

French 2

Chapter 4 Grammar Review

Object Pronouns in the Passé Composé

1. In the Passé Composé, place the *Indirect* and *Direct Object Pronouns* before the helping verb, which is either **Être** or **Avoir**.

Ex: Nous *lui* **avons** parlé hier → We **spoke** to *him* yesterday

Ex: Ils *t'ont* vu au supermarché → They **saw** *you* at the store

Ex: Nous y **sommes** allés → We **went** *there*.

2. **PAST PARTICIPLE (PP) AGREEMENT WITH AVOIR**: When using **Avoir**, the past participle will agree with the Direct Object or the Direct Object Pronoun (DOP) if the Direct Object comes *before* the verb **ONLY!** It does **NOT** agree with Indirect Objects or Indirect Object Pronouns (IOP).

Ex: La compétition? Je *l'*ai gagné → *l'* is a feminine DOP before the verb

Ex: Les pizzas? Je *les* ai mangées. → *les* is a feminine plural DOP before the verb

Ex: M. Dupont? Tu *lui* a parlé hier? → *lui* is an IOP, therefore **no** PP agreement

Ex: J'ai mangé les pizzas. → The DOP is after the verb, **no** PP agreement

3. **PAST PARTICIPLE (PP) AGREEMENT WITH ÊTRE**: Verbs that use **Être** in the Passé Composé do **NOT** have Direct Objects. Therefore the Past Participle agrees in gender and number with the *Subject* of the verb. NOTE: If you use a Direct Object then you must use **Avoir**.

Ex: *Elles* en sont sorties → PP agreement is with the *subject*. No DOP.

Ex: Les poires? Elles *les* ont sorties → PP agrees with DOP. Use Avoir with DOP.

Quelqu'un/Quelque Chose - Ne... Personne/Rien/Que

1. **Quelqu'un** (qqn) and **quelque chose** (qqch) refer to *someone* or *something* respectively.

Ex: Quelqu'un a vu quelque chose! → Someone saw something!

2. **Ne... personne** and **ne... rien** are the opposite and mean *no one* and *nothing*. Rien comes after the helping verb (*Être* or *Avoir*) in the Passé Composé, however *Personne* comes after the PP.

Ex: Je **n'ai rien** vu → I didn't see anything / I saw nothing

Ex: Je **n'ai** vu **personne** → I didn't see anyone / I saw no one.

3. **Ne... personne/rien** can also be the subject. If so, they go before the verb instead of after it.

Ex: **Personne** n'est venu → No one came (*No one* is the subject)

Ex: **Rien** n'est arrivé. → Nothing happened. (*Nothing* is the subject)

4. **Ne... que/qu'** means *only*. Place "*ne*" before the verb and *que/qu'* before the item you're limiting.

Ex: Il **n'en** a fait **que** deux → He *only* made two (of them).

Review: Past Participle Agreement in the Passé Composé (with *Être* and *Avoir*)

1. **DR & MRS VANDERTRAMPP:** These verbs use *Être* as the helping verb and the Past Participle agrees in gender and number with the *Subject*.

Ex: *Elles sont allées* au marché. → *Elles* = subjects; *allées* = agrees w/subject

2. **AVOIR:** The majority of verbs use *Avoir* as the helping verb. The Past Participle agrees with the *Direct Object [DO]* and *Direct Object Pronoun [DOP]* **ONLY** if it precedes the verb. It does **NOT** agree with *Indirect Objects* or if the *Direct Object* comes after the verb.

Ex: Il *a* donné *la tarte* à Katie. → (No agreement; *la tarte [DO]* is after verb)

Ex: Il lui *a* donné *la tarte*. → (No agreement; *lui [IOP]* precedes the verb)

Ex: Il *la* lui *a* donné. → (**Agreement**, *la [DOP: la tarte]* before verb)

The Verb *Recevoir*

1. The verb *Recevoir* means “to receive” or “to get” and is irregular. It’s conjugations must be memorized:

RECEVOIR			
je	<i>reçois</i>	nous	<i>recevons</i>
tu	<i>reçois</i>	vous	<i>recevez</i>
il / elle / on	<i>reçoit</i>	ils / elles	<i>reçoivent</i>

2. **PAST PARTICIPLE:** The Past Participle for *Recevoir* is “**reçu**”.

Ex: J’ai reçu un colis → I received a package.

Depuis, Il y a, Ça fait with Time

1. To say *how long* or *since*, use **depuis**. If talking about an action that started in the past and continues in the present, use **depuis + present tense** (NOTE: *This is different from English which uses the past tense*).

Ex: Elle *étudie* **depuis** ce matin. → She *has been studying* **since** this morning.

Ex: Il fait du sport depuis un an → He’s *been playing* sports **for** a year.

2. Two other ways to say *for how long*, are **il y a** and **ça fait** used with an expression of time and then **que** followed by the action that has been done. (*il y a / ça fait + time + que + clause*). These expressions are usually at the beginning of a sentence.

Ex: **Ça fait** un an **qu’**elle étudie le français. → She’s been studying French for a year.

Ex: **Il y a** un an **qu’**elle étudie le français. → She’s been studying French for a year