

Romanian verb conjugation

Conjugation types

There are four basic conjugation types in Romanian.

- Type 1 — verb infinitive ending in **-a**
- Type 2 — verb infinitive ending in **-ea**
- Type 3 — verb infinitive ending in **-e**
- Type 4 — verb infinitive ending in **-i** or **-î**

There are variations within each class. For instance, some type 3 verbs have past participles ending in *-ut* while others end in *-s*. More information on such differences can be found in the respective appendices for conjugation.

Moduri impersonale (Impersonal/Non-personal moods)

Infinitiv (Infinitive)

The infinitive is the basic form of a verb that you would find in a dictionary.

Prezent (Present)

Examples:

- **a iubi** — *to love*
- **a cânta** — *to sing*
- **a putea** — *to be able*
- **a spune** — *to say*

Trecut (Past)

The past infinitive is formed by combining **a fi** and the past participle of a verb. **Examples:**

- **a fi iubit** — *to have loved*
- **a fi cântat** — *to have sung*
- **a fi putut** — *to have been able*
- **a fi spus** — *to have said*

Gerunziu (Gerundive)

Examples:

- L-am auzit **cântând** — *I heard him **singing***
- L-am auzit **cântându-i** fetei — *I heard him **singing to the girl***
- L-am auzit **cântându-le** fetelor — *I heard him **singing to the girls***
- Am auzit-o **cântându-i** prietenului ei — *I heard him **singing to her friend***
- El cântă **folosind** cuvinte din limbi străine — *He **sings using** words from foreign languages*

As with the participle, gerunds are negated with the prefix "ne-".

Examples:

- Ea cântă **nefolosind** cuvinte din limbi străine — *She **sings without using** words from foreign languages*

Participiu (Past participle)

Positive

Examples:

- **cântat** — *sung*
- **vorbit** — *spoken*

Negative

Negative past participles are only used as adjectives. For instance, you can not say "eu am nevorbit" if you mean "I have not spoken." The correct way to say this would be "eu nu am (or n-am) vorbit."

Examples:

- **necântat** — *unsung*
- un cuvânt **nevorbit** — *an **unspoken** word*
- o melodie **necântată** — *an **unsung** melody*
- cuvintele **nevorbite** — *the **unspoken** words*

Adjectival usage

Past participles can also be used as adjectives. In these cases, they are declined in the same manner as 4-form adjectives.

- **cântati** — *sung (masculine plural)*

- **vorbită** — *spoken (feminine singular)*
- **necântat** — *unsung (masculine & neuter singular)*
- **nevorbite** — *unspoken (feminine & neuter plural)*

Supin (Supine)

The supine is formed simply by adding **de** before the past participle, although its use without "de" is possible, in which case it acts as a sort of noun.

- am nevoie de ceva **de mâncat** — *I need something to eat*
- dacă aveam **de ales** — *If I had to choose*

Moduri personale (Personal moods)

Indicativ (Indicative)

Prezent (Present)

present tense endings						
	singular			plural		
	first	second	third	first	second	third
type	eu	tu	el/ea	noi	voi	ei/ele
1. ex. <u>cânta</u>	- <u>cânt</u>	+i <u>cânți</u>	+ă <u>cântă</u>	+ăm <u>cântăm</u>	+ați <u>cântați</u>	+ă <u>cântă</u>
1. (-ez-) ex. <u>deranja</u>	+ez <u>deranjez</u>	+ezi <u>deranjezi</u>	+ează <u>deranjează</u>	+ăm <u>deranjăm</u>	+ați <u>deranjați</u>	+ează <u>deranjează</u>
2. ex. <u>vedea</u>	- <u>văd</u>	+i <u>vezi</u>	+e <u>vede</u>	+em <u>vedem</u>	+eți <u>vedeți</u>	- <u>văd</u>
3. ex. <u>plânge</u>	- <u>plâng</u>	+i <u>plângi</u>	+e <u>plânge</u>	+em <u>plângem</u>	+eți <u>plângeți</u>	- <u>plâng</u>
4. i ex. <u>dormi</u>	- <u>dorm</u>	+i <u>dormi</u>	+e <u>doarme</u>	+im <u>dormim</u>	+iți <u>dormiți</u>	- <u>dorm</u>
4. i (-esc-) ex. <u>vorbi</u>	+esc <u>vorbesc</u>	+ești <u>vorbești</u>	+ește <u>vorbește</u>	+im <u>vorbim</u>	+iți <u>vorbiți</u>	+esc <u>vorbesc</u>
4. î ex. <u>omori</u>	- <u>omor</u>	+i <u>omori</u>	+ă <u>omeară</u>	+âm <u>omoram</u>	+ați <u>omorați</u>	- <u>omor</u>
4. î (-ăsc-) ex. <u>urî</u>	+ăsc <u>urăsc</u>	+ășți <u>urășți</u>	+ăște <u>urăște</u>	+âm <u>urâm</u>	+ați <u>urâți</u>	+ăsc <u>urăsc</u>

- eu **cânt** — *I sing, I am singing*
- tu **cânti** — *you sing, you are singing*
- eu **citesc** — *I read, I am reading*
- el **citește** — *he reads, he is reading*

Imperfect (Imperfect)

imperfect endings					
singular			plural		
first	second	third	first	second	third
eu	tu	el/ea	noi	voi	ei/ele
-am	-ai	-a	-am	-ați	-au

Examples:

- eu **cântam** — *I was singing*
- tu **cântai** — *you were singing*
- eu **citeam** — *I was reading*
- el **citea** — *he was reading*

Mai mult ca perfect (Pluperfect)

pluperfect endings					
singular			plural		
first	second	third	first	second	third
eu	tu	el/ea	noi	voi	ei/ele
-sem	-seși	-se	-serăm	-serăți	-seră

note that in all cases except for the 1st person singular, the pluperfect is formed by adding -se- before the preterite ending.

Examples:

- eu **cântasem** — *I had sung*
- tu **cântasesi** — *you had sung*
- eu **citisem** — *I had read*
- el **citise** — *he had read*

Viitorul indicativ (Future indicative)

Viitor I (Future)

future auxiliaries					
singular			plural		
first	second	third	first	second	third
eu	tu	el/ea	noi	voi	ei/ele
<u>voi</u>	<u>vei</u>	<u>va</u>	<u>vom</u>	<u>veți</u>	<u>vor</u>

The above auxiliaries are used with infinitives to form the literary future.

Examples:

- eu **voi cânta** — *I will sing*
- ei **vor cânta** — *they will sing*

[edit]Viitor 2 (Future perfect)

The future perfect is formed by using the above auxiliaries with **fi** and the past participle.

Examples:

- eu **voi fi cântat** — *I will have sung*
- ei **vor fi cântat** — *they will have sung*

Future (Viitor popular)

Popular 1

The first type of popular future is formed simply by adding "o" to the subjunctive form of a verb.

Examples:

- el **o să cânte** ceva pentru noi — *he will sing something for us.*
- el **o să citească** - *he is going to read*

Popular 2

present tense of <u>avea</u>					
singular			plural		
first	second	third	first	second	third
eu	tu	el/ea	noi	voi	ei/ele
<u>am</u>	<u>ai</u>	<u>are</u>	<u>avem</u>	<u>aveți</u>	<u>au</u>

The second type of popular future is slightly more complicated than the first type. It is formed simply by adding the present tense form of avea to the subjunctive form of a verb.

Examples:

- el are să **cânte** ceva pentru noi — *he will sing something for us.*
- el are să **citească** - *he is going to read*

Future Popular 2 is often used when it would be easy to confuse forms were they in the Future Popular 1.

Examples:

- o să mor vs. o să mori — ??? (Spoken, this may cause confusion due to the fact that the "i" in mori would be nearly whispered, making it sound very similar to mor.)
am să mor vs. ai să mori — *I am going to die vs. You are going to die*

Future in the past

imperfect tense of <u>avea</u>					
singular			plural		
first	second	third	first	second	third
eu	tu	el/ea	noi	voi	ei/ele
<u>aveam</u>	<u>aveai</u>	<u>avea</u>	<u>aveam</u>	<u>aveați</u>	<u>aveau</u>

The "future in the past" is formed with the imperfect tenses of *avea* (seen above) with the subjunctive form of a verb.

Examples:

- **aveam să cânt** — *I was going to sing*
- **avea să cânte** — *He was going to sing*
- **aveați să citiți?** — *Were you going to read?*
- **aveau să vină** — *They were going to come*

Conjunctiv (Subjunctive)

Subjunctives, as in many other languages, suggest an uncertain action or occurrence. When used alone, subjunctives are usually translated with "should."

The subjunctive is identified by the conjunction **să**.

Examples:

- *Present:*
 - el **să cânte** ceva pentru noi — *he should sing something for us.*
 - eu vreau că el **să cânte** ceva pentru noi — *I want him to sing something for us.*

- *Past:*
 - noi **să fi stat** acasă ieri — *We **should have stayed** home yesterday*
 - nu mi-amintesc **să fi fost** cu tine ieri — *I don't remember **being** with you yesterday*
 - nu mi-amintesc **să fi văzut** acest film niciodată — *I don't remember ever **seeing** this film*

Prezent (Present)

In most cases, the subjunctive forms of verbs in 1st and 2nd persons, singular and plural, are the same as their present tense counterparts. (*One exception that comes to mind is the verb a fi, "to be," in which every person and number has another subjunctive form.*) In the 3rd person, however, almost all verbs change slightly. The general rule is that **ă** will change to **e** and vice-versa. 3rd person subjunctives share one form for plural and singular.

Examples:

- el cântă → el să cânte
- el deranjează → el să deranjeze
- el vine → el să vină
- el citește → el să citească
- el urăște → el să urască

Trecut (Past)

The subjunctive past is formed by combining **să fi** with the past participle of the verb in question.

Examples:

- el cântă → el să cânte → el să fi cântat
- el vine → el să vină → el să fi venit

Imperativ (Imperative)

The imperative only exists for the 2nd person in Romanian. The 2nd person singular imperative is generally the same as the 3rd person singular present form; aside from this, there is no one rule for forming this imperative. The 2nd person plural imperative is almost always the same as the 2nd person plural present form.

Examples:

- el cântă (*he sings*) → cântă! (*sing!*)
- el vorbește (*he speaks*) → vorbește! (*speak!*)

In the 2nd person singular, the imperative is not simply negated with "nu". Instead, the infinitive is used. The plural does not go through such a change.

Examples:

- cântă! (*sing!*) → nu cânta! (*don't sing!*)
- vorbește! (*speak!*) → nu vorbi! (*don't speak!*)

For both singular and plural, the word order also changes slightly.

Examples:

- dă-mi-o! (*give it to me!*) → nu-mi-o da! (*don't give it to me!*)

Perfect compus (Compound perfect)

auxiliaries for forming the compus					
singular			plural		
first	second	third	first	second	third
eu	tu	el/ea	noi	voi	ei/ele
<u>am</u>	<u>ai</u>	<u>a</u>	<u>am</u>	<u>ați</u>	<u>au</u>

The above auxiliaries are used with past participles to form the perfect compus.

Examples:

- eu am cântat — *I have sung*
- ei au cântat — *they have sung*

Condițional (Optative/Conditional)

conditional auxiliaries					
singular			plural		
first	second	third	first	second	third
eu	tu	el/ea	noi	voi	ei/ele
<u>aș</u>	<u>ai</u>	<u>ar</u>	<u>am</u>	<u>ați</u>	<u>ar</u>

Prezent (Present)

The above auxiliaries are used with infinitives to form the present optative/conditional.

Examples:

- eu aș cânta dacă aș ști versurile — *I would sing if I knew the lyrics*

- ei ar cânta — *they would sing*

Trecut (Past)

The past conditional is formed by combining one of the above auxiliaries with **fi** and the past participle of the verb.

Examples:

- eu aş **fi** cântat — *I would have sung*
- ei ar **fi** cântat — *they would have sung*

Prezumtiv (Presumptive)

presumptive auxiliaries					
singular			plural		
first	second	third	first	second	third
eu	tu	el/ea	noi	voi	ei/ele
<u>oi</u>	<u>oi</u>	<u>o</u>	<u>om</u>	<u>oți</u>	<u>or</u>

Prezent (Present)

The above auxiliaries are used with infinitives to form the present presumptive.

Examples:

- eu **oi** cânta — *I might sing*
- ei **or** cânta — *they might sing*

Trecut (Past)

The past presumptive is formed by combining one of the above auxiliaries with **fi** and the past participle of the verb.

Examples:

- eu **oi fi** cântat — *I might have sung*
- ei **or fi** cântat — *they might have sung*