

Gestern **sind** wir in Granada **angekommen** und **haben** gleich die Alhambra **besichtigt**.

We arrived in Granada yesterday and immediately went to see the Alhambra.

20.2 Formation

The perfect is formed from the present tense of **haben**, or less often **sein**, plus the past participle of the verb. The past participle is placed at the end of a simple sentence or main clause.

■ 20.2.1 Most verbs form the perfect with **haben**.

Singular

1. ich **habe**
2. du **hast**
3. er/sie/es **hat**

Plural

1. wir **haben**
2. ihr **habt**
3. sie/Sie **haben**

}	gestern gearbeitet	<i>I</i>	}	<i>worked yesterday</i>
		<i>you</i>		
		<i>he/she/it</i>		
		<i>we</i>		
		<i>you</i>		
		<i>they/ you (formal)</i>		

■ 20.2.2 Most verbs forming the perfect with **sein** are strong verbs.

Singular

1. ich **bin**
2. du **bist**
3. er/sie/es **ist**

Plural

1. wir **sind**
2. ihr **seid**
3. sie/Sie **sind**

}	gestern angekommen	<i>I</i>	}	<i>arrived yesterday</i>
		<i>you</i>		
		<i>he/she/it</i>		
		<i>we</i>		
		<i>you</i>		
		<i>they/ you (formal)</i>		

Sein is used with some common verbs which express either a change of place or a change of state:

Er ist nach Hause	}	gegangen.	}	<i>went</i>	}	<i>home.</i>
		gefahren.		<i>drove</i>		
		geflogen.		<i>flew</i>		
Das Licht ist ausgegangen.				<i>The light went out.</i>		
Sie ist gestern gestorben.				<i>She died yesterday.</i>		

Other verbs taking **sein** include **bleiben** (*to stay*), **gelingen** (*to succeed*), **geschehen** (*to happen*), **passieren** (*to happen*), **sein** (*to be*).

20.3 Formation of the past participle

■ 20.3.1 The past participle of weak verbs is usually formed by adding **ge-** before and **-t** after the verb stem, or **-et** if the stem ends in **-d** or **-t** or in **-m** or **-n** preceded by a consonant other than **l** or **r**:

machen (<i>to make</i>)	ge- + mach + -t → gemacht
reden (<i>to talk</i>)	ge- + red + -et → geredet
öffnen (<i>to open</i>)	ge- + öffn + -et → geöffnet

The **ge-** is omitted if the verb ends in **-ieren**:

telefonieren (*to phone*) telefonier + **-t** → telefoniert

■ 20.3.2 Strong verbs add **ge-** before and **-en** after the verb stem:

lesen (*to read*) **ge-** + les + **-en** → gelesen

In many strong verbs the verb stem has vowel changes and sometimes also consonant changes (see 34.3):

gehen (*to go*) **ge-** + gang + **-en** → gegangen

■ 20.3.3 Irregular weak verbs (mixed verbs) add **ge-** and **-t** like the weak verbs, but have a vowel change like many strong verbs (see 34.3):

kennen (*to know*) **ge-** + kann + **-t** → gekannt