

Haben or Sein in the Perfect?

All transitive verbs (those which take a direct object in the accusative case) form the perfect tense with *haben*.

The only verbs which form the perfect tense with *sein* are those that are **intransitive** (ie do not take a direct object in the accusative case) **and** belong to one of the following groups:

A Verbs of motion (eg *fahren, fliegen, klettern, gehen*)

B Verbs expressing a change of state (eg *sterben, wachsen, einschlafen, schmelzen*).

C Most verbs meaning 'to happen', 'to succeed' or 'to fail':

begegnen, fehlschlagen, gelingen, geschehen, glücken, missglücken, misslingen, passieren, vorgehen, vorkommen, zustoßen

D The verbs *sein, bleiben* and *werden*