

Perfect tense overview

Formation:

- Begin with the third principle part. (ex.: amāvī, vīdī)
- Drop the –i to get the perfect stem. (amav-, vid-)
- You do not have to worry about the correct vowel because the vowel is built into the perfect ending and does not change.
- Add the perfect endings:

Person/#	Perfect endings	Amo, -are, amav-ī	video, -ere, vīd-ī	Present endings
I	-ī	amāv-ī	vīd-ī	-o
you	-istī	amāv-istī	vīd-istī	-s
s/he	-it	amāv-it	vīd-it	-t
we	-imus	amāv-imus	vīd-imus	-mus
you pl.	-istis	amāv-istis	vīd-istis	-tis
they	-ērunt	amāv-ērunt	vīd-ērunt	-nt

Often perfect stems are irregular, but there are some common patterns:

1st conjugation

- nearly always –āvī
 - amō, -āre, amāvī
 - laudō, -āre, laudāvī
- some exceptions:
 - dō, dare, dedī
 - stō, stāre, stetī
 - (ad)iuvō, -āre, iuvi

2nd conjugation:

- often –ui
 - teneō, -ēre, tenuī
 - habeō, habēre, habuī
- but not always

- (re)maneō, -eēre, mānsī
- sedeō, -ēre, sēdī
- videō, -ēre, vīdī
- vincō, -ēre, vīcī

3rd: lots of variation, but some patterns

- **-s added to present stem or replacing elements (sometimes creating an x):**
 - scribō, -ere, scrīpsī
 - dīcō, -ere, dīxī (dic-si)
 - ducō, -ere, duxī (duc-si)
 - iungō, -ere, iunxī
 - mittō, -ere, mīsī
 - trahō, -ere, traxī

4th conjugation

- often -īvi
 - dormiō, -īre, dormīvī
 - audiō, -īre, audīvī
- often -ī plus lengthened vowel
 - veniō, -īre, vēnī
 - sentiō, -īre, sensī
- vēnī, vīdī, vīcī

Irregular:

sum, esse, fui

possum, posse, potui

<i>Person #</i>	<i>sum, esse, fui</i>	<i>possum, posse, potui</i>
I	fui	potui
you	fuisti	potuisti
s/he, it	fuit	potuit
we	fuimus	potuimus
you	fuistis	potuistis
they	fuerunt	potuerunt

Meanings:

<i>Imperfect</i>	<i>Perfect</i>
1. long-term states 2. repeated actions 3. continuous actions	1. things that happened suddenly or at once 2. one-time events 3. things that happened in the past but are no longer the case

Perfect and Pluperfect forms

	<i>Perfect</i>	<i>Pluperfect</i>	<i>Future Perfect</i>
<i>I</i>	-ī	-eram	-ero
<i>you</i>	-istī	-erās	-eris
<i>s/he, it</i>	-it	-erat	-erit
<i>we</i>	-imus	-erāmus	-erimus
<i>you</i>	-istis	-erātis	-eritis
<i>they</i>	-ērunt	-erant	-erint

Perfect and Pluperfect (Example)

	<i>Perfect</i>	<i>Pluperfect</i>	<i>Future Perfect</i>
<i>I</i>	mīs-ī	mīs--eram	mīs--erō
<i>you</i>	mīs--istī	mīs--eras	mīs--eris
<i>s/he, it</i>	mīs--it	mīs--erat	mīs--erit
<i>we</i>	mīs--imus	mīs--eramus	mīs--erimus
<i>you</i>	mīs--istis	mīs--eratis	mīs--eritis
<i>they</i>	mīs--ērunt	mīs--erant	mīs--erint

Pluperfect: had ___ed

Future perfect: will have ___ed.

(But really, seldom translated that way.)

- si Quintus ad casam nunc venerit, amicum carum videbit.
- si fratres me adiuverint, eos laudabo.