

I'm not a bot





































PrevPrevious10 Mots du Jour – L'école – School Next10 Mots du Jour – Apprendre – LearningNext In French, when a sentence uses the passé composé (the past tense formed with avoir or être), object pronouns still come before the verb. The verb in the passé composé includes both the auxiliary verb (avoir or être) and the past participle. The object pronoun is placed directly before the auxiliary verb. This rule applies to both direct and indirect object pronouns. Structure:[Subject] + [object pronoun] + [auxiliary verb] + [past participle] Je l'ai vu.I saw him / it. Il nous a appelés.He called us. Tu leur as parlé.You spoke to them. Nous t'avons attendu.We waited for you. Je me suis levé.I got up. Elle s'est lavée.She washed (herself). Nous nous sommes retrouvés.We met up. Some intransitive verbs (mainly verbs of movement or change of state) are conjugated with the auxiliary être in the passé composé. These verbs indicate motion (e.g., coming, going, arriving, leaving) or a change of state (e.g., becoming, entering). When these verbs are used in the passé composé, object pronouns still follow the same rule: they come before the auxiliary verb. Aller (to go) Venir (to come) Arriver (to arrive) Partir (to leave) Entrer (to enter) Sortir (to go out) Rentrer (to return) Monter (to go up) Descendre (to go down) Naître (to be born) Mourir (to die) Devenir (to become) Je l'y ai envoyée.I sent her there. Ils y sont allés.They went there. Elle m'est venue.She came to me. Nous l'avons vue avant qu'il soit parti.We saw him before he left. In negative statements, the ne... pas structure wraps around the object pronoun and the auxiliary verb. The past participle stays outside the negation. Structure:[Subject] + ne + [object pronoun] + [auxiliary] + pas + [past participle] Je ne l'ai pas vu.I didn't see him / it. Il ne nous a pas appelés.He didn't call us. Tu ne leur as pas parlé.You didn't speak to them. Nous ne t'avons pas attendu.We didn't wait for you. Je ne me suis pas levé.I didn't get up. Ils ne se sont pas réveillés.They didn't wake up. Elle ne s'est pas coiffée.She didn't do her hair. When intransitive verbs conjugated with être are used in negative sentences, the object pronoun still comes before the auxiliary verb (être), and the negation surrounds both the pronoun and the auxiliary. Je ne l'y ai pas envoyée.I didn't send her there. Nous ne y sommes pas allés.We didn't go there. Il ne m'est pas venu.He didn't come to me. Vous ne leur êtes pas venus.You didn't come to them. For verbs conjugated with être, the past participle agrees in gender and number with the subject of the sentence. Important: When the verb is followed by a direct object pronoun that is placed before the verb, the past participle must agree with the object if the verb is intransitive and the object is direct. Elle est partie.She left. (no object, but partie agrees with elle) Elle l'a vue.She saw her. (agreement in gender) Ils sont partis.They left. (plural, masculine) Ils les ont vus.They saw them. (agreement in number) Type of PronounAffirmative SentenceNegative SentenceDirect Object Pronoun (e.g., le, la, les)Subject + Pronoun + Auxiliary + Past ParticipleSubject + ne + Pronoun + Auxiliary + pas + Past ParticipleIndirect Object Pronoun (e.g., lui, leur)Subject + Pronoun + Auxiliary + Past ParticipleSubject + ne + Pronoun + Auxiliary + pas + Past ParticipleIntransitive Verbs with ÊtreSubject + Pronoun + Auxiliary (être) + Past ParticipleSubject + ne + Pronoun + Auxiliary (être) + pas + Past Participle PrevPrevious10 Mots du Jour – L'école – School Next10 Mots du Jour – Apprendre – LearningNext This lesson provides an extremely comprehensive overview of French object pronouns in detail. French direct object pronouns are le, la and les for him, her, it and them. Indirect object pronouns are lui and leur for him, her and them. Other useful object pronouns are y and en. Keep reading and master these words!Object pronouns are words which replace nouns. I eat pizza -> I eat it. I look at the lady -> I look at her.In French, direct object pronouns are used for verbs which aren't followed by prepositions. Me (me), te (you), nous (us), vous (you), le (him or it), la (her or it), les (them). For example, Je vois le garçon. Je le vois. (I see the boy. I see him).Indirect object pronouns replace nouns for verbs following by the preposition à (to or at): Me (me), te (you), nous (us), vous (you), lui (him or her) and leur (them). For example, Je parle à la fille. Je lui parle. (I speak to the girl. I speak to her).Indirect object pronouns y and en are used for inanimate things and ideas for verbs followed by à and de.SingularPluralme (m') menous uste (t's) you (familiar)vous you (you plural or formal)le (l') him or it (masculine)les them (masculine or feminine)la (l') her or it (feminine)In language, a direct object is the noun that receives the action of a verb. It's called direct because there's no preposition following the verb and preceding the noun.For sentences expressing "to" or "at" me, you and us with verbs not followed by prepositions, the verb endings must agree with the subject. Here are a few example sentences.Je te regarde. I look at you.Vous me regardez. You look at me.Ils vous regardent. They look at you.Nous vous regardons. We look at you.The following list of common verbs are not followed by the preposition à and thus take a direct object.aimer to like, loveacheter to buyécouter to listenattendre to waitinviter to invitecomprendre to understandprendre to takeconnaître to knowIn French, the direct object pronoun must agree in gender and number with the noun it replaces. Here are some example sentences with the third-person singular and plural direct object pronouns (he, she, it and them).Je regarde le film. Je le regarde. I watch the movie. I watch it.Tu regardes la fille. Tu la regardes. You look at the girl. You look at her.Je connais Jean. Je le connais. I know Jean. I know him.Tu connais Sylvie. Tu la connais. I know Sylvie. I know her.Je connais Jean et Sylvie. Je les connais. I know Jean and Sylvie. I know them.To negate a sentence with a direct object pronoun, wrap ne...pas around both the object pronoun and the verb.Je ne mange pas le steak. Je ne le connais pas. I don't eat the steak. I don't eat it.Je ne connais pas Marc. Je ne le connais pas. I don't know Marc. I don't know him.In the passé composé, the direct object pronoun comes before the auxiliary verb. The past participle must agree in number and gender when the direct object pronoun precedes the verb.J'ai mangé le pain. Je l'ai mangé. I ate the bread. I ate it.J'ai mangé la pizza. Je l'ai mangée. I ate the pizza. I ate it.J'ai mangé les frites. Je les ai mangées. I ate the French fries. I ate them.In the affirmative imperative, the direct object pronoun comes after the verb with a hyphen. The pronouns me (m') and te (t') become moi and toi. In the negative imperative the direct object pronoun stays before the verb.Regarde-moi! Look at me!Ne me regarde pas! Don't look at me!Mange le pain! Mange-le! Eat the bread! Eat it!Ne mange pas le pain! Ne le mange pas! Don't eat the bread! Don't eat it!Direct object pronouns preceded infinitives. In the negation, ne...pas gets wrapped around the modal verb and the direct object pronoun precedes the infinitive.Je vais manger le gâteau. Je vais le manger. I'm going to eat the cake. I'm going to eat it.Je ne vais pas manger la pizza. Je ne vais pas la manger. I'm not going to eat the pizza. I'm not going to eat it.SingularPluralme (m') menous uste (t's) you (familiar)vous you (you plural or formal)lui him, her (masculine)leur them (masculine or feminine)Indirect object pronouns are words used to replace nouns for verbs followed by the preposition à (to or at). For sentences covering "to" or "at me, you and us, there is no difference between the direct object pronoun. Here are some examples:Je te parle. I'm speaking to you.Vous me parlez. You're speaking to me.Ils vous parlent. They're speaking to you.Nous vous parlons. We're speaking to you.The following common verbs are all followed by à and thus take an indirect object pronoun.parler à quelqu'un to speak to somebodyrépondre à quelqu'un to answer, respond to somebodyécrire à quelqu'un to write to to write to somebodyThe following common verbs follow a similar format but include "something".donner quelque chose à quelqu'un to give something to somebodyenvoyer quelque chose à quelqu'un to send something to somebodyexpliquer quelque chose à quelqu'un to explain something to somebodydemander quelque chose à quelqu'un to ask somebody for somethingIndirect object pronouns for him, her and themThe indirect object pronouns for him, her and the are lui and leur. The word lui looks like it should be masculine only but it also means her. Here are some example sentences.Je parle à mon frère. Je lui parle. I speak to my brother. I speak to her.Je parle à ma sœur. Je lui parle. I speak to my sister. I speak to her.Je parle à mon frère et sœur. Je leur parle. I speak to my brother and sister. I speak to them.The negation rule for indirect object pronouns is the same as direct object pronouns. Wrap ne...pas around both the indirect object pronoun and the verb.Je ne parle pas à Marc. Je ne lui parle pas. I'm not speaking to Marc. I'm not speaking to him.Je ne parle pas à Marc et Sylvie. Je ne leur parle pas. I'm not speaking to Marc and Sylvie. I'm not speaking to them.Unlike direct object pronouns, there is no need to make the past participles agree in number and gender when the verb is preceded by the indirect object pronoun in the passé composé.J'ai parlé à Marc. Je lui ai parlé. I spoke to Marc. I spoke to him.J'ai parlé à Sylvie. Je lui ai parlé. I spoke to Sylvie. I spoke to her.In the affirmative imperative, the indirect object pronoun comes after the verb and is hyphenated. Me (m') becomes moi and te (t') becomes toi. In the negative imperative, the indirect object pronoun remains before the verb.Parle-moi! Speak to me!Ne me parle pas! Don't speak to me!Parle-lui! Speak to him!Ne lui parle pas! Don't speak to him.The same rules at applied for direct object pronouns and infinitives apply for indirect object pronouns. The pronoun comes before the infinitive and ne...pas gets wrapped around the modal verb.Je vais parler à Marc. Je vais lui parler. I'm going to speak to Marc. I'm going to speak to him.Je ne vais pas parler à Syvie. Je ne vais pas lui parler. I'm not going to speak to Sylvie. I'm not going to speak to her.The indirect object pronouns y and en are used to replace inanimate objects (ideas and things). Y is used to replace inanimate objects for verbs followed by à and en is used for inanimate objects for verbs followed by de.Je pense à ton idée. J'y pense. I'm thinking about your idea. I'm thinking about it.Je réponds à la question. J'y réponds. I'm answering the question. I'm answering it.Je m'habitue à la situation. Je m'y habitue. I'm getting used to the situation. I'm getting used to it.Je parle de la situation. J'en parle. I talk about the situation. I talk about it.J'ai besoin de l'ordinateur. J'en ai besoin. I need the computer. I need it.Je me souviens de mes vacances. Je m'en souviens. I remember my vacation. I remember it.The indirect object pronouns y and en have many common usages.In association with verb aller (to go), y means there. For example, "Je vais à la banque" becomes "J'y vais" for "I go there". Both "Vas-y" and "Allez-y" mean "Go ahead" when telling somebody to speak or move ahead in line, for example, The verb vouloir (to want) is often followed by "de + noun" when using the partitive article. For example, "Je veux du fromage" (I want some cheese), "Je veux de la soupe" (I want some soup) or "Je veux des fraises" (I want some strawberries). For all these sentences, "J'en veux" means "I want some" The verb faire (to make, do) is followed by "de + noun" as well.For example, "Je fais du yoga". (I do yoga), "Je fais de la méditation" and "Je fais des exercices" (I do exercises). For all of these sentences, "J'en fais" means "I do it".When two object pronouns occur in the same sentence, the rule is for the indirect object pronoun to appear before the direct object pronoun.The exception to this rule is when there are when both direct and indirect object pronouns appear in the third-person. In this situation, the direct object pronoun precedes the indirect object pronoun.This can be summarized in the following table:mete, l'luisebeforela, l'beforeleurbefore ybeforeennous lesvous The following example sentences are indirect object pronoun followed by direct object pronoun.Il me donne la pizza -> Il me la donne. He gives me the pizza. He gives it to me.Je vous envoie la lettre. -> Je vous l'envoie. I send you the letter. -> I send it to you.Il nous dit la vérité. -> Il nous la dit. He tells us the truth. -> He tells it to us.The following example sentences have both the direct and indirect object pronouns in the third-person.Il explique la situation à son ami. -> Il la lui explique. He explains the situation to his friend. He explains it to him.Elle offre le cadeau à son fils. -> Elle le lui offre. She offers a gift to her son. She offers it to him.Il sert un repas à ses amis. Il le leur sert. He serves a meal to his friends. He serves it to them.The following example sentences use y and en. When in doubt on the order of the object pronouns, use the table above.Elle m'amène à la plage -> Elle m'y amène. She brings me to the beach. -> She brings me there.Il te donne du fromage. -> Il t'en donne. He gives you (some) cheese. -> He gives you some.French grammar | Lessons by David Issokson PrevPrevious10 Mots du Jour – L'école – School Next10 Mots du Jour – Apprendre – LearningNext To tell more terse and precise stories, object pronouns are a must. That said, using object pronouns with the passé composé requires some extra attention. In the passé composé, direct and indirect object pronouns are placed in front of the conjugated auxiliary. The forms of the indirect object pronouns are the same as in the present tense. Contraction can occur. e.g. Elle a trouvé mon chapeau. -> Elle l'a trouvé. She found my hat. -> She found it. Tu as demandé au client ? -> Tu lui as demandé ? You asked the client? -> You asked him/her? Le prince, l'avez-vous vu ? The prince, did you see him? When the direct object of a verb in the passé composé is in front of the verb, the verb's past participle needs to agree with the direct object according to grammatical gender and grammatical number. This is commonly seen when using direct object pronouns, since they are always placed in front of their corresponding verb in the passé composé. There is no agreement, however, for indirect objects that are placed in front of their verb in the passé composé. e.g. Singular Plural Masculine Direct Object Nous l'avons mangé. Nous les avons mangés. Feminine Direct Object Nous l'avons mangée. Nous les avons mangées. Although this agreement doesn't change the pronunciation of past participles of -er verbs, it can have an influence on the pronunciation of other verbs whose past participles end in a consonant. e.g. Singular Plural Masculine Direct Object Il l'a fait. /fɛ/ Il les a faits. /fɛ/ Feminine Direct Object Il l'a faite. /fɛt/ Il les a faites. /fɛt/ The verb 'devoir' undergoes a slight spelling change when agreement occurs, however this doesn't impact pronunciation. e.g. Singular Plural Masculine Direct Object Il l'a dû. /dy/ Il les a dus. /dy/ Feminine Direct Object Il l'a due. /dy/ Il les a dues. /dy/ For reciprocal verbs, it is necessary to identify if the object pronoun is acting as a direct or indirect object, since direct objects found in front of their verb will require agreement in the passé composé, and indirect objects will not. Looking at the rest of the sentence may help determine the reciprocal pronoun's role, but, for many of these verbs, it is a question of memory. e.g. Elles se sont vues. They saw each other. (voir qqn.) Elles se sont téléphoné. They called each other. (téléphoner à qqn.) When object pronouns are used in negative sentences, they are placed directly in front of the auxiliary, in between the two negative particles. If the second negative particle is one that can move to another part of the sentence, the object pronouns does not move; it stays behind the first negative particle. e.g. Le chiot ? Non, ils ne l'ont pas acheté. The puppy? No, they didn't buy it. La grande tortue ? Malheureusement, je ne l'ai pas encore vue. The big turtle? Unfortunately, I haven't seen it yet. Personne ne leur a demandé. No one asked them. PrevPrevious10 Mots du Jour – L'école – School Next10 Mots du Jour – Apprendre – LearningNext