VERBS & TENSES

Subject pronouns
je (j') - I
tu – you (singular)
il - he
elle - she
nous - we
vous – you (plural + polite)
ils – they (masculine)

Infinitives

acheter (to buy)
adorer (to love)
aimer (to like)
aller (to go)
arriver (to arrive)
attendre (to wait)
avoir (to have)
bavarder (to chat)
boire (to drink)
choisir (to choose)
danser (to dance)
demander (to ask)
détester (to hate)
dire (to say)
écouter (to listen)
être (to be)
faire (to do / to make)
finir (to finish)
habiter (to live)
jouer (to play)
lire (to read)
manger (to eat)
mettre (to put)
nager (to swim)
parler (to speak)
pêcher (to go fishing)
perdre (to lose)
pouvoir (to be able to)
prendre (to take)
regarder (to watch)
répondre (to answer)
rester (to stay)
retrouver (to meet up with)
savoir (to know)
se laver (to have a wash)
sortir (to go out)
tourner (to turn)
travailler (to work)
trouver (to find)
visiter (to visit a place)
voir (to see)
vouloir (to want)

The infinitive is the basic form of the verb (as you would find it in the dictionary). In English it starts with "to" (eg to think). In French it ends in -er or -ir or -re (eg jou**er**, fini**r**, attend**re**)
The stem is the infinitive without the last two letters (eg jou.. , fin.. , attend..)

Present tense : what is happening now or usually happens

remove the –er / -ir / -re before adding the correct ending.

subject + stem + present ending
1 2 3

Present endings:	-er verbs	-ir verbs	-re verbs
je	…e	…is	…s
tu	…es	…is	…s
il/elle	…e	…it	…-
nous	…ons	…issons	…ons
vous	…ez	…issez	…ez
ils/elles	…ent	…issent	…ent

exemples : Je mange une glace. (I am eating **or** I eat an ice-cream)
Elle achète un CD. (She is buying **or** she buys a CD)
Nicole finit ses devoirs (Nicole is finishing **or** finishes her homework)
Nicole et Tom attendent le bus (Nicole and Tom are waiting **or** wait for the bus

Perfect tense (past) : what has happened

subject + auxiliary + past participle

	avoir **or** être	
j' / je	ai	suis
tu	as	es
il/elle	a	est
nous	avons	sommes
vous	avez	êtes
ils/elles	ont	sont

use **être** for Mrs Van Der Tramp Verbs

-er verbs :
jouer→***joué***

-ir verbs :
finir→***fini***

-re verbs :
attendre→***attendu***

Mrs Van Der Tramp Verbs:
monté (went up)
retourné (went back)
sorti (went out)
venu (came)
allé (went)
né (was born)
descendu (went down)
entré (went in)
rentré (went home)
tombé (fell)
resté (stayed)
arrivé (arrived)
mort (died)
parti (left)

Irregular Past participles:
dit (said)
écrit (wrote)
fait (did/made)
ouvert (opened)
bu (drank)
lu (read)
vu (saw)
eu (had)
été (was)

exemples: J'ai mangé une glace. (I ate an ice-cream)
Elle a acheté un CD. (she bought a CD)
Nicole a fini ses devoirs. (Nicole finished her hwk)
Nicole et Tom ont attendu le bus. (Nicole and Tom waited for the bus)
Je suis allé(e) au cinéma (I went to the cinema)

Imperfect tense (past) : the "was …ing", "were …ing" or "used to" tense

-er & **-re** verbs : remove the –er/-re off the infinitive then add the correct imperfect ending onto it.
-ir verbs : remove the –ir off the infinitive, add –iss, then add the correct imperfect ending onto it.

Imperfect endings: je …ais, tu …ais, il/elle …ait, nous …ions, vous …iez, ils/elles …aient

exemples : Je mangeais une glace. (I was eating an ice-cream **or** I used to eat an ice-cream)
Elle achetait un CD. (She was buying a CD **or** she used to buy a CD)
Nicole finissait ses devoirs. (Nicole was finishing her homework **or** Nicole used to finish her homework)
Nicole et Tom attendaient le bus. (Nicole and Tom were waiting for the bus **or** Nicole and Tom used to wait for the bus)

subject + stem + imperfect ending
1 2 3

(**for -ir verbs**: subject + stem + -iss + imperfect ending
1 2 3 4)

Near Future : the "going to" tense

Use the correct form of aller then the infinitive.

subject + correct form of aller + infinitive
1 2 3

Aller: je vais, tu vas, il/elle va, nous allons, vous allez, ils/elles vont

exemples : Je vais manger une glace. (I'm going to eat an ice-cream)
Elle va acheter un CD. (She is going to buy a CD)
Nicole va finir ses devoirs. (nicole is going to finish her homework)
Nicole et Tom vont attendre le bus. (Nicole and Tom are going to wait for the bus)

Future tense : the "will" tense

-er & **-ir** verbs : Take the infinitive, add the correct future ending onto it.
-re verbs : remove the –e off the infinitive before adding the ending.

subject + infinitive + future ending
1 2 3

Future endings : je …ai, tu …as, il/elle …a, nous …ons, vous …ez, ils/elles …ont

exemples : Je mangerai une glace. (I will eat an ice-cream)
Elle achètera un CD. (She will buy a CD)
Nicole finira ses devoirs. (Nicole will finish her homework)
Nicole et Tom attendront le bus. (Nicole and Tom will wait for the bus)

Conditional tense : the "would" tense

-er & **-ir** verbs : Take the infinitive, add the correct conditional ending onto it.
-re verbs : remove the –e off the infinitive before adding the ending.

subject + infinitive + conditional ending
1 2 3

Conditional endings : je …ais, tu …ais, il/elle …ait, nous …ions, vous …iez, ils/elles …aient

exemples : Je mangerais une glace. (I would eat an ice-cream)
Elle achèterait un CD. (She would buy a CD)
Nicole finirait ses devoirs. (Nicole would finish her homework)
Nicole et Tom attendraient le bus. (Nicole and Tom would wait for the bus)