conjugate most verbs using the auxiliary *avoir* into *passé composé*.

5.0 SUMMARY

With the solid foundation we have laid for you in Units two to five through the simplified presentation of the conjugation in the *présent de l’indicatif* as well as the techniques of the conjugation of *future simple* that we methodically handled in Units six to eight, this Unit nine has gone further by teaching you the techniques for the conjugation of verbs that use the auxiliary ‘*avoir*’ in the ‘*passé composé*’ tense.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

Conjugate the following verbs into *passé composé*:

- a. Mentir,
- b. Noter,
- c. Discuter,
- d. Regarder,
- e. Savoir,
- f. Vouloir,
- g. Prendre,
- h. Refaire,
- i. Définir,
- j. Dire

7.0 REFERENCES/FURTHER READINGS

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UNIT 5 CONJUGATION OF VERBS THAT USE THE AUXILLIARY *ETRE* IN THE PASSÉCOMPOSÉ TENSE

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Contents
 - 3.1 General techniques guiding the conjugation of verbs that use the auxiliary *être* into *passé composé*.
 - 3.2 Techniques guiding the conjugation of **er** verbs that use the auxiliary *être* into *passé composé*.
 - 3.3 Techniques guiding the conjugation of **-re** verbs that use the auxiliary *être* into *passé composé*.
 - 3.4 Techniques guiding the conjugation of **ir/oir** verbs that use the auxiliary *être* into *passé composé*.
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References /Further Readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

You will recall that we introduced you into the conjugation of verbs into *passé composé* in Unit 9 where you were taught about the method of conjugating verbs that use the auxiliary *avoir* into *passé composé*. In this Unit, we hope to teach you the method of conjugating verbs that use the auxiliary *être* in the *passé composé*. You will learn about the easier techniques which a French grammar learner like you could apply in conjugating verbs with auxiliary *être* into French *passé composé*.

Just like you were told in Unit nine, any action that has been done in the past, before the time that you are reporting the action, is expressed in French through the *passé composé*. In other words, a *passé composé* tense expresses an action that has been done and concluded a second, a minute, an hour, a day, a week, a month, a year or even a decade in the past before the time the speaker is reporting it. Note that the knowledge you gained from previous units, most especially Units two to nine will also be useful in this Unit. Let us insist again on the fact that your better understanding of conjugation generally depends on the ways and manners with which you handled all the

previous Units. Therefore, you are strongly advised to learn the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating verbs that use the auxiliary *être* in the *passé composé* as they will be taught here.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

By the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify and conjugate the auxiliary *être* in the present tense.
- Identify and list the past participle of various verbs that use the auxiliary 'être' when conjugated in the 'passé composé'.
- Conjugate verbs that use the auxiliary 'être' in the *passé composé*. You are now invited to follow the method that could facilitate the conjugation of verbs with auxiliary *être* into *passé composé*.

3.0. MAIN OBJECTIVES

3.1 General Techniques Guiding The Conjugation of Verbs That Use the Auxiliary *Etre* in the *Passé Composé*

As you were told in Unit nine as well as in the introduction to this Unit, *passé composé* is used to express actions that have taken place in the past. Also, unlike the conjugations in the *présent de l'indicatif* and *future simple* whereby the conjugation centres on the main verb, the conjugation of verbs into *passé composé* entails the usage of an auxiliary and the past participle of the main verb. Remember also that '*Le passé composé*' is used in French as the simple past in English. For example, **J'ai été** means **I was and** not **I have been**.

Let us call your attention to the general rule explained in Unit 9 which says that you add the past participle of the verb you want to conjugate to the present tense of the auxiliary **avoir** or **être** (as the case may be): - (Auxiliaire **avoir** ou **être** + participe passé du verbe concerné).

Please note that while we used auxiliary **avoir** for the verb **manger**, in Unit 9, the auxiliary **être** is what we will use for such verbs like **aller**, **venir**, etc. in this Unit.

Before you start asking the question about how to know the rationale behind the choice of auxiliary to be used with one particular verb or the other, we thought it necessary provide a possible solution to your 'could be' problem. Although some grammarians came with some 'indications' that could be used in deciding on the choice of the appropriate auxiliary to for the conjugation in the 'passé composé', we would want to suggest that the

following verbs should take auxiliary ‘**être**’ when they are to be conjugated in the that tense: Aller (to go), descendre (to come down), rester (to rest), monter (to climb), tomber (to fall), naître (to be born), sortir (to go out), partir (to go) venir (to come). Other verbs are **venir**, advenir, provenir, devenir etc, entrer (to enter), rentrer (to enter again), arriver (to come/arrive), retourner (to return). **Most other verbs, apart from these ones and their variants, are conjugated with auxiliary ‘avoir’.** The implication of this explanation here is that if there are well over twelve thousand verbs in French grammar and only about less than thirty of them are conjugated with auxiliary **être**, the easier method then is to memorise those verbs conjugated with auxiliary **être** so that you will know that any verb not in that category will be conjugated with auxiliary **avoir**.

The ‘*passé composé*’ rule says that you add the auxiliary **être**, conjugated in the *présent de l’indicatif*, to the past participle of the main verb. Therefore, let us recollect the knowledge of conjugating the verb **être** in the *présent de l’indicatif*:

Etre

Je suis	Nous sommes
Tu es	Vous êtes
Il est	Ils sont
Elle est	Elles sont

Let us then follow this pattern and the rules governing it to conjugate the verb **aller** into *passé composé*:

aller	-	to go (Past participle is ‘ allé ’)
Je suis allé(e)		Nous sommes allé(e)s
Tu es allé(e)		Vous êtes allé(e)s
Il est allé		Ils sont allés
Elle est allée		Elles sont allées

Note: You would have noted that an additional vowel **e** or consonant **s** or both (**es**) are added to the ending of some past participle above. The French grammatical rules compel all the verbs that take auxiliary **être** to agree with gender and the number of the Subject (either pronoun or noun) that precedes it. These agreement rules shall be explained to you better in Unit twelve.

3.2 Techniques Guiding the Conjugation Of -Er Verbs That Use the Auxiliary Etre in the Passé Composé

Remember that is easy to form the past participle of all -er verbs. Just like you were taught in Unit 9, you drop the **r** at the end of the infinitive and put

an acute accent (/) on the final 'é'. Example: **Monter** becomes **Monté**. It is this past participle that you place after the personal pronoun and the auxiliary **être** in order to form your *passé composé*. Here are some examples of verbs conjugated in the 'passé composé' with the auxiliary 'avoir':

(a) **Monter** - to climb

Je **suis** monté(e) (I climbed)

Tu **es** monté(e) (You climbed)

Il **est** monté (He climbed)

Elle **est** montée (She climbed) Nous **sommes** monté(e)s (We climbed)

Vous **êtes** monté(e)s (You climbed) Ils **sont** montés (They climbed)

Elles **sont** montées (They climbed)

Note: Verbs ending with **-er** verbs such as *aller* (to go), *rester* (to rest), *tomber* (to fall), *retomber* (to fall again), *entrer* (to enter), *rentrer* (to enter again), *arriver* (to come/arrive), *retourner* (to return) are conjugated following this pattern.

3.3 Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of -Re Verbs That Use The Auxiliary *Etre* In The *Passé Composé*

As you were told in Unit nine, majority of verbs in this category form their past participle by replacing the **re** ending by **t** or **s**. But an irregular verb such as **naître** has **né** as its past participle. You could note that this grouping of verb is not common in the category of verbs that take auxiliary **être**. Example could be seen in **descendre** whose past participle is **descendu**.

(a) **Descendre** - (to come down)

Je **suis** descendu(e) (I came down)

Tu **es** descendu(e) (You came down)

Il **est** descendu (He came down)

Elle **est** descendue (She came down) Nous **sommes**

descendu(e)s (We came down) Vous **êtes**

descendu(e)s (You came down)

Ils **sont** descendus (They came down)

Elles **sont** descendues (They came down)

3.4 Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Ir/Oir Verbs that Use The Auxiliary 'Etre' in The 'Passe Compose'

As you were told in Unit nine, majority of verbs, apart from the **er** verbs are irregular; this irregularity also affects the formation of their past participle. While a verb like **sortir** has **sorti**, partially following the **er** verbs pattern to form its past participle, the same could not be said of **venir** whose past

participle is **venu**. You are therefore strongly advised to memorise the irregular past participle as you acquire your vocabularies. Here are some examples of conjugation:

(a) **Sortir** - to go out

Je suis sorti(e)	(I went out)
Tu es sorti(e)	(You went out)
Il est sorti	(He went out)
Elle est sortie	(She went out)
Nous sommes sorti(e)s	(We went out)
Vous êtes sorti(e)s	(You went out)
Ils sont sortis	(They went out)
Elles sont sorties	(They went out)

Note: Verbs ending with **-ir** such as *sortir* (to go out), *ressortir* (to go out again), *partir* (to go), *repartir* (to go again) are conjugated following this pattern.

(b) **Venir** - to come

Je suis venu(e)	(I came)
Tu es venu(e)	(You came)
Il est venu	(He came)
Elle est venue	(She came)
Nous sommes venu(e)s	(We came)
Vous êtes venu(e)s	(You came)
Ils sont venus	(They came)
Elles sont venues	(They came)

Note: Verbs ending with **-ir** verbs such as *venir* (to come) and all other verbs that have something to do with **venir** like *advenir*, *provenir*, *devenir* etc, are conjugated following this pattern.

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Conjugate the following verbs in the 'passé composé': *partir*, *retourner*, *revenir*.

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, you were taught the rules governing the conjugation of verbs that use the auxiliary *être* in the *passé composé*. You have also learnt how to conjugate the auxiliary *être*, how to identify the past participle of **er**, **re ir** and **oir** verbs and how to conjugate those verbs in that tense. We believe that by now you can conjugate most verbs that use the auxiliary *être* into *passé composé*.

5.0 SUMMARY

With the solid foundation you got through the simplified presentation of the conjugation in the *présent de l'indicatif* (in Units two to five) and the techniques of conjugating in the *future simple* (in Unit six to eight) as well as the method of conjugating verbs with the auxiliary *avoir* in the *passé composé* (Unit nine), this Unit ten has gone further in the conjugation techniques by focusing on the conjugation verbs that use the auxiliary *être* in the *passé composé* tense.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

Conjugate the following verbs in the *passé composé*:

- a. Revenir,
- b. Aller,
- c. Retomber,
- d. Rentrer,
- e. Partir,
- f. Resortir,
- g. Retourner,
- h. Renaître,
- i. Devenir,
- j. Descendre.

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MODULE 3

Unit 1	Conjugation of impersonal and reflexive verbs in the <i>passé composé</i>
Unit 2	Rules of agreement in the <i>passé composé</i>
Unit 3	Conjugation of verbs ending with er and other regular verbs in <i>l'imparfait</i>
Unit 4	Conjugation of irregular verbs in the present de <i>l'imparfait</i>
Unit 5	Conjugation of impersonal and reflexive verbs in <i>l'imparfait</i>

UNIT 1 CONJUGATION OF IMPERSONAL AND REFLEXIVE VERBS IN THE *PASSÉ COMPOSÉ*

CONTENTS

1.0	Introduction
2.0	Objectives
3.0	Main Contents
3.1	General techniques guiding the conjugation of Impersonal verbs in the <i>passé composé</i>
3.2	General techniques guiding the conjugation of Reflexive verbs in the <i>passé composé</i>
4.0	Conclusion
5.0	Summary
6.0	Tutor Marked Assignment
7.0	References /Further Readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In this unit, you will be taught the technique of conjugation of Impersonal and Reflexive verbs into *passé composé*. You will also learn about the easier techniques which a French grammar learner like you could apply in conjugating French Impersonal and Reflexive verbs into *passé composé*. Like we said it in Units five and eight, impersonal, as well as reflexive verbs are common in French language. You will see them ending with either **er, re, ir** or even **oir**. Remember that the knowledge you have gained from other Units, most especially Units two to ten will be useful in this Unit. What we will do mostly in this unit is to teach you the peculiarities of these verbs so that you could apply your already gained knowledge in the *passé composé* conjugation of simple **er, re, ir** and **oir** verbs to them thus conjugating them correctly. Therefore, you are urged you to read attentively the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating French Impersonal and Reflexive verbs into *passé composé*

as they will be taught here.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

By the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify and list French Impersonal verbs.
- Identify and list the French Reflexive verbs
- Explain the peculiarities of these two verbs.
- Conjugate the two types verbs into *passé composé*

You are now invited to follow the method of conjugation of the two sets of irregular verbs into '*passé composé*'.

3.0 MAIN CONTENTS

3.1 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Impersonal Verbs into Passe Compose

As you were told in Units five and eight, Impersonal verbs are verbs that cannot be conjugated in all the numerous persons and classes, such as first, second, third persons, singular and plural, like others verbs. They are verbs that are not used to describe human beings' actions. And since they refer to abstract things, they can only be conjugated using the 3rd person singular form. Even their conjugation into the singular form of the third person is limited to masculine personal pronoun, **il**, alone. This explanation is to let you know that you cannot use the feminine form of the third person singular to conjugate such verbs. This type of conjugation is only done for impersonal verbs alone!

When you want to conjugate impersonal verbs in the *passé composé*, you should adopt the *passé composé* rules as applicable to verbs with auxiliary *avoir* or *être* at the third person singular level only. The *passé composé* rules for this type of verbs could then be modified as follow:
Third person singular of auxiliary *avoir* or *être* plus the past participle of the verb concerned.

The implication of this rule is that there are some of these verbs that are conjugated with the auxiliary *avoir* while very few others are conjugated with the auxiliary *être*. The verb *venir*, as well as reflexive verbs in this category, such as *advenir* and *s'agir (de)* are conjugated with the auxiliary *être*, while a lot of other impersonal verbs are conjugated with auxiliary *avoir*. Examples could be found in:

- a. **Pleuvoir** – to rain
Il a plu

- b. **Falloir** – to be necessary
Il a fallu
- c. **Advenir** – to happen Il est advenu
- d. **S’agir de** – to be about Il s’est agi de
- e. **Brûmer** – to mist (hazy)
Il a brumé
- f. **Venter** – to blow wind Il a venté

3.2 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation Of Reflexive or Pronominal Verbs into Passe Compose

As we explained in Units five and eight, Reflexive verbs are what the French grammarian call “Les verbes pronominaux’ hence our calling them reflexive or pronominal verbs in English so as to facilitate the ease of reference for French learners like you. They are verbs used to refer to an action that the subject does to himself/herself. In a situation whereby you want account for an action that you do to yourself or the action that another person does to himself or herself, you express this action through the use of reflexive or pronominal verbs in French grammar.

When conjugating these verbs into *passé composé*, they take additional (direct/personal) pronoun in their conjugation. The pronouns **me te se nous vous** and **se** are used to mark the reflexive or pronominal actions of the verbs. The *passé composé* rules are then applicable to these doubled pronouns. In line with the *passé composé* rules on to reflexive verbs, the rule allows such verbs to be conjugated with only auxiliary *être* as follows: auxiliary *être* that is preceded by the two personal pronouns plus the past participle of the verb concerned.

For example, if the subject or the speaker wants to say that **I bathed myself**, he would say: **Je me suis lavé(e)**.

NOTE: Please note that apart from the introduction of another reflexive pronoun of the same person and grammatical class with that of the subject (personal pronoun) that you will insert so as to denote that action of reflexive in the sentence, you will be also expected to bring into use your knowledge of conjugation of **er, re, ir, oir** into *passé composé* that you have acquired in Units nine and ten. Now, let us take some examples of conjugation of reflexive verbs in the ‘*passé composé*’

- a) **Se laver** – to take one’s bath
Je me suis lavé(e) – I bathed myself
Tu t’es lavé(e) – You bathed yourself Il s’est lavé – He bathed himself
Elle s’est lavée – She bathed herself
Nous nous sommes lavé(e)s – we bathed ourselves Vous vous êtes lavé(e)s – you bathed yourselves Ils se sont lavés – They bathed

themselves

Elles se sont lavées – They bathed themselves

(b) **Se taire** – to keep quiet

Je me suis tu(e) – I kept quiet. Tu t'es tu(e) – You kept quiet. Il s'est tu – He kept quiet.

Elle s'est tue – She kept quiet.

Nous nous sommes tu(e)s – we kept quiet. Vous vous êtes tu(e)s – you kept quiet.

Ils se sont tus – They kept quiet. Elles se sont tues – They kept quiet.

(a) **Se convertir** – to convert oneself

Je me suis converti(e) – I converted myself Tu t'es converti(e) – You converted yourself Il s'est converti – He converted himself

Elle s'est convertie – She converted herself

Nous nous sommes converti(e)s – we converted ourselves Vous vous êtes converti(e)s – you converted yourselves Ils se sont convertis – They converted themselves

Elles se sont converties – They converted themselves

(b) **S'asseoir** – to take one's seat

Je me suis assis(e) – I sat down Tu t'es assis(e) – You sat down Il s'est assis – He sat down Elle s'est assise – She sat down

Nous nous sommes assis(e)s – we sat down Vous vous êtes assis(e)s – you sat down

Ils se sont assis – They sat down Elles se sont assises – They sat down

(c) **S'appeler** – to call oneself

Je me suis appelé(e) – I was called/ I called myself

Tu t'es appelé(e) – You were called/ you called yourself Il s'est appelé – He was called/ He called himself

Elle s'est appelée – She was called/ She called herself

Nous nous sommes appelé(e)s – we were called/ We called ourselves

Vous vous êtes appelé(e)s – You were called/ You called yourselves Ils se sont appelés – They were called/ They called themselves

Elles se sont appelées – They were called/ They called themselves

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Conjugate the following verbs into passé composé: Se voir, se venter, se regarder

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, you have been taught, the rules governing the conjugation of Impersonal and Reflexive verbs into '*passé composé*'. As you should

have discovered, the impersonal verb is a verb that you can only conjugate with third person masculine pronoun in the *passé composé* thus making the verb to refer to inanimate things that are not human beings. With the conjugation method and technique explained in this Unit, we are convinced that the complication in understanding the *passé composé* form of impersonal and reflexive verbs, which would have been a problem to French learners like you would have been alleviated. By now we believe that you can conjugate French impersonal and reflexive verbs into *passé composé*.

5.0 SUMMARY

With this Unit focusing on the conjugation of impersonal and reflexive verbs into *passé composé*, we have completed the cycle of conjugation of French verbs into *passé composé*. What is left now is to teach the agreement rules of the *passé composé*. This is what we will treat in Unit twelve.

Having gone this far in the conjugation of verbs into ‘*passé composé*’, we are sure that you must have been adequately informed in all these eleven units on the basic techniques of how to conjugate different verbs into ‘*présent de l’indicatif*’, *futur simple* and the *passé composé*.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

Conjugate the following verbs into *passé composé*:

- a. Advenir,
- b. Se voir,
- c. Se taire,
- d. S’offrir,
- e. falloir,
- f. pleuvoir,
- g. venter,
- h. S’agir,
- i. Se lever,
- j. Se comprendre.

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UNIT 2 THE RULE OF AGREEMENT (ACCORD) IN THE PASSÉ COMPOSÉ

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Contents
 - 3.1 General techniques guiding the Agreement of *passé composé*
 - 3.2 Agreement of 'Passe Compose'
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References /Further Readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In this unit, you will be taught the techniques of the Agreement (Accord) of *passé composé*. You will also learn about the techniques which a French grammar learner like you could apply in identifying areas that need the Agreement of *passé composé* when writing in French.

You will recall that we introduced you into the world of conjugation of verbs into *passé composé* in Unit 9 where you were initiated into the method of conjugation of verbs with auxiliary *avoir* in *passé composé*. In Unit 10 we also taught you the method of conjugating verbs with auxiliary *être* in *passé composé*. In this Unit, we would teach you about the Agreement of *passé composé* in French grammar.

Just like we explained in Units nine and ten, any action that has taken place in the past, before the time that you are reporting the action, is expressed in French through *passé composé*.

In as much as we will be talking about the rules of agreement of *passé composé* here, it is a methodical development on various conjugations of verbs that you have learned. The knowledge you have gained from other Units, most especially Units two to eleven will also be useful in this Unit. Therefore, we implore you to learn the rudiments, techniques and methods of the agreement rules of *passé composé* in French grammar as they will be taught here.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify the grammatical level of French *passé composé* that needs agreement.
- Identify the French lexical items with which the agreement could be applied.
- Effectively accord these agreements correctly when conjugating or writing in French.

You are now invited to follow the explanation on the method of agreement of '*passé composé*'.

3.0 MAIN CONTENTS

3.1 General Techniques Guiding the Agreement of *Passé Composé*

Like we said in Units nine to eleven as well as our introduction to this unit, we use *passé composé* to express actions that are done in the past, any action that has been done in the past, before the time that you are reporting the action. Remember that that the conjugation of *passé composé* is different from that of the conjugations of *présent de l'indicatif* and *future simple*. Whereby their conjugation centres on the single major verb, the conjugation of verbs into *passé composé* entails the usage of an auxiliary and the past participle of the main verb.

Remember also that the general rule we provided in Units 9 and ten says that you add, the past participle of the verb you want to conjugate, to the present tense of the auxiliary avoir or être (as the case may be): Auxiliaire **avoir** ou **être** + participe passé du verbe concerné. We also explained the rationale behind the choice of auxiliary to be used with one particular verb or the other by providing a possible solution to your 'could be' problem by saying that the following verbs when they are to be conjugated, should take auxiliary être: Aller (to go), descendre (to come down), rester (to rest), monter (to climb), tomber (to fall), naître (to be born), sortir (to go out), partir (to go) venir (to come), so also all other verbs that have something to do with **venir** like advenir, provenir, devenir etc, entrer (to enter), rentrer (to enter again), arriver (to come/arrive), retourner (to return). **Most other verbs, apart from these ones and their variants, are conjugated with auxiliary 'avoir'.**

You were also taught that additional the vowel **e** or consonant **s** or both **es** are added to the ending of some past participle when you use the auxiliary **être**. We tried to explain then that the French grammatical rules

compel all the verbs that take auxiliary **être** to agree with gender and the number of the Subject (either pronoun or noun) that precedes it. It is the combination of these agreement rules that we would like to teach in this unit.

3.2 AGREEMENT OF 'PASSE COMPOSE'

1. There must be no agreement in between the subject and the past participle if the auxiliary **avoir** is used in a direct and simple sentence: Example:

- J'ai mangé de la viande.

2. But in a situation where the complement of the direct object comes before the verb that has **avoir** as its auxiliary verb in the 'passé composé', the past participle of this main verb must agree in gender and in number with the object. The feminine object therefore introduces an additional e to the ending of the past participle while the plurality is marked by an additional s (if it is masculine plural) or additional es (if it is feminine plural): Examples!

3. -- **La viande** que j'ai mangée.
-- **Les livres** que vous m'avez donnés.
-- j'ai vu **des filles**. = Je **les** ai vues.

4. When an auxiliary 'être' is used, the past participle must agree in gender and in number with the subject. The feminine subject introduces an additional e to the ending of the past participle while the plurality is marked by an additional s (if it is masculine plural) or additional es (if it is feminine plural):

- Il est parti. = Elle est partie.
-- Elles sont sorties. = Ils sont sortis.
-- Nous sommes sorti(e)s.

5. Pronominal or reflexive verbs will agree in gender and in number if the reflexive pronoun used with the verb has its antecedent in the (main) subject thus referring to the subject also:

- Yétunde s'est lavée.
-- Nous nous sommes lavés./ Nous nous sommes lavées.

6. But there will be no agreement if the action is not referring to the subject but to a direct object placed after the past participle of the sentence:

- Elle s'est lavé la main.
-- Elles se sont lavé les vêtements.

7. In a situation where the compliment of direct object '**en**' comes before the auxiliary *avoir* there will be no accord:

-- Les hommes célèbres, j'en ai connu.

8. The past participle of the verb **faire (fait)** followed by an infinitive does not agree in gender and in number with the subject, nor with the object:

-- Je les ai fait comprendre

9. The past participle of verbs like **couru, coûté, valu** are invariable when they are used in their real sense but they agree in gender and in number when they are used in a figurative sense:

-- Les cinq Naira que ce pantalon m'a coûté.

-- Les efforts que ce travail m'a coûtés.

-- Combien de Kilomètres avez-vous couru avant de le rattraper?

-- Combien de commissions avez-vous courues pour le Président?

--- Ce sont les dix Naira que ce travail a valu.

--- Vous pensez que ma vie n'a value que celle de chien?

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Rewrite the following sentences by conjugating the verbs in the them into 'passé composé' by laying emphasis on the agreement (accord) where necessary.

1. les branches (rayer) ma voiture. – 2. ils (bondir) de joie lorsqu'ils (savoir) leur note. – 3. j'(commencer) à réaliser un herbier. – 4. mes grands-parents (aller) en Iran ; ils m'(rapporter) un vase craquelé. – 5. l'équipe de France (trionpher) en demi-finale.

Possible answer :

1 les branches ont rayé ma voiture. – 2. ils ont bondi de joie lorsqu'ils ont su leur note. – 3. j'ai commencé à réaliser un herbier. – 4. mes grands-parents sont allés en Iran ; ils m'ont rapporté un vase craquelé. – 5. L'équipe de France a triomphé en demi-finale.

4.0 CONCLUSION

You have been taught, in this unit, the rules governing the agreement of *passé composé*. You have also been told of how to recognize the sentences that need the grammatical agreement of *passé composé*. We believe by now you can accord the agreement rules of *passé composé*.

5.0 SUMMARY

Having taught you the conjugations of verbs through the simplified presentation of conjugation of *présent de l'indicatif* in Units two to five and the techniques of conjugation of *future simple* in Unit six to eight as well as the method of conjugation verbs with auxiliaries *avoir* and *être* into *passé composé* that we taught in Units nine to eleven, this Unit twelve has gone further in the conjugation techniques by tackling the agreement of *passé composé*. We believe by now that you can accord the agreement when you stumble on them in French language structure.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

Accord the *passé composé* to these sentences where necessary:

- a. Fatima a mangé de la viande.
- b. Voilà la viande que Fatima a mangé.
- c. Funsho et Yetunde se sont lavé.
- d. Ils se sont lavé les vêtements.
- e. Les femmes célèbres, j'en ai connu.
- f. Olu les a fait comprendre.
- g. Les dix Naira que cette chemise m'a coûté.
- h. Les efforts que ce travail m'a coûté.
- i. Combien de Kilomètres as-tu couru avant de le rattraper?
- j. Combien de commissions as-tu couru pour le Président?

7.0 REFERENCES AND OTHER RESOURCES

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UNIT 3 CONJUGATION OF ER AND OTHER REGULAR VERBS INTO L'IMPARFAIT

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Contents
 - 3.1 General techniques guiding the conjugation of **-er** and other regular verbs to *L'imparfait*.
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References /Further Readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In this unit, you will be taught the method of conjugating **er** and other regular verbs into *l'imparfait*. We hope to teach you about the easier techniques which a French grammar learner like you could apply in conjugating of **-er** and other regular verbs into *l'imparfait*. You will recall that in the last twelve units we have been talking about the conjugation of verbs into *présent de l'indicatif*, *futur simple* and *passé composé*. The significance of that is that we have been teaching you how to conjugate French verbs to express actions that one is doing at present, doing in the future and one is doing in past.

We have now got to a stage whereby you have to learn how to express actions that we do in the past but in a continuous manner; that is to describe what one has the habit of doing in the past. *L'imparfait* could be translated as past continuous tense in English. We implore you to learn the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating **er** and other regular verbs into *l'imparfait* as they will be taught here.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

By the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify *l'imparfait* Stem/Radical of **-er** and other regular verbs
- Identify the ending/terminaison of **er** verbs and other regular verbs in the *imparfait*.
- identify the *l'imparfait* morphemes (suffixation) with which the endings could be replaced thus facilitating grammatically correct conjugation *l'imparfait* tense

- Conjugate **-er** and other regular verbs in the *l'imparfait* tense.

You are now invited to follow the method of conjugation **er** and other regular verbs into *l'imparfait*.

3.1 General Techniques Guiding The Conjugation of -Er and Other Regular Verbs into L'imparfait

As we have told you in the introduction to this unit, *l'imparfait* could be translated as past continuous tense in English. It is used to express any action that is done in a past continuous manner or that one has the habit of doing in the past. When you want to talk about what you have done or what you usually do in the past, you use the *l'imparfait* tense.

Just like in the conjugation of *présent de l'indicatif*, there are slight differences in the conjugation of this tense with the different types of verbal groupings. It is in realization of these dissimilarities in their conjugation that we decided to teach the conjugation **-er** and other regular verbs into *l'imparfait* in this Unit.

To conjugate **-er** and other regular verbs, such as **parler**, into *l'imparfait*, you will first of all identify the infinitive of the verb concerned (e.g. **parler**), you should also know how the verb is conjugated into *présent de l'indicatif*. It is at the level of the 1st person plural (nous) of the said conjugation that you will pick the stem of the verb concerned (parl). You then drop its usual *ons* ending, added to it before, so as to add the following endings (**ais, ais, ait, ions, iez, aient**) to this new special stem/radical:

ais	for 1 st person singular	ais	for 2 nd person singular
ait	for 3 rd person singular	ions	for 1 st person plural
	for 2 nd person plural	aient	for 3 rd person plural

Parler-	Nous parl/ons	
Je parl ais		(I was speaking)
Tu parl ais		(You were speaking)
Il/Elle parl ait		(He/She was speaking)
Nous parl ions		(We were speaking)
Vous parl iez		(You were speaking)
parl aient		Ils/Elles (They were speaking)

Manger -	Nous mange/ons	
Je mange ais		(I was eating)
Tu mange ais		(You were eating)
Il/Elle mange ait		(He/She was eating)
Nous mang ions		(We were eating)

Vous mangiez (You were eating) Ils/Elles
mangeaient (They were eating)

Note: We dropped the vowel e before i in the 1st and 2nd person plural forms because the vowel i could perform the same function of softening the ‘g’ as does by the vowel e.

Let us then follow these patterns to conjugate some **-er** verbs into the *l'imparfait*:

a. Nager - to swim

ais	for 1 st person singular	=	Je nageais
ais	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu nageais ait
	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/Elle nageait
ions	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous nagions iez
	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous nageiez
aient	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/Elles nageaient

b. Commencer

ais	for 1 st person singular	=	Je commençais
ais	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu commençais
ait	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/Elle commençait ions for 1 st person plural
		=	Nous commençons
iez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous commençiez
aient	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/Elles commençaient

c. Aimer

ais	for 1 st person singular	=	J'aimais
ais	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu aimais
ait	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/Elle aimait ions for 1 st person plural
		=	Nous aimions iez
	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous aimiez
aient	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/Elles aimaient

d. Appeler

ais	for 1 st person singular	=	J'appelais
ais	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu appelais
ait	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/Elle appelait ions for 1 st person plural
		=	Nous appelions iez
	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous appeliez
aient	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/Elles appelaient

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Conjugate the following verbs into “L’imparfait”.

- a) Renvoyer
- b) Blaguer
- c) Parler.

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this Unit, we have taught you the rules governing the conjugation of **-er** and other regular verbs into *l’imparfait*. You have also been told how to get the special stem/radical with which you could conjugate this tense. We believe by now you can conjugate **er** and other regular verbs into *l’imparfait*.

5.0 SUMMARY

Having taught you the conjugations of verbs through the simplified presentation of conjugation of *présent de l’indicatif* in Units two to five and the techniques of conjugation of *future simple* in Unit six to eight as well as the method of conjugation of verbs into *passé composé* that we taught in Units nine to eleven, this Unit thirteen has gone further in the conjugation techniques by introducing you into the world of conjugation of *l’imparfait* in French grammar.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Conjugate the following verbs into *l’imparfait*:
 - a. Aller,
 - b. Rudoyer,
 - c. Monter,
 - d. Nager,
 - e. Recommencer,
 - f. Renvoyer

7.0 REFERENCES AND OTHER RESOURCES

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UNIT 4 CONJUGATION OF IRREGULAR VERBS INTO *L'IMPARFAIT*

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Contents
 - 3.1 General techniques guiding the conjugation of irregular verbs to *l'imparfait*
 - 3.2 Conjugation of -re verbs to *l'imparfait*
 - 3.2. Conjugation of -ir/-oir verbs to *l'imparfait*.
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References and Other Resources

1.0 INTRODUCTION

You will recall that in Unit Thirteen, we taught you the method of conjugation of **er** and other regular verbs into *l'imparfait*. In this unit, you will be taught how to conjugate irregular verbs into *l'imparfait*. Like we did in the previous unit, we hope to teach you about the easier techniques which a French grammar learner like you could apply in conjugating French irregular verbs into *l'imparfait*.

Like we told you in Unit thirteen, we have now got to a stage whereby you have to learn how to express actions that we do in the past but in a continuous manner: what one has the habit of doing in the past. *l'imparfait* could be translated as past continuous tense in English. It is used to express any action that is done in the past but in a continuous manner. We then implore you to learn the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating **ir** and other irregular verbs into *l'imparfait* as they will be taught here.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

By the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify the *l'imparfait* Stem/Radical of the irregular verbs
- Identify the *l'imparfait* ending/terminaison of irregular verbs
- identify the *l'imparfait* morphemes (suffixation) with which the endings could be replaced thus facilitating grammatically correct conjugation *l'imparfait* tense
- Conjugate irregular verbs in the 'imparfait' tense.

You are now invited to follow the method of conjugation of irregular verbs into *l'imparfait*.

3.0 MAIN CONTENTS

3.1 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Re and Other Regular Verbs into L'imparfait

Like we have told you in unit thirteen, *l'imparfait* could be translated as past continuous tense in English. Remember that we use it to express any action that is done in a past continuous manner or that one has the habit of doing in the past.

You will recall that in Unit thirteen, we have treated how to conjugate -**er** and other regular verbs into *l'imparfait*. If you recall very well in our Unit One where we told you that verbs in French language could be divided into three groups according to their endings. And if we have treated the conjugation of **er** and other regular verbs into *l'imparfait* in Unit thirteen, the onus is then on us in this unit to treat the conjugation of **re, ir/oir** into *l'imparfait*. It is the combination of verbs with **re, ir/oir** endings that we put together to be treated as irregular verbs in this unit.

3.2 Conjugation of Verbs Ending With -Re Into L'imparfait

Just like we said in Unit thirteen, when you want to conjugate verbs ending with -**re** and other irregular into *l'imparfait*, you should first identify the infinitive of the verb concerned, you should also know how the verb is conjugated into *présent de l'indicatif*. It is at the level of the 1st person plural (nous) of the said conjugation that you will pick the stem of the verb concerned. You then drop its usual *ons* ending, added to it before, so as to add the following endings (**ais, ais, ait, ions, ie, aient**) to this new special stem/radical:

ais	for 1 st person singular	ais	for 2 nd person singular
ait	for 3 rd person singular	ions	for 1 st person plural
	for 2 nd person plural	aient	for 3 rd person plural

Prendre	=	Nous pren/ons
Je prenais		(I was taking)
Tu prenais		(You were taking)

Il/Elle prenait	(He was taking)
Nous prenions	(We were taking)
Vous preniez	(You were taking)
Ils/Elles prenaient	(They were taking)

Let us then follow these patterns to conjugate some -**re** verbs into the

l'imparfait:

a. **Battre** (to beat) = Nous batt/ons
ais for 1st person singular = Je battais
ais for 2nd person singular = Tu battais
ait for 3rd person singular = Il/Elle battait **ions** for 1st person plural = Nous battions **iez** for 2nd person plural = Vous battiez
aient for 3rd person plural = Ils/Elles battaient
Note : The conjugation of **débattre, combattre, mettre, soumettre**, etc, follow this pattern.

b. **Craindre** (to be afraid/to fear)
ais for 1st person singular = Je craignais
ais for 2nd person singular = Tu craignais
ait for 3rd person singular = Il/Elle craignait **ions** for 1st person plural = Nous craignons **iez** for 2nd person plural = Vous craigniez
aient for 3rd person plural = Ils/Elles craignaient
Note : The conjugation of **joindre, peindre, plaindre, contraindre**, etc, follow this pattern.

c. **Convaincre** (to convince)
ais for 1st person singular = Je convainquais
ais for 2nd person singular = Tu convainquais
ait for 3rd person singular = Il/Elle convainquait
ions for 1st person plural = Nous convainquions
iez for 2nd person plural = Vous convainquiez
aient for 3rd person plural = Ils/Elles convainquaient

Note: **convaincre** follows the same pattern

d.	Faire (to do/to make)		
ais	for 1 st person singular	=	Je faisais
ais	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu faisais
ait	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/Elle faisait
ions	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous faisions
iez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous faisiez
aient	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/Elles faisaient

Note : The conjugation of **défaire, refaire** etc, follow this pattern.

e.	Etre (to be)		
ais	for 1 st person singular	=	J'étais
ais	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu étais
ait	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/Elle était
ions	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous étions
iez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous étiez
aient	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/Elles étaient

Note : We would like you to note that *être* is the only Known verb that does not follow this general rule of conjugation into *l'imparfait*.)

3.3 Conjugation of Verbs Ending With -Ir/-Oir into L'imparfait

Just like we said above, when you want to conjugate **ir** and other **oir** verbs into *l'imparfait*, you should identify the infinitive of the verb concerned, you should also know how the verb is conjugated into *présent de l'indicatif*. It is at the level of the 1st person plural (nous) of the said conjugation that you will pick the stem of the verb concerned. You then drop its usual *ons* ending, added to it before, so as to add the following endings (**ais, ais, ait, ions, iez, aient**) to this new special stem/radical:

a.	Finir (to finish) =	Nous finiss/ons
ais	for 1 st person singular	= Je finissais
ais	for 2 nd person singular	= Tu finissais
ait	for 3 rd person singular	= Il/Elle finissait
ions	for 1 st person plural	= Nous finissions
iez	for 2 nd person plural	= Vous finissiez
aient	for 3 rd person plural	= Ils/Elles finissaient

b.	Tenir (to finish) =	Nous ten/ons
ais	for 1 st person singular	= Je tenais

ais for 2nd person singular = Tu tenais

ait for 3rd person singular = Il/Elle tenait **ions** for 1st person plural = Nous tenions **iez**

for 2nd person plural = Vous teniez

aient for 3rd person plural = Ils/Elles tenaient

Note: The conjugation of most **-ir** verbs such as **venir, sentir, vêtir** etc, follow this pattern.

c. **Avoir** (to have) = Nous av/ons

ais for 1st person singular = J'avais

ais for 2nd person singular = Tu avais

ait for 3rd person singular = Il/Elle avait **ions**

for 1st person plural = Nous avions **iez**

for 2nd person plural = Vous aviez

aient for 3rd person plural = Ils/Elles avaient

d. **Voir** (to see) = Nous voy/ons

ais for 1st person singular = Je voyais

ais for 2nd person singular = Tu voyais

ait for 3rd person singular = Il/Elle voyait

ions for 1st person plural = Nous voyions

iez for 2nd person plural = Vous voyiez

aient for 3rd person plural = Ils/Elles voyaient

e. **Devoir** (to be obliged/ compelled) = Nous dev/ons

ais for 1st person singular = Je devais

ais for 2nd person singular = Tu devais

ait for 3rd person singular = Il/Elle devait

ions for 1st person plural = Nous devions

iez for 2nd person plural = Vous deviez

aient for 3rd person plural = Ils/Elles devaient

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Conjugate the following verbs into “L’imparfait”.

- i. Prendre,
- ii. Courir,
- iii. savoir

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, we have taught you the rules governing the conjugation of **-re** and other irregular verbs into *l'imparfait*. You have also been told how to get the special stem/radical with which you could conjugate this tense. We believe by now you can conjugate **-re** and other irregular verbs into *l'imparfait*.

5.0 SUMMARY

Having taught you the conjugations of verbs through the simplified presentation of conjugation of *présent de l'indicatif* that we have laid for you in Units two to five and the techniques of conjugation of *future simple* that we methodically handled in Unit six to eight as well as the method of conjugation of verbs into *passé compose* that we taught in Units nine to eleven, this Unit fourteen has gone further in the conjugation techniques by introducing you into the method of conjugation of **ir** and other irregular verbs into *l'imparfait*.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Conjugate the following verbs into *l'imparfait*:
 - a. savoir,
 - b. venir,
 - c. courir,
 - d. offrir,
 - e. partir,
 - f. finir,
 - g. sortir,
 - h. pouvoir,
 - i. valoir,
 - j. tenir.

7.0 REFERENCES /FURTHER READINGS

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UNIT 5 CONJUGATION OF IMPERSONAL AND REFLEXIVE VERBS INTO L'IMPARFAIT

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Contents
 - 3.1 General techniques guiding the conjugation of Impersonal verbs into *L'imparfait*
 - 3.2 General techniques guiding the conjugation of Reflexive verbs into *L'imparfait*
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References /Further Readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This unit will present to you the technique of conjugating Impersonal and Reflexive verbs into *l'imparfait*. In this unit, you will learn about the easier techniques with which a French grammar learner like you could apply in conjugating French Impersonal and Reflexive verbs into *l'imparfait*. Like we told you in Unit five, these impersonal, as well as Reflexive verbs are common in French language. You will see them as either **er, re, ir** or even **oir** verbs. The knowledge you have gained from other units, most especially Units five to fourteen will be useful in this unit. What you will do mostly in this unit is to identify French Impersonal and Reflexive verbs, then apply the peculiarities of these verbs so that you could apply your already gained knowledge in the conjugation of *l'imparfait* of **er, re, ir** and **oir** verbs to them thus conjugating them correctly. Therefore, we implore you to learn the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating French Impersonal and Reflexive verbs into *l'imparfait* as they will be taught here.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify and list French Impersonal verbs.
- Identify and list French Reflexive verbs
- Explain the peculiarities of these two verbs.
- Conjugate the two types of verbs into *l'imparfait*.

You are now invited to follow the method of conjugation of Impersonal

and reflexive verbs into '*l'imparfait*'.

3.0 MAIN CONTENTS

3.1 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Impersonal Verbs Into L'imparfait

Just like we told you in Unit five, Impersonal verbs are verbs that could not be conjugated into numerous persons and classes, such as first, second, third persons, singular and plural form, like the others. They are verbs that could not be used for human beings. And being that they are for abstract things, they could only be conjugated into the 3rd person singular form. Even their conjugation into the third person singular form is limited to masculine personal pronoun, **il**, alone. We insist that this explanation is to warn you that you cannot use the third person singular of feminine form to conjugate it! We would like to note also that it is not every other verb that you can conjugate using this method. This type of conjugation is only noted for impersonal verbs alone.

Examples could be found in:

- a. Pleuvoir – to rain Il pleuvait
- b. Falloir – to be necessary Il fallait
- c. Advenir – to happen Il advenait
- d. S'agir de – to be about Il s'agissait de
- e. Brûmer – to mist (hazy)
Il brumait
- f. Venter – to blow wind
Il ventait

3.2 General Techniques Guiding The Conjugation Of Reflexive Or Pronominal Verbs Into L'imparfait

Like we said in Unit five, Reflexive verbs are what the French grammarian call "Les verbes pronominaux" hence our calling them reflexive or pronominal verbs in English so as to facilitate the ease of reference for French learners like you. Reflexive or pronominal verbs are verbs used to refer to an action that the subject does to himself/herself. In a situation whereby you want account for an action that you do to yourself or the action that another person does to himself or herself, you express this action through the use of reflexive or pronominal verbs in French grammar.

In order to conjugate these verbs into *l'imparfait*, this set of verbs takes additional (direct/personal) pronoun in their conjugation. The pronouns **me te se nous vous** and **se** are used to mark this action of reflexive or pronominal of the verbs. We then add *l'imparfait* ending to the main verb,

as explained in Units 13 and 14. For example, if the subject or the speaker wants to say that *I was bathing myself*, he would say: *Je me lavais*.

NOTE: We would like you to note that in the normal conjugation of the infinitive **laver** into *l'imparfait*, you are to conjugate it as **Je lavais** (meaning I was washing) But in the case of reflexive or pronominal action whereby you want to say that you perform the action to yourself, another reflexive pronoun of the same person and grammatical class with that of the subject (personal pronoun) will be inserted to denote that action of reflexive in the sentence, hence the inclusion of the reflexive pronoun, **me**, in the given example.

a. *Se laver* – to take one's bath
 Je me lavais – I was bathing myself
 Tu te lavais – You were bathing yourself
 Il/elle se lavait – he/she was bathing himself/herself
 Nous nous lavions – we were bathing ourselves
 Vous vous laviez – you were bathing yourselves
 Ils se lavaient – They were bathing themselves

b. *Se taire* – to keep quiet
 Je me taisais – I was keeping quiet
 Tu te taisais – You were keeping quiet
 Il/elle se taisait – he/she was keeping quiet
 Nous nous taisions – we were keeping quiet
 Vous vous taisiez – you were keeping quiet
 Ils se taisaient – They were keeping quiet

c. *Se convertir* – to convert oneself
 Je me convertissais – I was converting myself
 Tu te convertissais – You were converting yourself
 Il/elle se convertissait – he/she was converting himself/herself
 Nous nous convertissions – we were converting ourselves
 Vous vous convertissiez – you were converting yourselves
 Ils se convertissaient – They were converting themselves

(d) *S'asseoir* – to take one's seat
 Je m'assoiais – I was sitting down/taking my seat
 Tu t'assoiais – You were sitting down/ taking your seat
 Il/elle s'assoiait – he/she was sitting down/ taking him/her seat
 Nous nous assoyions – we were sitting down/ taking our seat
 Vous vous assoyiez – you were sitting down/ taking your seat
 Ils s'assoiaient – They were sitting down/ taking their seat

Or

(e) *S'asseoir* – to take one's seat
 Je m'assieds – I was sitting down/ taking my seat
 Tu t'assieds – You were sitting down/ taking your seat
 Il/elle s'assied – he/she was sitting down/ taking him/her seat
 Nous nous

asseyons – we were sitting down/ taking our seat Vous vous asseyez – you were sitting down/ taking your seat Ils s’asseyent – They were sitting down/ taking their seat

NOTE: We would like you to note that there are two grammatically accepted form of conjugation of the verb *S’asseoir* in French. Whichever form you chose is correct.

(g) S’appeler – to call oneself

Je m’appelais – I was calling myself (I was called) Tu t’appelais – You were calling yourself

Il/elle s’appelait – He/She was calling himself/herself Nous nous appelions – We were calling ourselves Vous vous appeliez – You were calling yourselves

Ils/elles s’appelaient – They were calling themselves

NOTE: You should please note that the contraction in the conjugation of **s’appeler** comes as a result of the contact in-between the vowel **e** of pronouns **me, te, se** and the infinitive of the verb **appeler** that has initial vowel **a**.

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Conjugate the following verbs into “L’imparfait”.

- i. S’offrir,
- ii. Se lever,
- iii. Brumer

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, you have been taught the rules governing the conjugation of Impersonal and Reflexive verbs into ‘*l’imparfait*’. As you should have discovered, the impersonal verb is a verb that you can only conjugate with third person masculine pronoun thus making the verb to refer to inanimate things that are not human beings. You have been taught also that a reflexive verb refers to an action that the subject does to himself. With the method that we used in simplifying the explanation in this unit, we are convinced that the complication in understanding the impersonal and reflexive verbs, which is a common problem to French learners like you would have been alleviated. By now we believe you can conjugate impersonal and reflexive verbs into *l’imparfait* in French.

5.0 SUMMARY

With this unit tackling the conjugation of impersonal and reflexive verbs

into *l'imparfait*, we have completed the cycle of conjugation of verbs into *l'imparfait* in French. In consonance with our general classification of verbs and what to expect in the course that we did in our Guide, we are now moving from simple conjugation to fairly complex ones. But no matter their difficulties, the moment you read what has been taught earlier and you follow the step by step of our presentation, we believe you will easily catch up with whatever we are going to teach in subsequent units.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Conjugate the following verbs into *l'imparfait*:
 - a. Se comprendre,
 - b. Se taire,
 - c. Se voir,
 - d. S'offrir,
 - e. falloir,
 - f. pleuvoir,
 - g. venter,
 - h. S'agir,
 - i. Se lever,
 - j. Se balancer.

7.0 REFERENCES /FURTHER READINGS

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MODULE 4

Unit 1	Conjugation of verbs in the <i>impératif</i> (positive and negative)
Unit 2	Conjugation of verbs in the <i>conditionnel présent</i>
Unit 3	Conjugation of verbs in the <i>conditionnel passé</i>
Unit 4	Conjugation of verbs in the <i>subjonctif présent</i>
Unit 5	Conjugation of verbs in the <i>subjonctif passé</i>

UNIT 1 CONJUGATION OF VERBS IN THE *IMPÉRATIF* (POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE)

CONTENTS

1.0	Introduction
2.0	Objectives
3.0	Main Contents
3.1	General techniques guiding the conjugation of verbs into <i>impératif présent</i> (positive)
3.2	General techniques guiding the conjugation of verbs into <i>impératif présent</i> (negative)
4.0	Conclusion
5.0	Summary
6.0	Tutor-Marked Assignment
7.0	References and Other Resources

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This unit will introduce you to the conjugation of **all** verbs into ‘*impératif présent* (positive and negative)’. You will also learn about the easier techniques with which a French grammar learner like you could apply in conjugating French verbs into ‘*impératif présent* (positive and negative)’. Knowledge gained from this unit will initiate your properly into how to conjugate French verbs in the ‘*impératif présent* (positive and negative)’. We would like to sound a warning that your better understanding of conjugation generally depends on the way and manner with which you handle other units we have taught earlier. Therefore, we implore you to revise the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating all verbs as they were taught earlier so as to understand better this unit.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

By the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify the Stem/Radical of all verbs

- Identify the ending/terminaison that could be used in conjugating verbs into ‘*impératif présent* (positive and negative)’
- Conjugate French verbs ‘*impératif présent* to express a positive and negative action.

You are now invited into the world of conjugation of verbs into ‘*impératif présent* (positive and negative)’.

3.0 MAIN CONTENTS

3.1 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Verbs into Imperatif Present (Positive)

The imperative is used in French, just like in English language, to give out command (order) to others. It has only three forms. You could form it by taking the present tense form of the 2nd person singular, 1st and 2nd persons plural of the verb concerned. You will then eliminate the pronoun earlier attached to these conjugated verbs. If the verb belongs to the **er** group, the rule compels us to drop the **s** ending the 2nd person singular. Its rule is always called 2-1-2, meaning 2nd person singular, 1st and 2nd persons plural. Examples could be seen in ‘Parler’ and ‘Prendre’:

Parler: 2 parle!		Prendre: 2 prends!
1 parlons!		1 prenons!
2 Parlez!		2 prenez!

NOTE: In the case of irregular verbs, their imperative form is sometime borrowed from the subjunctive form:

	Etre	savoir	vouloir
2 sois		2 sache!	2 veuille (veux)
1 soyons		1 sachons!	1 voulons
2 soyez		2 sachez!	2 veillez (voulez)

NOTE: When you are conjugating the verb 'vouloir', you could either use the veuille/veillez or the veux/voulez (in brackets) option. However, the 1st person plural form is homogenous for the two options.

In the case of reflexive verbs, apart from the application of this 2-1-2 rules to conjugate the verbs into positive imperative, you will also add a personal pronoun in the Compliment of Direct Object (COD) class, of the same grammatical number and person of the verb concerned; as suffix to the verb concerned: **moi, nous, vous**.

e.g. Se regarder		S'appeler
2 regarde-moi!		2 appelle-moi!
1	regardons-nous!	1 appelons-nous!
2	regardez-vous!	2 appelez-vous!

3.2 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Verbs into Imperatif Present (Negative)

As said earlier, if the imperative is used in French, just like in English language, to give out command (order) to others, it must have the positive as well as the negative forms. In as much as orders could be given positively in any natural language, so can it be given negatively. Just like in the positive form, it has only three forms too. You could also form it by taking the present tense form of the 2nd person singular, 1st and 2nd persons plural of the verb concerned. You will then eliminate the pronoun earlier attached to these conjugated verbs. If the verb belongs to the **-er** group, the rule compels us to drop the **s** ending the 2nd person singular. Its rule is always called 2-1-2, meaning 2nd person singular, 1st and 2nd persons plural. The only difference that distinguishes positive from negative is the introduction of some adverbs of negation such as:

----	ne	pas	- not
----	ne	point	- not at all
----	ne.....	nulle	-not in any way
----	ne.....	plus	- no more
----	ne.....	guère	- hardly
----	ne.....	jamais	- never
----	ne.....	rien	- nothing
----	ne.....	personne	- nobody
----	ne.....	que	-only, not more than

These negation adverbs are used to change a sentence into a negative form.

These adverbs are split ones; on splitting them into two, as indicated by the dotted lines, the necessary *imperative* verb in that sentence is thus inserted into the space provided in-between them (to replace the dotted lines in the middle) e.g.

Parler: 2 ne parle pas! **Prendre:** 2 ne prends jamais!
 1 ne parlons guère! 1 ne prenons nulle!
 2 ne parlez point! 2 ne prenez rien!

Etre

2 ne sois là
 1 ne soyons personne
 2 ne soyez que
 rien

Vouloir

2 ne veuille (veux) que
 1 ne voulons pas
 2 ne veuillez (voulez)

2 ne sache rien!
 1 ne sachons que! 2 ne sachez guère!

Note: Please note also that in the case of reflexive verbs, if you want to conjugate them into negative imperative, apart from the application of this 2-1-2 rules, you will also add a personal pronoun (but not in the Compliment of Direct Object (COD) class this time around) of the same grammatical number and person of the verb concerned; **me, nous, vous**. But instead of their coming at the end of the verb as done in the positive categorization, these pronouns will come before the verb (immediately after the **ne**, the first part of the adverb of negation).

e.g. Se regarder

2 ne me regarde pas!
 plus!
 1 ne nous regardons plus!
 appelons pas!
 2 ne vous regardez guère!
 jamais!

S'appeler

2 ne m'appelle
 1 ne nous
 2 ne vous appelez

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Conjugate the following verbs into 'l'impératif présent positif "first and then 'négatif" .

- i. Savoir
- ii. Se regarder.

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, you have learned the rules governing the conjugation of

'*impératif présent*'. You have also discovered the positive form as well as negative form in the conjugation of some verbs in this category. By now we believe you can conjugate different verbs '*impératif présent* (positive and negative)'.

5.0 SUMMARY

You must have been adequately informed in this unit on the basic techniques of how to conjugate most verbs into '*impératif présent*'. You must have learned also some peculiarities in the conjugation of the positive and the negative forms of these conjugations. By now we believe that your verbal vocabulary and technique of conjugation of verbs should have been enriched through the explanation and examples of verbs we gave you under each classification. And we believe that you can handle any conjugation of imperative, be it positive or negative, that comes your way.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Conjugate the following verbs into '*impératif présent positif*' first and then '*impératif présent négatif*':

- a. Parler,
- b. Nager,
- c. Balayer,
- d. Lancer,
- e. Surlever,
- f. Célébrer,
- g. Monter,
- h. Rejeter,
- i. Payer,
- j. Blaguer.

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UNIT 2 CONJUGATION OF VERBS INTO CONDITIONNEL PRESENT

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Contents
 - 3.1 General techniques guiding the conjugation of **er** verbs into *conditionnel présent*.
 - 3.2 Exceptionalities to these general rules as they affect the **-er** verbs.
 - 3.3 Conjugation of **-re** verbs into *conditionnel présent*.
 - 3.4 Conjugation of **-ir/-oir** verbs into *conditionnel présent*.
 - 3.5 Conjugation of **impersonal** verbs into *conditionnel présent*.
 - 3.6 Conjugation of **reflexive** verbs into *conditionnel présent*.
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References Further Reading

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In this unit, you will be taught the method of conjugating French verbs into *conditionnel présent*. We hope to teach you about the easier techniques with which a French grammar learner like you could apply in conjugating French regular and other irregular verbs into *conditionnel présent*. You will recall that in the last fifteen units we have been talking of conjugation of verbs into *présent de l'indicatif*, *futur simple*, *passé composé*, *l'imparfait* and *imperatif* (positive and negative). The significance of that is that we have been teaching you how to conjugate French verbs to express actions that one is doing at present, doing in the future, one is doing in the immediate past as well as continuous past and what one commands to be done.

We have now got to a stage whereby you have to learn how to express actions that will be done on conditions. *Conditionnel présent* could be translated as Present Conditional Tense in English. It is used to express any action that will be done in the present, if all necessary conditions are fulfilled.

Although we are talking of *Conditionnel présent* here, it is a methodical development on the conjugation of verbs into *futur simple*. The

knowledge you have gained from other units, most especially Units six to eight will also be useful in this unit. Let us insist on our warning you that your better understanding of conjugation generally depends on the way and manner with which you handle all these units we have been teaching you earlier. Therefore, we implore you to learn the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating French verbs into *Conditionnel présent* of French grammar as they will be taught here.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

By the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify the *Conditionnel présent* Stem/Radical of verbs
- Identify the ending/terminaison of verbs when they are conjugated in *Conditionnel présent*
- identify the *Conditionnel présent* morphemes (suffixation) with which the endings could be replaced thus facilitating grammatically correct conjugation of *Conditionnel présent* tense
- Conjugate French verbs in the *Conditionnel présent* tense.

You are now invited to follow the method of conjugation of verbs into *Conditionnel présent*.

3.0 MAIN CONTENTS

3.1 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of –Er and Other Verbs into Conditionnel Present

Like we have told you in our introduction to this unit, the *Conditionnel présent* could be translated as Present Conditional Tense in English. It is used to express any action that will be done in the present, if all necessary conditions are fulfilled.

The conditional tense looks much like the future tense. It is used to express conditional statements. Its formation also looks like that of future tense. What you are expected to do is to take the stem of verbs conjugated to future tense, you remove the future endings and you then add the following conditional endings (**ais, ais, ait, ions, iez, aient**) to the stem thus replacing the future tense endings with these new conditional endings:

ais	for 1 st person singular	ais	for 2 nd person singular
ait	for 3 rd person singular	ions	for 1 st person plural
	for 2 nd person plural	aient	for 3 rd person plural

e.g.	Manger	
Je mangerais		I would/should eat
Tu mangerais		You would eat

Il mangerait	He would eat
Nous mangerions	We would eat
Vous mangeriez	You would eat
Ils mangeraient	They would eat

NOTE: You will observe that the endings of this conjugation look like that of *l'imparfait*. But we would like you to be careful and remember that while *l'imparfait* uses the stem derived from *present de l'indicatif*, the *Conditionnel présent* uses, on the other hand, the stem of verbs conjugated into future tense (*futur simple*)

Let us then follow these patterns to conjugate some verbs into the *Conditionnel présent*:

a. Parler

ais for 1 st person singular	=	Je Parler ais	ais for 2 nd person singular
	=	Tu Parler ais	
ait for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/Elle Parler ait	ions for 1 st person plural
	=	Nous Parler ions	iez for 2 nd person plural
	=	Vous Parler iez	
aient for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/Elles Parler aient	

b. Aimer

ais for 1 st person singular	=	J' aimerais	ais for 2 nd person singular
	=	Tu aimerais	
ait for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/Elle aimerait	ions for 1 st person plural
	=	Nous aimerions	iez for 2 nd person plural
	=	Vous aimeriez	
aient for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/Elles aimeraient	

3.2 Exceptionalities to These General Rules as They Affect the -Er Verbs

Just like in the case of *futur simple*, we would like you to note that although

-er verbs are said to be regular at most of the conjugation groupings, just as we have some verbs in this category at the *futur simple* level that have some peculiarities noted for them, so also we have some **-er** verbs that take exceptions to these general rules in the conjugation of their *Conditionnel présent*. In as much as we cannot because of these minor dissimilarities categorize them as being irregular, we then decided to treat them as peculiarities under this category. Better examples of such **-er** verbs with peculiarities could be seen in verbs such as **aller, payer, balayer, rudoyer, envoyer, renvoyer** etc. We need to implore you that you should take their peculiarities that we are about to treat as

irregularities and learn them as presented to you:

c. **Aller**

ais	for 1 st person singular	=	J'irais
ais	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu irais
ait	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/Elle irait
ions	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous irions
iez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous iriez
aient	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/Elles iraient

d. **Envoyer**

ais	for 1 st person singular	=	J'enverrais
ais	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu enverrais
ait	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/Elle enverrait
ions	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous enverrions
iez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous enverriez
aient	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/Elles enverraient

Note: **Renvoyer** is conjugated like **Envoyer**.

3.3 Conjugation Of Re Verbs Into *Conditionnel Present*

e. **Battre** (to beat)

ais	for 1 st person singular	=	Je Battrais
ais	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu Battrais
ait	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/Elle Battrait
ions	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous Battrions
iez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous Battriez
aient	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/Elles Battraient

Note : The conjugation of **débattre, combattre, mettre, soumettre, plaie, connaître, paraître, naître, croître, croire, boire, conclure, absoudre, coudre, moudre, suivre, vivre, revivre, survivre, revivre, lire** etc, follow this pattern.

f. **Etre** (to be)

ais	for 1 st person singular	=	Je serais	ais	for 2 nd person singular
	=	Tu serais			
ait	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/Elle serait	ions	for 1 st person plural
		=		iez	for 2 nd person plural
aient	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/Elles seraient		

3.3 Conjugation of -Ir/-Oir Verbs into Conditionnel

PRESENT

g. **Finir** (to finish)

ais	for 1 st person singular	=	Je finir ais
ais	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu finir ais
ait	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/Elle finir ait
ions	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous finir ions
iez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous finir iez
aient	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/Elles finir aient

Note : The conjugation of **obéir, désobéir, haïr, partir, sortir, sentir, mentir, partir, repartir, répartir, vêtir, dévêtir, revêtir, couvrir, ouvrir, offrir, souffrir, accueillir, cueillir, bouillir, dormir, servir, revivre, lire** etc, follow this pattern.

h. **Avoir** (to have)

ais	for 1 st person singular	=	J' aurais
ais	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu aurais
ait	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/Elle aurait
ions	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous aurions
iez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous auriez
aient	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/Elles auraient

i. **Voir** (to see)

ais	for 1 st person singular	=	Je verr ais
ais	for 2 nd person singular	=	Tu verr ais
ait	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il/Elle verr ait
ions	for 1 st person plural	=	Nous verr ions
iez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Vous verr iez
aient	for 3 rd person plural	=	Ils/Elles verr aient

Note: The conjugation of **entrevoir, revoir** etc, follow this pattern.

3.4 Conjugation of Impersonal Verbs into

Conditionnel Present

- j. Pleuvoir – to rain Il pleuvrait
- k. Falloir – to be necessary Il faudrait
- l. Advenir – to happen Il adviendrait
- m. S’agir de – to be about
Il s’agirait de
- n. Brûmer – to mist (hazy)
Il brumerait
- o. Venter – to blow wind
Il venterait

3.5 Conjugation of Reflexive or Pronominal Verbs into *Conditionnel Present*

- p. Se laver – to take one’s bath
Je me laver**ais** – I would/should bath myself Tu te laver**ais** – You would bath yourself
Il/elle se laver**ait** – he/she would bath himself/herself Nous nous laver**ions** – we would bath ourselves Vous vous laver**iez** – you would bath yourselves Ils/Elles se laver**aient** – They would bath themselves
- q. Se convertir – to convert oneself
Je me convertir**ais** – I would /should convert myself Tu te convertir**ais** – You would convert yourself
Il/elle se convertir**ait** – he/she would convert himself/herself Nous nous convertir**ions** – we would convert ourselves Vous vous convertir**iez** – you would convert yourselves Ils/Elles se convertir**aient** – They would convert themselves

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Conjugate the following verbs in the Conditionnel présent:

- i. manger,
- ii. envoyer,
- iii. aller.

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, we have taught you the rules governing the conjugation of **er, re, ir/oir** as well as **impersonal** cum **reflexive verbs** into *Conditionnel présent*. You have also been told of some exceptionalities to these general rules. We believe by now you can conjugate **er, re, ir/oir** as well as **impersonal** and **reflexive verbs** into *Conditionnel présent*.

5.0 SUMMARY

Having taught you the conjugations of verbs through the simplified presentation of conjugation of *présent de l'indicatif* in Units two to five and the techniques of conjugation of *future simple* in Unit six to eight as well as the method of conjugation of verbs into *passé composé* in Units nine to eleven, the conjugation of *l'imparfait* that we taught in Units thirteen to fifteen and the conjugation of *imperative* (positive and negative) that we taught in Unit sixteen, we decided to bring you further into the conjugation techniques by introducing you into the world of conjugation of *conditionnel présent* in French grammar.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

Conjugate the following verbs into *conditionnel présent*:

- a. Rudoyer,
- b. Voir.,
- c. Prendre,
- d. S'appeler,
- e. Recommencer,
- f. Rendre,
- g. Pleuvoir,
- h. savoir,
- i. Se laver,
- j. Brumer.

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UNIT 3 CONJUGATION OF VERBS INTO CONDITIONNEL PASSE

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Contents
 - 3.1 General techniques guiding the conjugation of verbs that use the **auxiliary avoir** into the *conditionnel passé*.
 - 3.2 General techniques guiding the conjugation of verbs that use the **auxiliary être** into the *conditionnel passé*.
 - 3.3 Conjugation of **impersonal** *conditionnel passé*. verbs into
 - 3.4 Conjugation of **reflexive** *conditionnel passé*. verbs into
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References /Further readings

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In this unit, you will be taught the method of conjugating French verbs into *conditionnel passé*. We hope to teach you about the easier techniques with which a French grammar learner like you could apply in conjugating French regular and other irregular verbs into *conditionnel passé*. You will recall that in the last unit, we have taught you the conjugation of *Conditionnel présent*. We have now got to a stage where you have to learn how to express actions that will be done on conditions but in the past. *Conditionnel passé* could be translated as Past Conditional Tense in English. It is used to express any action that would have been done in the past, if all necessary conditions were fulfilled.

With your knowledge of *Conditionnel présent* that you were earlier taught, we implore you to learn the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating French verbs into *Conditionnel passé* as they will be taught here.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

By the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify the *Conditionnel présent* of auxiliary *avoir* or *être*.
- Identify the past participle of various verb groupings
- Conjugate verbs in the *Conditionnel passé* by adding the

Conditionnel présent of auxiliary *avoir* or *être* to the past participle of the verb concerned.

You are now invited to follow the method of conjugation of verbs into *Conditionnel passé*.

3.0 MAIN CONTENTS

3.1 General Techniques Guiding The Conjugation of Verbs That Use The Auxilliary ‘Avoir’ Into Conditionnel Passe

Like we have told you in our introduction to this unit, the *Conditionnel passé* could be translated as Past Conditional Tense in English. It is used to express any action that would have been done in the past, if all necessary conditions were fulfilled.

The general rule of conjugating this tense says that you add, the past participle of the verb you want to conjugate, to the *Conditionnel présent* of auxiliary *avoir* or *être* (as the case may be): - (Auxilliaire de *Conditionnel présent* de verbe **avoir** ou **être** + participe passé du verbe concerné). If you look at these rules closely, you will observe that they resemble the rules of *passé composé*. The only difference is where the *passé composé* rule is asking for the auxiliary *avoir* or *être* conjugated into *présent de l’indicatif*, the *conditionnel passé* is asking for the auxiliary *avoir* or *être* conjugated into *conditionnel présent*. We therefore implore you to please revise all the Units on *passé compose*, most especially, Units nine to ten, so as to comprehend this Unit better.

If the rule insists on your adding the *Conditionnel présent* of auxiliary *avoir* or *être* to the past participle of the main verb, you then need to recollect, at this level, your knowledge of conjugating the verb *avoir* into *Conditionnel présent* :

Avoir

J’aurais	Nous aurions
Tu aurais	Vous auriez
Il aurait	Ils auraient

Let us then follow this pattern and the rules governing it to conjugate the verb **manger** into *Conditionnel passé*:

a. Manger	-	to eat	
J’aurais mangé			Nous aurions mangé
Tu aurais mangé			Vous auriez mangé
Il aurait mangé			Ils auraient mangé

b.	Parler	-	to speak
	J'aurais parlé		(I would have spoken)
	Tu aurais parlé		(You would have spoken) Il/Elle
	aurait parlé		(He/She would have spoken) Nous
	aurions parlé		(We would have spoken)
	Vous auriez parlé		(You would have spoken) Ils/Elles
	auraient parlé		(They would have spoken)
c.	Etre	-	to be
	J'aurais été		(I would have been)
	Tu aurais été		(You would have been)
	Il/Elle aurait été		(He/She would have been)
	Nous aurions été		(We would have been)
	Vous auriez été		(You would have been) Ils/Elles
	auraient été		(They would have been)
d	Dire	-	to say
	J'aurais dit		(I would have said)
	Tu aurais dit		(You would have said)
	Il/Elle aurait dit		(He/She would have said)
	Nous aurions dit		(We would have said)
	Vous auriez dit		(You would have said) Ils/Elles
	auraient dit		(They would have said)
e.	Finir	-	to finish
	J'aurais fini		(I would have finished)
	Tu aurais fini		(You would have finished) Il/Elle
	aurait fini		(He/She would have finished) Nous
	aurions fini		(We would have finished) Vous
	auriez fini		(You would have finished) Ils/Elles
	auraient fini		(They would have finished)
f.	Avoir	-	to have
	J'aurais eu		(I would have had)
	Tu aurais eu		(You would have had)
	Il/Elle aurait eu		(He/She would have had)
	Nous aurions eu		(We would have had)
	Vous auriez eu		(You would have had) Ils/Elles
	auraient eu		(They would have had)

3.2 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Verbs That use The Auxiliary 'Etre' in The *conditionnel Passé*

Just like we told you under the conjugation of verbs with auxiliary être into *passé composé* in Unit ten, the following verbs when they are to be conjugated into *conditionnel passé*, should take the auxiliary être: Aller

(to go), descendre (to come down), rester (to rest), monter (to climb), tomber (to fall), naître (to be born), sortir (to go out), partir (to go) venir (to come), so also all other verbs that have something to do with **venir** like advenir, provenir, devenir etc, entrer (to enter), rentrer (to enter again), arriver (to come/arrive), retourner (to return). **Most other verbs, apart from these ones and their variants, are conjugated with auxiliary ‘’avoir.**

The general rule of conjugating this tense says that you add, the past participle of the verb you want to conjugate, to the *Conditionnel présent* of auxiliary *avoir* or *être* (as the case may be): - (Auxiliaire de *Conditionnel présent* de verbe **avoir** ou **être** + participe passé du verbe concerné). We have applied the *Conditionnel présent* of auxiliary *avoir* in the first part of this unit, we have now got to the point of applying the *Conditionnel présent* of auxiliary *être*.

If the rule insists on your adding the *Conditionnel présent* of auxiliary *avoir* or *être* to the past participle of the main verb, you then need to recollect, at this level, your knowledge of conjugating the verb *être* into *Conditionnel présent* :

être

Je serais	Nous serions
Tu serais	Vous seriez
Il serait	Ils seraient

Let us then follow these rules and the rules governing it to conjugate the following verbs into *Conditionnel passé*:

g.	aller - to go	
Je serais	allé(e)	Nous serions allé(e)s
Tu serais	allé(e)	Vous seriez allé(e)s
Il serait	allé	Ils seraient allés
Elle serait	allée	Elles seraient allées

NOTE: Just like it happened in Unit ten, you would have noted that additional vowel **e** or consonant **s** or both **es** are added to the ending of some past participle when we used the auxiliary **être**. The French grammatical rules compel all the verbs that take auxiliary **être** to agree with gender and the number of the Subject (either pronoun or noun) that precedes it. These agreement rules have been explained to you better in Unit twelve. We implore you to please go and revise them.

h.	Monter - to climb	
Je serais	monté(e)	(I would have climbed)
Tu serais	monté(e)	(You would have climbed) Il
serait	monté	(He would have climbed)
Elle serait	montée	(She would have climbed)

Nous serions monté(e)s	(We would have climbed)
Vous seriez monté(e)s	(You would have climbed) Ils
seraient montés	(They would have climbed)
Elles seraient montées	(They would have climbed)

Note: **-er** verbs such as aller (to go), rester (to rest), tomber (to fall), retomber (to fall again), entrer (to enter), rentrer (to enter again), arriver (to come/arrive), retourner (to return) are conjugated following this pattern.

i. Descendre -	(to come down)
Je serais descendu(e)	(I would have come down)
Tu serais descendu(e)	(You would have come down)
Il serait descendu	(He would have come down)
Elle serait descendue	(She would have come down)
Nous serions descendu(e)s	(We would have come down)
Vous seriez descendu(e)s	(You would have come down)
Ils seraient descendus	(They would have come down)
Elles seraient descendues	(They would have come down)

j. Sortir -	to go out
Je serais sorti(e)	(I would have gone out)
Tu serais sorti(e)	(You would have gone out) Il serait
sorti	(He would have gone out) Elle serait
sortie	(She would have gone out) Nous
serions sorti(e)s	(We would have gone out) Vous
seriez sorti(e)s	(You would have gone out) Ils
seraient sortis	(They would have gone out) Elles
seraient sorties	(They would have gone out)

Note: **-ir** verbs such as sortir (to go out), ressortir (to go out again), partir (to go), repartir (to go again) are conjugated following this pattern.

k. Venir -	to come
Je serais venu(e)	(I would have come)
Tu serais	venu(e) (You would have come) Il serait venu
	(He would have come) Elle serait
venue	(She would have come) Nous serions venu(e)s
	(We would have come) Vous seriez venu(e)s
	(You would have come) Ils seraient venus
	(They would have come) Elles seraient venues
	(They would have come)

Note: **-ir** verbs such as venir (to come), so also all other verbs that have something to do with **venir** like advenir, provenir, devenir etc, are conjugated following this pattern.

3.3 Conjugation of Impersonal Verbs into Conditionnel Passe

- l. Pleuvoir – to rain Il aurait plu
- m. Falloir – to be necessary Il aurait fallu
- n. Advenir – to happen Il serait advenu
- o. Brûmer – to mist (hazy)
Il aurait brumé
- p. Venter – to blow wind
Il aurait venté

3.4 Conjugation of Reflexive or Pronominal Verbs into Conditionnel Passe

- q. Se laver – to take one's bath

Je me serais lavé(e)	– I would have bathed myself
Tu te serais lavé(e)	– You would have bathed yourself Il
se serait lavé	– He would have bathed himself Elle
se serait lavée	– She would have bathed herself Nous
nous serions lavé(e)s – we would have bathed ourselves	Vous vous seriez
lavé(e)s	– you would have bathed yourselves
Ils se seraient lavés	– They would have bathed themselves
Elles se seraient lavées	– They would have bathed themselves

- r. Se taire – to keep quiet

Je me serais tu(e)	– I would have kept quiet.
Tu te serais tu(e)	– You would have kept quiet. Il se
serait tu	– He would have kept quiet. Elle se
serait tue	– She would have kept quiet. Nous
nous serions tu(e)s	– we would have kept quiet. Vous
vous seriez tu(e)s	– you would have kept quiet. Ils se
seraient tus	– They would have kept quiet. Elles
se seraient tues	– They would have kept quiet.

Conjugate the following into Conditionnel Pasé.

- a) Brumer, b) Recommencer.

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, we have taught you the rules governing the conjugation of **er, re, ir/oir** as well as **impersonal** cum **reflexive verbs** into *Conditionnel passé*. You have also been told of some exceptionalities to these general rules. We believe by now you can conjugate **er, re, ir/oir** as well as **impersonal** and **reflexive verbs** into *Conditionnel passé*.

5.0 SUMMARY

Having taught you the conjugations of verbs through the simplified presentation of conjugation of *présent de l'indicatif* that we have laid in Units two to five and the techniques of conjugation of *future simple* in Unit six to eight as well as the method of conjugation of verbs into *passé composé* that we taught in Units nine to eleven, the conjugation of *l'imparfait* in Units thirteen to fifteen and the conjugation of *imperative* (positive and negative) in Unit sixteen and the conjugation of *conditionnel present* that we taught in Unit seventeen, we decided to bring you further into the conjugation techniques by introducing you into the world of conjugation of *conditionnel passé* in French.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Conjugate the following verbs into *conditionnel passé*:
2. Rudoyer, b Voir., c. Prendre, d. S'appeler, e. Recommencer, f. Rendre,
3. Pleuvoir, h. savoir, i. Se laver, j. Brumer.

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UNIT 4 CONJUGATION OF VERBS INTO SUBJONCTIF PRÉSENT

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Contents
 - 3.1 General techniques guiding the conjugation of **er** verbs into *subjonctif présent*.
 - 3.2 Exceptionalities to these general rules as they affect verbs ending with **-er**.
 - 3.3 Conjugation of verbs ending with **-re** into *subjonctif présent*.
 - 3.4 Conjugation of verbs ending with **-ir/-oir** into *subjonctif présent*.
 - 3.5 Conjugation of **impersonal** verbs into *subjonctif présent*.
 - 3.6 Conjugation of **reflexive** verbs into *subjonctif présent*.
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References /Further Reading

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In this unit, you will be taught the method of conjugation of French verbs into *subjonctif présent*. We hope to teach you about the easier techniques which a French grammar learner like you could apply in conjugating French regular and other irregular verbs into *subjonctif présent*. You will recall that in the last eighteen units we have been talking about the conjugation of verbs into *présent de l'indicatif*, *futur simple*, *passé composé*, *l'imparfait* and *imperatif* (positive and negative) and *conditionnels* (présent and passé).

The significance of that is that we have been teaching you how to conjugate French verbs to express actions that one is doing at present, in the future, in the immediate past as well as continuous past, what one commands to be done and what one could do hypothetically if all necessary conditions are met.

We have now got to a stage where you have to learn how to express actions of wish or supposition. *Subjonctif présent* could be translated as Present Form of Subjunctive Tense in English. It is used to express statements of doubt in French language. When a speaker wants to talk about a personal wish, emotion, doubt and things that could not be real in life, he uses the subjunctive tense. Example :

- Je souhaite que je sois professeur. - I wish I could be a teacher.

In as much as we are talking of *Subjonctif présent* here, it is a methodical development on the conjugation of verbs into *futur simple* and *Conditionnel présent*. The knowledge you have gained from other units, most especially Units six to eighteen will also be useful in this unit. Let us insist on our warning you that your better understanding of conjugation generally depends on the way and manner with which you handle all these units we have been teaching you earlier. Therefore, we implore you to learn the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating French verbs into *Subjonctif présent* of French grammar as they will be taught here.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this unit, you should be able to:

- Identify the *Subjonctif présent* Stem/Radical of verbs
- Identify the *Subjonctif présent* ending/terminaison of verbs
- identify the *Subjonctif présent* morphemes (suffixation) with which the endings could be replaced thus facilitating grammatically correct conjugation of *Subjonctif présent* tense
- Conjugating French verbs in the ‘subjonctif présent’.

You are now invited to follow the method of conjugation of verbs into *Subjonctif présent*.

3.0 MAIN CONTENT

3.1 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Verbs Ending With -Er And Other Verbs Into *Conditionnel Présent*

Like we have told you in our introduction to this unit, the *Subjonctif présent* could be translated as Present Form of Subjunctive Tense in English. It is used to express statements of doubt, personal wish, emotion and things that could not be real in life in French language.

To form the conjugation of *Subjonctif present*, of regular and some irregular verbs, you are to take the stem/radical from the 3rd person plural (ils/elles) conjugated form of the verb in the *présent de l’indicatif*, you remove its **ent** ending and then add the following subjunctive endings, (**e, es, e, ions, ie, ent**) to this special radical or stem. And in order to properly express this wish or doubt, a clause using the verb *falloir* (to be necessary), conjugated into *présent de l’indicatif*, is introduced at the beginning of the sentence:

e for 1st person singular **es** for 2nd person singular **e**
 for 3rd person singular **ions** for 1st person plural **iez**
 for 2nd person plural **ent** for 3rd person plural

e.g. **Manger** = **Ils/Elles mang/ent**
 Il faut que je mange It is necessary, I eat
 Il faut que tu manges It is necessary, you eat
 Il faut qu'il mange It is necessary, he eats Il
 faut que nous mangions It is necessary, we eat Il
 faut que vous mangiez It is necessary, you eat Il
 faut qu'ils mangent It is necessary, they eat

Let us then follow these patterns to conjugate some other verbs into the *Subjonctif présent*:

a. **Parler** = **Ils parl/ent**
e for 1st person singular = Il faut que je
 parle **es** for 2nd person singular = Il faut que tu
 parles **e** for 3rd person singular = Il faut qu'il parle
ions for 1st person plural = Il faut que nous
 parlions **iez** for 2nd person plural = Il faut que vous
 parliez **ent** for 3rd person plural = Il faut qu'ils
 parlent

b. **Aimer**
e for 1st person singular = Il faut que j'aime
es for 2nd person singular = Il faut que tu
 aimes **e** for 3rd person singular = Il faut qu'il aime
ions for 1st person plural = Il faut que nous
 aimions **iez** for 2nd person plural = Il faut que vous
 aimiez **ent** for 3rd person plural = Il faut qu'ils
 aiment

3.2 Exceptionalities to These General Rules as They Affect the Er Verbs

Just like in the case of *present de l'indicatif* and *futur simple*, we would like you to note that although **-er** verbs are said to be regular at most of the conjugation groupings, just as we have some verbs in this category at these levels that have some peculiarities noted for them, so also we have some **-er** verbs that take exceptions to these general rules in the conjugation of their *Subjonctif présent*. In as much as we cannot because of these minor dissimilarities categorize them as being irregular, we then decided to treat them as peculiarities under this category. Better examples of these **-er** verbs with peculiarities could be seen in verb such as **aller**. We need to implore you that you should take these peculiarities that we are about to treat as irregularities and learn them as presented to you:

c.	Aller		
e		for 1 st person singular	= Il faut que j'aille
es		for 2 nd person singular	= Il faut que tu
ailles e		for 3 rd person singular	= Il faut qu'il aille
ions		for 1 st person plural	= Il faut que nous
allions iez		for 2 nd person plural	= Il faut que vous
alliez ent		for 3 rd person plural	= Il faut qu'ils
aillent			

3.3 Conjugation of Verbs Ending with -Re Into *Subjonctif Present*

d.	Battre (to beat)		
e		for 1 st person singular	= Il faut que je batte
es		for 2 nd person singular	= Il faut que tu
battes e		for 3 rd person singular	= Il faut qu'il batte
ions		for 1 st person plural	= Il faut que nous
battions iez		for 2 nd person plural	= Il faut que vous
battiez ent		for 3 rd person plural	= Il faut qu'ils
battent			

Note : The conjugation of **débattre, combattre, mettre, soumettre** etc, follow this pattern.

e.	Etre (to be)		
e	for 1 st person singular	=	Il faut que je sois es for 2 nd person singular
	person singular	=	Il faut que tu sois e for 3 rd person singular
		=	Il faut qu'il soit
ions	for 1 st person plural	=	Il faut que nous
soyons iez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Il faut que vous
soyez ent	for 3 rd person plural	=	Il faut qu'ils
soient			

NOTE : Be informed that **être**, being an exceptionally irregular verb, does not follow the general pattern. Hence the difference in stem formation and conjugation.

3.4 Conjugation of Verbs Ending With -Ir/-Oir into *Subjonctif Present*

f.	Finir (to finish)		
e		for 1 st person singular	= Il faut que je
finisse es		for 2 nd person singular	= Il faut que tu
finisses e		for 3 rd person singular	= Il faut qu'il
finisse			
ions		for 1 st person plural	= Il faut que nous

finissions **iez** for 2nd person plural = Il faut que vous
 finissiez **ent** for 3rd person plural = Il faut qu'ils
 finissent **Note** : The conjugation of **obéir, désobéir, haïr, partir, sortir, sentir, mentir, partir, repartir, répartir, vêtir, dévêtir, revêtir, couvrir, ouvrir, offrir, souffrir, accueillir, cueillir, bouillir, dormir, servir, revivre, lire** etc, follow this pattern.

g. **Avoir** (to have)
e for 1st person singular = Il faut que j'aie **es**
 for 2nd person singular = Il faut que tu aies
e for 3rd person singular = Il faut qu'il aie
ions for 1st person plural = Il faut que nous
 ayons **iez** for 2nd person plural = Il faut que vous
 ayez **ent** for 3rd person plural = Il faut qu'ils aient

NOTE: Be informed that **avoir**, being an exceptionally irregular verb, does not follow the general pattern. Hence the difference in stem formation and conjugation.

h. **Voir** (to see)
e for 1st person singular = Il faut que je voie
es for 2nd person singular = Il faut que tu
 voies **e** for 3rd person singular = Il faut qu'il voie
ions for 1st person plural = Il faut que nous
 voyions **iez** for 2nd person plural = Il faut que vous
 voyiez **ent** for 3rd person plural = Il faut qu'ils
 voient

Note : The conjugation of **entrevoir, revoir** etc, follow this pattern.

3.5 conjugation of impersonal verbs into *subjonctif Present*

- i. Pleuvoir – to rain Il faut qu'il pleuve
- j. Falloir – to be necessary
Il faut qu'il faille
- k. Advenir – to happen Il faut qu'il advienne
- l. S'agir de – to be about Il faut qu'il s'agisse de
- m. Brûmer – to mist (hazy)
Il faut qu'il brume
- n. Venter – to blow wind Il faut qu'il vente

3.6 Conjugation Of Reflexive Or Pronominal Verbs Into Subjonctif Present

o. Se laver – to take one’s bath

e	for 1 st person singular	=	Il faut que je me lave
es	for 2 nd person singular	=	Il faut que tu te laves
e	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il faut qu’il se lave
ions	for 1 st person plural	=	Il faut que nous nous lavions
iez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Il faut que vous vous laviez
ent	for 3 rd person plural	=	Il faut qu’ils se lavent

p. Se convertir – to convert oneself

e	for 1 st person singular	=	Il faut que je me convertisse
es	for 2 nd person singular	=	Il faut que tu te convertisses
e	for 3 rd person singular	=	Il faut qu’il se convertisse
ions	for 1 st person plural	=	Il faut que nous nous convertissions
iez	for 2 nd person plural	=	Il faut que vous vous convertissiez
ent	for 3 rd person plural	=	Il faut qu’ils se convertissent

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Conjugate the following into “Subjonctif Présent.:

- i. finir
- ii. Etre
- iii. Se laver.

1. Verbe “finir au subjonctif présent”

(1) Il faut que je finisse Il faut que tu finisses
Il faut qu’il/elle finisse
Il faut que nous finissions Il faut que vous finissiez
Il faut qu’ils/elles finissent

(2) Verbe “Etre au subjonctif présent”.

Il faut que je sois Il faut que tu sois
Il faut qu’il/elle soit
Il faut que nous soyons Il faut que vous soyez
Il faut qu’ils/elles soient.

(3) Verbe “Se laver au Subjonctif présent”.

Il faut que je me lave Il faut que tu te laves
Il faut qu’il/elle se lave

Il faut que nous nous lavions Il faut que vous vous laviez Il faut qu'ils/elles se lavent

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, we have taught you the rules governing the conjugation of **er, re, ir/oir** as well as **impersonal cum reflexive verbs** into *subjonctif présent*. You have also been told of some exceptionalities to these general rules. We believe by now you can conjugate **er, re, ir/oir** as well as **impersonal and reflexive verbs** into *subjonctif présent*.

5.0 SUMMARY

Having taught you the conjugations of verbs through the simplified presentation of conjugation of *présent de l'indicatif* in Units two to five and the techniques of conjugation of *future simple* in Unit six to eight as well as the method of conjugation of verbs into *passé composé* in Units nine to eleven, the conjugation of *l'imparfait* in Units thirteen to fifteen, the conjugation of *imperative* (positive and negative) in Unit sixteen and the conjugation of *conditionnels présent* and *passé* in Units seventeen and eighteen, we decided to bring you further into the conjugation techniques by introducing you into the world of conjugation of *subjonctif présent* in French.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Conjugate the following verbs into *subjonctif présent*:
 - a. Plaidoyer,
 - b. Savoir.,
 - c. Rendre,
 - d. S'appeler,
 - e. Recommencer,
 - f. Pendre,
 - g. Pleuvoir,
 - h. Valoir,
 - i. Se laver,
 - j. Brumer.

7.0 REFERENCES /FURTHER READINGS

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UNIT 5 CONJUGATION OF VERBS INTO *SUBJONCTIF PASSE*

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- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

In this unit, you will be taught the method of conjugating French verbs into *subjonctif passé*. We hope to teach you about the easier techniques which a French grammar learner like you could apply in conjugating French regular and other irregular verbs into *subjonctif passé*. You will recall that in the last unit, we have taught you the conjugation of *subjonctif présent*. We have now got to a stage whereby you have to learn how to express actions of wish or supposition in the past. *Subjonctif passé* could be translated as Past Form of Subjunctive Tense in English. It is used to express statements of doubt in the past. When a speaker wants to talk about a personal wish, emotion, doubt and things that could not be real in life but which he would have loved to do in the past, he uses the past form of subjunctive tense:

- J'ai souhaité que j'aie été professeur. - I wished I could have been a teacher.

Armed with the Knowledge of *subjonctif présent* that we have just taught you, we implore you to learn the rudiments, techniques and methods of conjugating French verbs into *subjonctif passé* of French grammar as they will be taught here.

Qu'il ait Qu'ils aient

Let us then follow this pattern and the rules governing it to conjugate the verb **manger** into *subjonctif passé*:

a. **Manger** - to eat Il a fallu que j'aie mangé Il a fallu que tu aies mangé Il a fallu qu'il ait mangé
Il a fallu que nous ayons mangé Il a fallu que vous ayez mangé Il a fallu qu'ils aient mangé

b. **Parler** - to speak Il a fallu que j'aie parlé
Il a fallu que tu aies parlé Il a fallu qu'il ait parlé
Il a fallu que nous ayons parlé Il a fallu que vous ayez parlé Il a fallu qu'ils aient parlé

c. **Etre-** to be
Il a fallu que j'aie été Il a fallu que tu aies été Il a fallu qu'il ait été
Il a fallu que nous ayons été Il a fallu que vous ayez été Il a fallu qu'ils aient été

d **Dire** - to say Il a fallu que j'aie dit
Il a fallu que tu aies dit Il a fallu qu'il ait dit
Il a fallu que nous ayons dit Il a fallu que vous ayez dit Il a fallu qu'ils aient dit

e. **Finir** - to finish Il a fallu que j'aie fini Il a fallu que tu aies fini
Il a fallu qu'il ait fini
Il a fallu que nous ayons fini Il a fallu que vous ayez fini Il a fallu qu'ils aient fini

f. **Avoir** - to have Il a fallu que j'aie eu Il a fallu que tu aies eu Il a fallu qu'il ait eu
Il a fallu que nous ayons eu Il a fallu que vous ayez eu Il a fallu qu'ils aient eu

3.2 General Techniques Guiding the Conjugation of Verbs Using the Auxiliary *Etre* into *Subjonctif Passé*

Just like we told you under the conjugation of verbs with auxiliary être into *passé composé* and *conditionnel passé* in Units ten and eighteen, the following verbs when they are to be conjugated into *subjonctif passé*, should take auxiliary être: aller (to go), descendre (to come down), rester (to rest), monter (to climb), tomber (to fall), naître (to be born), sortir (to go out), partir (to go) venir (to come), so also all other verbs that have something to do with **venir** like advenir, provenir, devenir etc, entrer (to enter), rentrer (to

NOTE: **-er** verbs such as Aller (to go), rester (to rest), tomber (to fall), retomber (to fall again), entrer (to enter), rentrer (to enter again), arriver (to come/arrive), retourner (to return) are conjugated following this pattern.

i. **Descendre** - (to come down)

Il a fallu que je **sois** descendu(e) Il a fallu que nous **soyons** descendu(e)s
 Il a fallu que tu **sois** descendu(e) Il a fallu que vous **soyez** descendu(e)s
 Il a fallu qu'il **soit** descendu Il a fallu qu'ils **soient** descendus

Il a fallu qu'elle **soit** descendue Il a fallu qu'elles **soient** descendues

j. **Sortir** - to go out

Il a fallu que je **sois** sorti(e) Il a fallu que nous **soyons** sorti(e)s
 Il a fallu que tu **sois** sorti(e) Il a fallu que vous **soyez** sorti(e)s

Il a fallu qu'il **soit** sorti Il a fallu qu'ils **soient** sortis

Il a fallu qu'elle **soit** sortie Il a fallu qu'elles **soient** sorties

Note: **-ir** verbs such as sortir (to go out), ressortir (to go out again), partir (to go), repartir (to go again) are conjugated following this pattern.

k. **Venir** - to come

Il a fallu que je **sois** venu(e) Il a fallu que nous **soyons** venu(e)s

Il a fallu que tu **sois** venu(e) Il a fallu que vous **soyez** venu(e)s

Il a fallu qu'il **soit** venu Il a fallu qu'ils **soient** venus

Il a fallu qu'elle **soit** venue Il a fallu qu'elles **soient** venues

Note: **ir** verbs such as venir (to come), so also all other verbs like advenir, provenir, devenir etc, are conjugated following this pattern.

3.3 Conjugation of Impersonal Verbs into *Subjonctif* *Passé*

s. Pleuvoir – to rain

Il a fallu qu'il ait plu

t. Falloir – to be necessary Il a fallu qu'il ait fallu

u. Advenir – to happen

Il a fallu qu'il soit advenu

v. Brûmer – to mist (hazy)

Il a fallu qu'il ait brumé

w. Venter – to blow wind Il a fallu qu'il ait venté

3.4 Conjugation of Reflexive or Pronominal Verbs into *Subjonctif Passe*

x. Se laver – to take one's bath
Il a fallu que je me **sois** lavé(e) Il a fallu que nous nous **soyons** lavé(e)s

Il a fallu que tu te **sois** lavé(e) Il a fallu que vous vous **soyez** lavé(e)s Il a fallu qu'il se **soit** lavé a fallu qu'ils se **soient** lavés
Il a fallu qu'elle se **soit** lavée Il a fallu qu'elles se **soient** lavées

y. Se taire – to keep quiet
Il a fallu que je me **sois** tu(e) Il a fallu que nous nous **soyons** tu(e)s

Il a fallu que tu te **sois** tu(e) Il a fallu que vous vous **soyez** tu(e)s Il a fallu qu'il se **soit** tu a fallu qu'ils se **soient** tus
Il a fallu qu'elle se **soit** tue Il a fallu qu'elles se **soient** tues

SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Conjugate the following verbs into *subjonctif Passé*

- i. Monter
- ii. Etre
- iii. Avoir

4.0 CONCLUSION

In this unit, we have taught you the rules governing the conjugation of verbs ending with **er, re, ir/oir** as well as **impersonal** cum **reflexive verbs** into *subjonctif passé*. You have also been told of some exceptionalities to these general rules. We believe by now you can conjugate **er, re, ir/oir** as well as **impersonal** and **reflexive verbs** into *subjonctif passé*.

5.0 SUMMARY

Having taught you the conjugations of verbs through the simplified

presentation of conjugation of *présent de l'indicatif* in Units two to five and the techniques of conjugation of *future simple* in Unit six to eight as well as the method of conjugation of verbs into *passé composé* taught in Units nine to eleven, the conjugation of *l'imparfait* taught in Units thirteen to fifteen and the conjugation of *imperative* (positive and negative) taught in Unit sixteen, the conjugation of *conditionnels présent* and *passé* in Units seventeen and eighteen and then we decided to bring you further into the conjugation techniques by introducing you into the world of conjugation of *subjonctifs présent* and *passé* in French as taught in Units nineteen and twenty. With this unit twenty, we have now come to the end of our lectures of FRE102 that focuses on the conjugation of verbs into various tenses of French grammar.

6.0 TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

1. Conjugate the following verbs into *subjonctif passé*:
 - a. Rudoyer,
 - b. Voir.,
 - c. Prendre,
 - d. S'appeler,
 - e. Recommencer,
 - f. Rendre,
 - g. Pleuvoir,
 - h. savoir,
 - i. Se laver,
 - j. Brumer.

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Ade Ojo, Samuel (2002): *A comprehensive Revision Handbook of French Grammar*. Ibadan: Signal Educational Services Ltd.

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