**Teaching notes**

This resource is designed to enable students to consolidate their knowledge of the perfect tense with *être*. It assumes that students will already have been taught the perfect tense with *avoir* and *être* as the grammar notes are designed simply to recap on this. The worksheets also provide reading and translation practice within the context of customs and festivals of a Francophone country.

**Answers**

**Ex. A**

1. It takes place in Saint Pierre, in the south of the Reunion Island, which is an overseas department of France in the Indian Ocean.
2. It takes place every year in June.
3. It lasts three days.

**Ex. B**

1. Virginie and Sandra
2. Léa
3. Robert and Carla
4. Thomas
5. Léa
6. Virgine and Sandra
7. Hubert
8. Robert and Carla

**Ex. C** je suis allé, nous (ne) sommes (pas) rentrées, je suis allée, je me suis endormie, (il) est monté, le festival est parti, nous (y) sommes allés.

**Ex. D 1.** allée **2.** descendu **3.** partis **4.** nées **5.** entrés **6.** partis **7.** arrivée **8.** restés

**Ex E**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | Maria went to the festival de Sakifo. |
| 2 | Joseph got off the train to go to the concert. |
| 3 | Manuela and Christophe left early after the party. |
| 4 | The twin sisters in the band were born in January. |
| 5 | My brothers got into the stadium without a ticket. |
| 6 | My friends left without me! |
| 7 | My daughter arrived at the theatre at seven on the dot. |
| 8 | My parents stayed at the concert until the end. |

**Ex. F**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 = g | 2 = e | 3 = i | 4 = f | 5 = h | 6 = d | 7 = b | 8 = j | 9 = a | 10 = c |

**Reading**

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**Ex. A** Read the description of this music festival and answer the questions in English.

Le Festival de Sakifo (qui vient du français ‘ce qu'il faut’ et veut dire ‘satisfait’ en créole) est un festival de musique qui a lieu à Saint-Pierre, dans le sud de l'île de la Réunion, un département d’outre-mer\* français dans l'océan Indien. Le festival se produit chaque année au mois de juin. Il réunit des musiciens de plusieurs continents et leurs fans pour une fête qui dure trois jours.

*\*Overseas. France includes a number of overseas ‘departments’ or constituencies in the Caribbean, Indian Ocean and elsewhere.*

1. Where exactly does the festival take place (give as much detail as possible)?

1. When and how often does the festival take place?

1. How long does the event last?

**Ex. B** Read the quotes below from fans of the festival. Who said what?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| «**C'était incroyable! Il y avait mon groupe préféré, Les Wampas, et je suis allé les voir!**» Thomas | |  |
|  | «**Il y avait tellement de gens - c'était génial! Nous ne sommes pas rentrées de la nuit!**» Virginie et Sandra | |
| «**Je suis allée au festival avec toutes mes amies. C'était super mais fatigant! Le lendemain, je me suis endormie sur la plage.**» Léa | |  |
|  | «**Quand le chanteur Arthur H est monté sur scène, c'était le délire\*\*!**» Hubert | |
| «**Le festival est parti en tournée en Afrique du Sud en 2015, et nous y sommes allés pour voir des artistes anglophones. C'était vraiment un voyage inoubliable.**» Robert et Carla | |  |

*\*\*'le délire', literally, is 'delirium'. The crowd went wild, essentially.*

1. We stayed out all night.
2. It was tiring.
3. We watched English speaking singers.
4. I went to see my favourite group.
5. The next day, I fell asleep on the beach.
6. There were so many people.
7. The crowd went wild.
8. It was an unforgettable trip.

**Ex. C** Re-read the quotes in Ex. B and underline or highlight all the verbs in the perfect tense (used to describe completed actions), e.g. *je suis allé* = I went.

**Grammar notes: the perfect tense (*passé composé*) with *être***

Do you remember how to form the perfect tense for verbs which take *avoir*?

**1.** Take the present tense of *avoir* **2.** Add the past participle

J'ai mangé

Tu as choisi

Il/Elle/On a vendu

Nous avons bu

Vous avez lu

Ils/Elles ont regardé

However some verbs take *être* in the perfect tense (reflexive verbs and the 13 action verbs in the table below) and in this case the past participles need to ‘agree’ with the person/people doing the action.

Thomas

Masculine singular: je suis *allé*

Léa

Feminine singular: je suis *allée*

Robert et Carla

Masculine plural: nous sommes *allés* (mixed gender group = masc. agreement)

Virginie et Sandra

Feminine plural: nous sommes *allées*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Verbs which take *être*** | **Past participles** |
| **M**onter  **R**etourner  **S**ortir  **V**enir (also: revenir, devenir)  **A**ller  **N**aître  **D**escendre  **E**ntrer  **R**entrer  **T**omber  **R**ester  **A**rriver  **M**ourir  **P**artir | monté(e)(s)  retourné(e)(s)  sorti(e)(s)  (re/de)venu(e)(s)  allé(e)(s)  né(e)(s)  descendu(e)(s)  entré(e)(s) rentré(e)(s)  tombé(e)(s)  resté(e)(s)  arrivé(e)(s)  mort(e)(s)  parti(e)(s) |

Try remembering these thirteen verbs using the acronym MRS VAN DER TRAMP.

**Ex. D** Using the verbs in brackets, write the correct past participle in the gaps, remembering to check the agreements.

* 1. Maria est \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ au festival de Sakifo. (aller)
  2. Joseph est \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ du train pour aller au concert. (descendre)
  3. Manuela et Christophe sont \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ de bonne heure après la fête. (partir)
  4. Les sœurs jumelles dans le groupe sont \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ en janvier. (naître)
  5. Mes frères sont \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ dans le stade sans billet. (entrer)
  6. Mes copains sont \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ sans moi! (partir)
  7. Ma fille est \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ au théâtre à sept heures pile. (arriver)
  8. Mes parents sont \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ au concert jusqu’à la fin. (rester)

**Ex. E** Translate the eight sentences from Ex. D into English.



**Ex. F** Match the following French sentences to the English by completing the answer grid. They all use reflexive verbs with *être* in the perfect tense.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 = g | 2 = | 3 = | 4 = | 5 = | 6 = | 7 = | 8 = | 9 = | 10 = |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | Je me suis endormie sur la plage le lendemain. | **a** | My parents didn't get too cross. |
| **2** | Mon frère s'est débrouillé pour trouver des billets. | **b** | The band played until they were exhausted (literally 'did themselves in'). |
| **3** | La foule s'est vraiment animée. | **c** | I really let off steam at the concert. |
| **4** | Mes copains se sont perdus dans la foule. | **d** | My sister found herself on stage. |
| **5** | Mon amie s'est coupée le pied sur du verre brisé. | **e** | My brother (somehow) managed to get tickets. |
| **6** | Ma soeur s'est trouvée sur scène. | **f** | My friends got lost in the crowd. |
| **7** | Le groupe s'est défoncé. | **g** | I fell asleep on the beach the next day. |
| **8** | La musique s'est arrêtée à minuit. | **h** | My friend cut her foot on some broken glass. |
| **9** | Mes parents ne se sont pas trop fâchés. | **i** | The crowd got really fired up / lively. |
| **10** | Je me suis bien défoulé au concert. | **j** | The music stopped at midnight. |

**Ex. G** Find out the meanings of the 10 reflexive verbs used in ex. E. They are listed below in the infinitive form.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| s'endormir | to fall asleep | se trouver |  |
| se débrouiller |  | se défoncer |  |
| s'animer |  | s'arrêter |  |
| se perdre |  | se fâcher |  |
| se couper |  | se défouler |  |

**Ex. H** Use and adapt some of the sentences from the previous exercises to write a short description of a festival or cultural event you have attended in your exercise book. If you haven’t been to a festival, you can make it up!