

PASSÉ COMPOSÉ or IMPARFAIT?

Don't guess. Ask yourselves these questions before you choose your answer:

- Is there a trigger word to indicate one tense (e.g. hier, souvent)
- Did the action happen once or many times?
- Is this an interrupted action? (imparfait-or an interrupting action-passé compose)
- Is this a description?
- If the verb is avoir or être it will most likely be the Imparfait

After you decide which tense:

For Passé Composé

What is the helping verb?
Avoir or Être?

If it is être (VANDERTRAMP)

Is it a switch hitter?

-in this case it's really Avoir

If not, then it must agree with the subject.

For Imparfait

What infinitive am I using?

My stem must come from the NOUS

Present form

What is my imparfait ending?

*Remember all reflexive verbs take être in the
Passé compose and must agree.