**Les verbes du passé composé qui utilisent “être”**

**Introduction:** we know that the past tense in French is usually composed of a form of *avoir* plus a *participle*.

*J’ai mangé. Il a perdu. Nous avons fini.*

Certain verbs in French do NOT use *avoir,* and instead use *être*. We have just a few verbs like this in English, but French has around 16.

*He has gone but also he is gone, he has risen but also**he is risen*

*Je suis arrivé- I have arrived, I did arrive, I arrived (literally: I am arrived)*

The verbs using être have in common that they are not actions that can be performed on a person or object.

Manger- *j’ai mangé une pomme*. I ate an apple, the apple had “manger” done to it.

Arriver- *je suis arrivé.* I cannot “arrive” someone, it is just my state- I am here.

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| **Verbs Using Être: Dr. and Mrs. Vandertramp** | |
| Devenir |  |
| Revenir |  |
| & |  |
| Monter |  |
| Rester |  |
| Sortir |  |
| . |  |
| Venir |  |
| Aller |  |
| Naître |  |
| Descendre |  |
| Entrer |  |
| Rentrer |  |
| Tomber |  |
| Retourner |  |
| Arriver |  |
| Mourir |  |
| Partir |  |

**Differences from the passé composé with avoir**

Because the passé composé with *être* is essentially using the participle to describe the status of the subject, the participle more or less qualifies as an adjective. This means it will agree in gender and number with the subject it describes.

For a masculine and singular subject, add no ending. *Mangé, vendu, fini*

For a feminine and singular subject, add –e. *Mangée, vendue, finie*

For a masculine plural subject, add –s. *Mangés, vendus, finis.*

For a feminine plural subject, add –es. *Mangées, vendues, finies.*

All of those endings are silent when spoken.

**Practiquons!**

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| Translate from French to English. Give all 3 meanings. | |
| 1. Je suis retourné. |  |
| 1. Elle est arrivée. |  |
| 1. Nous sommes partis. |  |
| 1. Il est né le 5 octobre. |  |
| 1. Elles sont allées aux toilettes. |  |
| 1. Vous n’êtes pas venu. |  |
| 1. Tu es sortie. |  |

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| Translate from English to French. | |
| 1. He went down. |  |
| 1. She fell. |  |
| 1. I stayed. |  |
| 1. The teacher became mean. |  |
| 1. She died. |  |
| 1. We entered. |  |
| 1. They went. |  |