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aussprechen.wachsgewachsenDie Blumen sind nach dem letzten Regen gewachsen.wanderngewandertWir sind im Urlaub viel gewandert.wegfahrenweggefahrenNach dem Streit ist er einfach weggefahren.weggehenweggegangenMeine Hautrötung ist weggegangen.werdengewordenDein Kind ist großgeworden.zurechtkommenzurechtgekommenWir sind in der Schweiz gut zureckgekommen.zurückgehenzurückgegangenDas Fieber ist zurückgegangen.zurückkommenzurückgekommenDer Krebs ist zurückgekommen.zusammenbleibenzusammengebliebenSie sind trotz regelmäßigen Streits zusammengeblieben. Es gibt einige Verben, deren Perfektzeitform sich mit dem Hilfsverb "haben" und "sein" bilden lassen. Welches Hilfsverb du verwenden musst, hängt von der Bedeutung des Verbs im Satz und vom Subjekt ab. Hier einige Beispiele für dich: Verb in der GrundformHilfsverb im Partizip IIBeispielsatzbiegenhabengebogenIch habe das Eisen gebogen.brechenhabengebrochenEr hat sich das Bein gebrochen.brechenseingeschlagenDas Bein ist gebrochen.fangenhabengefangenSie haben den Ball gefangen.fangenseingeschlagenEr ist im Haus gefangen.frierenhabengefrorenWir haben im Winter gefroren.frierenseingeschfrorenDas Eis ist gefroren.schleichenhabengeschlichenSie haben den Diamanten geschliffen.schleifenseingeschlichenDer Diamant ist geschliffen.schmelzenhabengeschmolzenWir haben Schokolade geschmolzen.schmelzenseingeschmolzenDie Schokolade ist geschmolzen.stoßenhabengestoßenEr hat mich von der Leiter gestoßen.stoßenseingesstoßenWir sind zur Gruppe gestoßen.streichenshabengestrichenSie haben die Wand in Rot gestrichen.streichenseingeschrittenDie Wand ist gestrichen.verderbenhabenverdorbenInhr habt uns den Abend verdorben.verderbenseinverdorbenDie Apfel sind verdorben.ListePDFDiese Liste auch als PDF downloaden:Perfekt Verben ListePDF Weitere hilfreiche Grammatik-Listen habe ich hier für dich zusammengestellt: Adjektive steigern ListeAdverbien ListeDeutsche Wörter Konjunktionen ListeNomen-Komposita ListeNomen-Verbindungen ListePräpositionen ListePronomen ListeReflexive Verben ListeStarke Verben ListeTrematika Verben ListeUnregelmäßige Verben ListeVerben mit Akkusativ ListeVerben mit Dativ ListeVerben mit Dativ und Akkusativ ListeVerben mit Präpositionen ListeZusammengesetzte Adjektive Liste The German perfect tense (Präteritum), which is often reserved for written language and describes actions entirely in the past. The Perfekt, by comparison, dominates spoken German, making it an essential tense for conversational fluency.1. Connection to the Present: The Perfekt highlights past actions that are relevant or have ongoing implications in the present.Example: Ich habe das Buch gekauft. (I have bought the book.)2. Structure of the Sentence: A unique feature of the Perfekt is the placement of the past participle at the end of the sentence. This word order is characteristic of German grammar and may take some adjustment for English speakers.Example: Wir haben gestern Fußball gespielt. (We played soccer yesterday.)3. Use of Auxiliary Verbs: The German past tense is formed with the past participle of the verb.Example: Sie ist nach Hause gegangen. (She went home.)The perfect tense is the most used past tense in spoken German. It is also used to express completed actions in the past, especially in daily conversations, storytelling, and personal experiences. Key Reasons to Learn the Perfect Tense: Essential for Success: Native speakers use the Perfekt instead of the simple past in many situations. Whether talking about past experiences, past events, you need it to express yourself naturally.Easy to Learn: The structure is consistent, use an auxiliary verb (haben or sein) with the past participle at the end.Used in Exams & Writing: Understanding it is important for language exams, formal writing, and comprehension tests.Foundation for Advanced Tenses: Learning this tense makes it easier to understand the past perfect (Plusquamperfekt) and future perfect (Futur II).Example SentencesIch habe Deutsch gelernt. (I have learned German.)Er ist nach Hause gegangen. (He went home.)The perfect tense is a must-have skill for any German learner aiming for fluency.How to conjugate regular verbs in the present perfect tense in GermanOne of the intriguing aspects of the Perfekt is its composition. It's formed by combining an auxiliary verb (either 'haben' or 'sein') with the past participle of the main verb.The Perfekt is conjugated by using a form of haben (to have) or sein (to be) at the 2nd position of a main clause and the past participle at the end of the sentence.ExamplesDas Mädchen hat über den Witz gelacht. The girl has laughed at the joke.Der Student ist nach Hause gefahren. The student has gone home.Learning the perfect tense in German has never been easier with the help of our blog article.Understanding the Role of the German verbs Haben and SeinIn German, the two auxiliary verbs, 'haben' (to have) and 'sein' (to be), are fundamental to forming the perfect tense. The choice between 'haben' and 'sein' often depends on the main verb's action and can significantly alter the sentence's meaning.These auxiliaries aren't just arbitrary choices; they are deeply rooted in the semantics of the sentence. Typically, 'haben' is used with transitive verbs (verbs that require a direct object). However, 'sein' is typically reserved for intransitive verbs and denotes movement (like 'gehen' – to go) or a change of state (such as 'werden' – to become).When to use seinLocomotion: If you can go/move from A to B, These are often verbs of movement e.g. swim, run, jump, go, drive/The verbs "to happen": passieren/geschehenChange of a condition: e.g. Das Eis ist geschmolzen. The ice is melted.ExamplesIch habe die Aufgabe gemacht. I have done the task.Du hast dem Studenten geholfen. You have helped the student.Inge hat lange gelesen. Inge has read for a long time.Forming the past participle (Partizip ii) of the PerfektThe past participle form is formed by adding a "ge" and "t" to the word stem for regular verbs (weak verbs). Examples: lachen (laugh) = gelacht machen (make) = gemacht German Irregular verbsThere are two kinds of irregular verbs: strong verbs or mixed verbs for the perfect in German. The strong verbs have an "en" ending instead of an "t". Examples: fahren (to drive) = gefahren/fangen (catch) = gefangen/rufen (call) = gerufen Mixed verbs have a change of the vowel and are more difficult to form. These verbs change their verb stem.Examples: denken = gedacht/geholfenIt makes sense to learn the irregular verbs. Here is a good list.How to use the perfect with separable verbsVerbs with separable prefixes are using for example one of these prefixes: ab, auf, aus, bei, ein, her, hin, herunter, mit, nach, um, weg, zuNormally the Perfekt is created by placing a "ge" after the prefix and a "t" or "en" at the end. The same rules are applied here: In case the verb is regular, then a "t" is placed at the end – machen = gemacht/ausmachen = ausgemachtExamples: Der Student ist von der Party weggegangen. The student has left the party.Der Bus ist um 8 Uhr abgefahren. The bus has left at 8 o'clock.Die Freunde haben über den Urlaub nachgedacht. The friends have been thinking about the vacation.Die Mutter hat das Licht ausgemacht. The mother has turned off the light.Modal verbsThe present perfect differs for Modal verbs in German. "haben" + "infinitive" + "infinitive of modal verb" Examples: Der Schüler hat die Aufgabe machen müssen. The students had to do the task.Die Studenten haben für die Klausur lernen müssen. The students had to study for the exam.Der Junge hat sein Zimmer aufräumen sollen. The boy was supposed to tidy his room.Note: It is not common to use the perfect tense with Modal verbs in German. People are using the simple past instead (also for English).Differences between spoken and written German languageIn the spoken language and informal German the perfect tense is used much more than the simple past. These two tenses are in English equally difficult. In German on the other hand, the simple past is more difficult because it has more irregular verbs.Common Mistakes and How to Avoid ThemMany learners make the same mistakes, which can lead to incorrect sentence structures or confusing meanings. Below are the most common mistakes and how to fix them.1. Using the Wrong Auxiliary Verb (Haben vs. Sein)Rule: Use haben for most verbs and sein for verbs indicating locomotion or a change of state. Incorrect: Ich bin Fußball gespielt. Correct: Ich habe Fußball gespielt. (I played soccer.) Incorrect: Er hat nach Hause gegangen. Correct: Er ist nach Hause gegangen. (He went home.)2. Misplacing the Past Participle Rule: In main clauses, the past participle goes at the end of the sentence. Incorrect: Ich habe gekauft ein Auto. Correct: Ich habe ein Auto gekauft. (I bought a car.)3. Forgetting to Add "ge." Regular Verbs Rule: Regular verbs in the perfect tense start with "ge-" and end with "-t". Incorrect: Ich habe lernte Deutsch. Correct: Ich habe Deutsch gelernt. (I learned German.)4. Incorrect Past Participle Formation for Irregular Verbs Rule: Irregular verbs have unique past participles that must be memorized. Incorrect: Ich habe ein Buch geschreibet. Correct: Ich habe ein Buch geschrieben. (I wrote a book.)How to Avoid These Mistakes: Avoiding these common mistakes will help you use the perfect tense correctly and sound more natural in German conversations.Summary & Key Takeaways: The German perfect tense is essential for everyday conversations and is widely used in spoken German. Understanding its structure and rules will help you communicate past events clearly and accurately. Below are the key points covered in this guide: Usage: The perfect tense describes past events, especially in spoken German. Formation: It consists of an auxiliary verb (haben or sein) and the past participle. Choosing Haben or Sein: Haben is used for most verbs, including transitive verbs. Sein is used with verbs indicating motion from A to B or a change of state. Past Participle Formation: Regular verbs: Add "ge" at the beginning and "-t" at the end (e.g., machen → gemacht). Irregular verbs: Change the stem and end in -en (e.g., gehen → gegangen). Separable verbs: The "ge" comes between the prefix and the verb stem (e.g., aufmachen → aufgemacht). Modal Verbs in Perfekt: They follow a double infinitive structure (hat + infinitive + modal verb). When to Use Perfekt vs. Präteritum: Perfekt is preferred in spoken German. Präteritum is used more often in formal writing. FAQ: Why is the Perfekt important? It is important because people use it a lot in daily life. How is the past participle formed? Regular verbs add a "ge" plus a "t" to the word stem. How can I practise the German Perfect Tense in a quiz or in exercises? Take our can find a free quiz.