

Unit 4 – Talents and experience (Grammar)

→ How to express TALENTS and SKILLS (exprimer ses talents et ses compétences)

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|--|--|
| I can dance very well | - I excel at languages |
| I am excellent at playing the saxophone | - I am able to <u>help</u> someone in need. |
| My main strength is my sense of balance | - I know how to <u>look</u> after children. |
| My main assets are my dynamism and my serious attitude. | - I am very good at acrobatics |

Capacity

PAST	PRESENT	FUTURE
I could I was able to I was good at ...	I can (+ infinitif) I am able to (+infinitif) I am good at (+nom) I am good/excellent (+V ing)	I will be able to ... I will be able to ... I will be good at ...
I knew how to My main assets WERE	I know how to (+infinitif) My main assets are ...and ... (+noms)	I will know how to ... My main assets will be

→ How to talk about one's EXPERIENCE (parler de ses experiences)

On utilise le PRESENT PERFECT pour parler **d'une expérience, de ce qu'on a déjà fait ou jamais fait jusqu'à présent**. Attention, **au present perfect, on ne doit pas donner de date** ! Sinon, c'est du prétérit (événement passé)

Il se construit comme suit: Sujet + HAVE / HAS + participe passé

Le participe passé se forme en ajoutant ED au RADICAL, ou en utilisant la 3 ème colonne de la liste des verbes irréguliers.

Il s'utilise avec les adverbes suivants :

- | | |
|---|--|
| ever (déjà -> question) | for+durée /since +date (depuis) |
| already (déjà -> affirmation) | so far (jusqu'à présent) |
| never | not...yet (pas...encore) |
| how long have you... ? (ça fait combien de temps que...) | just (juste de...) |
| before (en fin de phrase) = avant, auparavant. | |

Exercice 1 - Complete the application letter, putting the verbs in the right place, using the present perfect.

Organize – be – approve – give – work – be – visit

I _____ already _____ in a jazz club in New Orleans. I _____ always _____ interested in all sorts of music. I _____ also _____ dancing lessons. I _____ often _____ private receptions. All my bosses _____ satisfied with my performances. My current employer _____ of my choice to change jobs as this is a unique opportunity for me to work in New York. However, I _____ the U.S yet.

Exercice 2 - Translate with a present perfect

- Avez-vous déjà travaillé auparavant ? **Have you EVER worked before ?**
- Jusqu'à présent je n'ai jamais travaillé, mais j'ai déjà fait un stage (=an internship).
SO FAR, I have NEVER worked but I have ALREADY done an internship.
- Cela fait combien de temps que vous connaissez mon entreprise ? Je la connais depuis 2020, ça fait un an en fait.
How long have you known my company ? I have known it SINCE 2020, it's been a year actually.