FRENCH VERBS

Every mood and verb tense in French. Note that the **moods** are across the top and the **tenses** are listed top to bottom, with the present tense in the center. →

See the website listed at the bottom right for an interactive version of this chart, where you can click each tense/mood for an explanation of how it is used.

In the next slide, you will see the tenses/moods you have learned up to this point (not all of them have been emphasized in FR 201).

M O O D

	PERSONAL*				IMPERSONAL*	
	Indicative	Subjunctive	Imperative	Conditional	Infinitive	Participle
F U T U R E	future					
	future perfect	(subjunctive)	(imperative)	(conditional)	future inf.	future participle
	PRESENT	subjunctive	imperative	conditional	infinitive	present part.
P A S T	imperfect	[imperfect subj]		past cond.		
	compound past [simple past]	past subjunctive	past imp.		past inf.	past participle
	pluperfect [past anterior]	[pluperfect subj]		[past cond. 2]		

*__Personal__ moods have different conjugations for different subjects, whereas __impersonal__ moods have only one form.

The (parentheses) indicate present tense verb forms which are also used as future forms.

Verb forms in [brackets] are the literary equivalent of the verb form in the box directly above (e.g., the *simple past* is the literary equivalent of the *compound past*).

http://french.about.com/library/bl_timelinee.htm

M O O D

We'll work our way through all of these as the PPT continues.

	PERSONAL*				IMPERSONAL*	
	Indicative	Subjunctive	Imperative	Conditional	Infinitive	Participle
F U T U R E	future					
	future perfect	(subjunctive)	(imperative)	(conditional)	future inf.	future participle
P A S T	PRESENT	subjunctive [imperfect subj]	imperative	conditional	infinitive	present part.
	imperfect					
	compound past [simple past]	past subjunctive	past imp.	past cond.	past inf.	past participle
	pluperfect [past anterior]	[pluperfect subj]		[past cond. 2]		

*Personal moods have different conjugations for different subjects, whereas **impersonal** moods have only one form.

The (parentheses) indicate present tense verb forms which are also used as future forms.

Verb forms in [brackets] are the literary equivalent of the verb form in the box directly above (e.g., the *simple past* is the literary equivalent of the *compound past*).

Infinitive

The infinitive is simply an <u>unconjugated verb</u>. See below for some examples of infinitives:

    parler

    aller

    être

    se lever

    voir

    prendre

The infinitive translates as "to…". To speak, to go, to be, to get up, to see, to take.

For more info, go here:
  http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/infinitive.htm

Conjugating verbs

To conjugate verbs, use the following subjects:

je

tu

il/elle/on

nous

vous

ils/elles

Present (indicative)

This is the most commonly used and the first tense you learn in French. There are many types of verbs conjugated in the present tense.

Regular Verbs. Drop the infinitive ending and add the following endings:

	-er	**-ir**	**-re**
je	-e	-is	-s
tu	-es	-is	-s
il/elle/on	-e	-it	-
nous	-ons	-issons	-ons
vous	-ez	-issez	-ez
ils/elles	-ent	-issent	-ent

Present (indicative), continued

Quiz:

Conjugate the verbs parler, choisir, and descendre and check your work using this online conjugator: http://www.wordreference.com/conj/FRverbs.aspx.

Be sure you also know how to conjugate **–ger and –cer** verbs (which are not strictly irregular, but they do have spelling changes).

Some important irregular verbs: **être, avoir, aller, faire, prendre, pouvoir, vouloir, devoir, mettre, lire, écrire, venir, savoir, connaître, sortir, dormir, suivre**. Test your ability to conjugate these verbs and then verify your work using the conjugator linked above.

Pronominal Verbs (in present tense)

These verbs require an extra set of pronouns.

se lever

je **me** lève

tu **te** lèves

il **se** lève

nous **nous** levons

vous **vous** levez

ils **se** lèvent

Passé composé: past participle

How to form the past participle? Drop the infinitive ending and add:

ER → é   parler → parl**é**

IR → i   choisir → chois**i**

RE → u   vendre → vend**u**

But, of course, there are several verbs with irregular past participles:

être: été   ouvrir: ouvert   croire: cru

vouloir: voulu   mourir: mort(e)   recevoir: reçu

venir: venu(e)   avoir: eu   pouvoir: pu

voir: vu   boire: bu   offrir: offert

mettre: mis   devoir: dû   faire: fait

naître: né(e)   prendre: pris

Compound past AKA passé composé

The passé composé is the most common past tense in French. It is used to express actions that were completed in the past. It is formed in two different ways. Most verbs take **avoir** in the passé composé.

Examples: j'ai parlé, elle a dansé, nous avons mangé

Two kinds of verbs are conjugated with **être** in the passé composé: 1) pronominal verbs and 2) DR MR VANDERTRAMPPS. *With these verbs, the past participle must match the subject in gender and in number.*

Pronominal verbs in the passé composé

se lever

je me suis levé(e)   nous nous sommes levé(e)s

tu t'es levé(e)   vous vous êtes levé(e)(s)(es)

il s'est levé   ils se sont levés

elle s'est levée   elles se sont levées

on s'est levé

DR & MR VANDERTRAMPPS

Devenir	**E**ntrer
Rester	**R**evenir
&	**T**omber
Mourir	**R**etourner
Rentrer	**A**ller
Venir	**M**onter
Arriver	**P**artir
Naître	**P**asser
Descendre	**S**ortir

Imperfect AKA imparfait (indicative)

The imperfect is the other common past tense. It is used to express habitual actions, states of being, emotions, descriptions, and background information.

The imperfect is very easy to form. Start with the **nous form** of every single verb except être. Drop the –ons and add the following endings:

-ais   *être uses this as a stem: **ét**

-ais   (then add the regular endings)

-ait   *remember that verbs like **étudier**,

-ions   **manger**, and **commencer** have

-iez   spelling changes (examples: nous

-aient   étud**i**ions, je mang**e**ais, je commen**ç**ais)

Imparfait vs. Passé composé

Generally speaking, the imperfect **describes past situations**, while the passé composé **narrates specific events**. In addition, the imperfect can set the stage for an event expressed with the passé composé.

For more info, see also this site: http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/pasttenses_2.htm