

FRENCH FUTUR PROCHE (IN THE PAST)



Le Futur Proche (in the past)

ALLER (IMPERFECT) + INFINITIVE

When referring to something that was going to happen soon after the present moment in the past, ALLER is conjugated in the imperfect tense. It corresponds to “was (were) going to + infinitive” in English.

j'allais + infinitive	nous allions + infinitive
tu allais + infinitive	vous alliez + infinitive
il allait + infinitive elle allait + infinitive on allait + infinitive	ils allaient + infinitive elles allaient + infinitive

Observe the following sentences written in the *futur proche in the past*.

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- Mes amis **allaient** partir, mais ils ont raté leur bus.
- My friends were going to leave, but they missed their bus.
- Est-ce que tu **allais** m'appeler? Je croyais que tu m'avais oublié.
- Were you going to call me? I thought you had forgotten me.
- Christine **allait** apprendre le russe, mais elle a décidé qu'elle préfère la langue de Molière.
- Christine was going to learn Russian, but she decided that she prefers the language of Molière. (French, of course!)
- Vous **alliez** rater le train, mais vous avez pris la décision de griller tous les feux rouges.
- You were going to miss the train, but you made the decision to run all of the red lights.
- J'**allais** voir mon professeur, mais il était déjà parti. (PQP)
- I was going to see my teacher, but he had already left.

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- Les filles **allaient** commencer à faire le gâteau, mais elles se sont rendu compte qu'il n'y avait plus de farine.
- The girls were going to start making the cake, but they realized that there wasn't anymore flour.
- Nous **allions** terminer nos devoirs avant le dîner, mais notre série préférée passait à la télé.
- We were going to finish our homework before dinner, but our favorite show was on TV.

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