-ir verbs only!

Stem-changes in the Preterite

Stem-change verbs use the **regular** –ar and –er/-ir endings.
To check if something stem-changes in the preterite, ask yourself the following:

1) Is it an **–ir** verb?

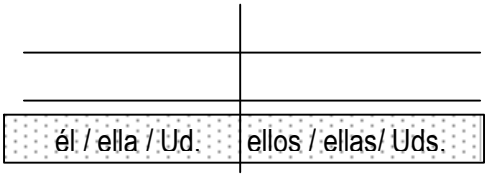
2) Did it stem-change in the present tense?

If the answer is **YES** to both, then:

1) Find the vowel that changes -- It is the last vowel in the stem.

EX. divertirse → stem: divert- vowel: div**e**rt-
morir → stem: mor- vowel: m**o**r-

2) You will make the stem change only in the **3rd person singular and plural**.

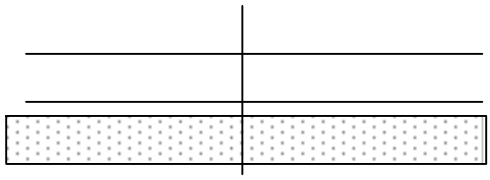


3) What change do you make? There are only **two** possible changes:

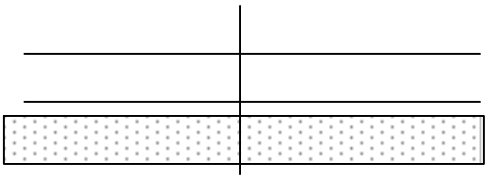
o → u OR **e → i**

4) What does it look like? Conjugate these verbs.

divertirse



morir



5) List of common verbs that stem-change in the preterite:

conseguir = to get, to obtain
divertirse = to have fun
dormir = to sleep
mentir = to tell a lie
morir = to die
preferir = to prefer
repetir = to repeat
seguir = to follow, to continue
sentirse = to feel
vestirse = to get dressed
pedir = to ask for
servir= to serve