

Level 1 - Basic phrases / The / Classroom Objects

Let's start with some basics which you can't do without.

bonjour	hello
ça va?	how are you?
ça va bien merci	very well thank you
et toi?	and you?
comment t'appelles-tu?	what is your name?
je m'appelle James	my name is James
s'il vous plaît	please
merci	thank you
au revoir	goodbye

Le / La

Nouns are things like people, places, objects, qualities and ideas. Some nouns you can touch, like a book, but some you can't touch, like freedom or happiness. In French nouns are either masculine (**le**) or feminine (**la**). **Le** and **la** mean 'the'.

Masculine

le cahier	the exercise book
le cartable	the satchel
le crayon	the pencil
le feutre	the felt-tip pen
le garçon	the boy
le livre	the book
le papier	the paper
le professeur	the teacher
le pupitre	the desk
le sac	the bag
le stylo (à bille)	the (ballpoint) pen
le tableau	the board
le taille-crayon	the pencil sharpener

Feminine

la boîte	the box
la calculatrice / calculette	the calculator
la chaise	the chair
la craie	the chalk
la fenêtre	the window
la fille	the girl
la gomme	the rubber
la porte	the door
la professeur	the teacher (female)
la règle	the ruler
la table	the table
la salle de classe	the classroom
la trousse	the pencil case

L'

When the noun begins with a vowel, the word for 'the' is **L'** - it does not matter whether it is masculine or feminine.

Masculine

l'agenda	the diary
l'élève	the pupil
l'enfant	the child
l'ordinateur	the computer

Feminine

l'affiche	the poster
l'école	the school
l'élève	the pupil (female)
l'enfant	the child (female)
l'image	the picture

Les

If we are talking about just one noun then the noun is singular. If there are more than one, the noun is plural. When we are talking about plural nouns, the word for 'the' is **les** - it does not matter whether it is masculine or feminine. Remember to put an 's' on the end of a plural noun just as we do in English. In French though, you don't pronounce this 's'.

Masculine

les agendas	the diaries
les crayons	the pencils
les sacs	the bags
les ordinateurs	the computers

Feminine

les affiches	the posters
les chaises	the chairs
les portes	the doors
les images	the pictures

Level 2 - A / An / Some

If something is masculine the word for 'a/an' is **un**. If it is feminine the word is **une**.

Masculine

un agenda	a diary
un cahier	an exercise book
un cartable	a satchel
un crayon	a pencil
un élève	a pupil
un enfant	a child
un feutre	a felt-tip pen
un garçon	a boy
un livre	a book
un ordinateur	a computer
un papier	a piece of paper
un professeur	a teacher
un pupitre	a desk
un sac	a bag
un stylo (à bille)	a (ballpoint) pen
un tableau	a board
un taille-crayon	a pencil sharpener

Feminine

une affiche	a poster
une boîte	a box
une calculatrice / calculette	a calculator a chair
une chaise	a piece of chalk
une craie	a school
une école	a pupil (female)
une élève	a child (female)
une enfant	a window
une fenêtre	a girl
une fille	a rubber
une gomme	a picture
une image	a door
une porte	a teacher (female)
une professeur	a ruler
une règle	a classroom
une salle de classe	a table
une table	a pencil case
une trousse	

Des

The plural word for 'a/an' is 'some'. The French word for some is **des**.

Masculine

des agendas	some diaries
des crayons	some pencils
des sacs	some bags
des ordinateurs	some computers

Feminine

des affiches	some posters
des chaises	some chairs
des portes	some doors
des images	some pictures

Level 3 - Colours

Colours in French are **les couleurs**. Colours are adjectives. Adjectives are words which describe nouns.

blanc		white
bleu		blue
gris		grey
jaune		yellow
marron / brun		brown
noir		black
		orange

orange		pink
rose		red
rouge		green
vert		purple
violet		

In French the colour goes after the noun. In English we say 'the red pencil' but in French we say **le crayon rouge** ('the pencil red'). Here are some more examples:

le livre jaune	the yellow book
le papier vert	the green paper
le tableau noir	the black board
un stylo bleu	a blue pen
un pupitre gris	a grey desk

Feminine agreement

If the noun is feminine the colours are spelt differently and so sound different. What we usually do is add the letter 'e' to the colour (unless the final letter is already 'e') to make it feminine. Here are the feminine colours. Make note of the exceptions.

extra h	blanche		white
	bleue		blue
	brune		brown (1)
	grise		grey
no change	jaune		yellow
never changes	marron		brown (2)
	noire		black
	orange		orange
never changes	orange		pink
no change	rose		red
no change	rouge		green
	verte		purple
double tt	violette		

Here are some examples of feminine colours:

la fenêtre grise	the grey window
la trousse blanche	the white pencil case
une règle noire	a black ruler
une gomme bleue	a blue rubber
une affiche violette	a purple poster

Plural agreement

Just as we added **e** to make colours feminine, if something is plural we must add the letter **s** to the colour. This is called making an agreement. Remember the two exceptions which never change spelling: **orange** and **marron**.

les cahiers blancs	the white exercise books
les agendas noirs	the black diaries
les portes bleues	the blue doors
l'affiche marron	the brown poster
des torchons orange	some orange dusters
des ordinateurs roses	some pink computers
des chaises rouges	some red chairs
des images vertes	some green pictures

Level 4 - Être 'to be' / Qu'est-ce que c'est?

Verbs are words which describe an action or a state of being. **Être** is the most important verb in French and it means 'to be'. By far the most common parts of this verb are **est** ('is') and **sont** ('are').

je suis	I <u>am</u>
tu es	you <u>are</u>
c'est	it <u>is</u> , he <u>is</u> (before noun), she <u>is</u> (before noun)
il est	he <u>is</u> , it <u>is</u> (m.)
elle est	she <u>is</u> , it <u>is</u> (f.)
on est	one <u>is</u>
David est	David <u>is</u>
nous sommes	we <u>are</u>
vous êtes	you <u>are</u>
ce sont	they <u>are</u> (before noun)
ils sont	they <u>are</u> (m.)
elles sont	they <u>are</u> (f.)
Sophie et Marie sont	Sophie and Marie <u>are</u>

Don't worry about the word **c'** (short for **ce**) - it means 'he', 'she' or 'it' but only with **être**, not with any other verbs.

What is the difference between **tu** and **vous**? They both mean 'you' but you would only say **tu** when talking to a friend or family member. **Vous** is the plural version of 'you' when you are talking to more than one person, or the polite version if you are talking to somebody you don't know very personally. In future we will use the abbreviation 'sg.' to mean singular and 'pl.' to mean plural or polite, along with 'm.' for masculine and 'f.' for feminine. **On** means 'one', meaning people in general - but French people use it a lot to mean 'we' instead of **nous**.

Here are some sample sentences of the verb **être** in action.

je suis un enfant	I am a child
tu es un élève	you are a pupil
c'est un garçon	he is a boy
c'est une fille	she is a girl
il est français	he is French
elle est française	she is French
le stylo est noir	the pen is black
la table est marron	the table is brown
nous sommes des enfants	we are some boys
vous êtes des élèves	you are some pupils
ce sont des garçons	they are some boys (noun)
ce sont des filles	they are some girls (noun)
ils sont anglais	they are English
elles sont anglaises	they are English
les stylos sont noirs	the pens are black
les tables sont blanches	the tables are white

Qu'est-ce que c'est?

Qu'est-ce que c'est? means 'what is it?' (Literally, 'what is it that it is?')

qu'est-ce que c'est?	what is it?
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c'est un crayon bleu	it's a blue pencil
qu'est-ce que c'est?	what is it?
c'est une chaise blanche	it's a white chair
qu'est-ce que c'est?	what is it?
c'est un ordinateur noir	it's a black computer

Level 5 - Positions

Here are six basic positions in French.

dans	in
derrière	behind
devant	in front of
entre	between
sous	under
sur	on

Où / Et

You will be able to use these words to respond to the question **où?** which means 'where?' Another new word you will see here is **et**, which means 'and'.

où est le stylo rouge? il est sur la table	where is the red pen? it is on the table
où est l'image grise? elle est sous le pupitre	where is the grey picture? it is under the desk
où est la professeur? elle est dans la salle de classe	where is the teacher? she is in the classroom
où sont les crayons bleus et roses? ils sont derrière la trousse	where are the blue and pink pencils? they are behind the pencil case
où sont les règles orange? elles sont devant les gommes	where are the orange rulers? they are in front of the rubbers
où sont les affiches blanches? elles sont entre la porte et la fenêtre	where are the white posters? they are between the door and the window

Level 6 - Avoir 'to have'

This is a very important verb.

j'ai	I <u>have</u>
tu as	you <u>have</u> (sg.)
il a	he <u>has</u> , it <u>has</u> (m.)
elle a	she <u>has</u> , it <u>has</u> (f.)

on a	one <u>has</u>
David a	David <u>has</u>
nous avons	we <u>have</u>
vous avez	you <u>have</u> (pl.)
ils ont	they <u>have</u> (m.)
elles ont	they <u>have</u> (f.)
Sophie et Marie ont	Sophie and Marie <u>have</u>

Just as **le** and **la** become **l'** before a vowel, see how the word for 'I', **je**, is shortened to **j'** before a vowel. That is why 'I have' is not 'je ai' but **j'ai**. Here are some sample sentences of the verb **avoir** in action.

j'ai un crayon rouge	I have a red pencil
tu as une règle jaune	you have a yellow ruler
il a une gomme blanche	he has a white rubber
le garçon a un pupitre vert	the boy has a green desk
la fille a un livre marron	the girl has a brown book
nous avons un stylo bleu	we have a blue pen
vous avez un cahier noir	you have a black exercise book
elles ont des troussees	they have some pencil cases
les élèves ont une image	the pupils have a picture
les filles ont un ordinateur	the girls have a computer

Level 7 - Places In Town

A town or a city in French is **une ville** and a village is **un village**. Here is a list of places you would expect to find in a town. Where there is more than one word for something you will see a number in brackets like this: (1), (2) etc. For a much longer list of shop types go to [Level 46](#).

Masculine

le bar	bar
le bureau	office
le bureau de change	bureau de change
le café	café
le centre commercial	shopping centre
le centre sportif	sports centre
le château	castle
le cinéma	cinema
le cirque	circus
le club	club
le commissariat de police	police station
l'hôtel	hotel
l'hôtel de ville	town hall (1)
l'hôpital	hospital
le jardin public	public garden
le magasin	shop (1)
le marché	market
le musée	museum
l'office de tourisme	tourist office (1)
le parc (d'attraction)	(theme) park
le parking	car park
le port	port
	restaurant

Feminine

l'auberge de jeunesse	youth hostel
la banque	bank
la bibliothèque	library
la boîte (de nuit)	nightclub
la boucherie	butcher's
la boulangerie	baker's
la boutique	shop (2)
la cathédrale	cathedral
la discothèque	disco
l'école	school
l'église	church
l'épicerie	grocery store
la gare	railway station
la gare routière	bus station
la librairie	bookshop
la mairie	town hall (2)
la maison	house
la patinoire	ice rink
la pâtisserie	cake shop
la pharmacie	chemist's
la piscine	swimming pool
la place	square
la poste	post office

le restaurant
le stade
le supermarché
le syndicat d'initiative
le tabac
le théâtre

stadium
supermarket
tourist office (2)
tobacconist's
theatre

la rue
la station-service
la tour
l'université
l'usine

street
petrol station
tower
university
factory

où est le bar?
il est devant le restaurant
nous sommes dans la pâtisserie
le parking est sous le centre commercial
la ville a un supermarché et une gare

where is the bar?
it's in front of the restaurant
we are in the cake shop
the car park is under the shopping centre
the town has a supermarket and a railway station

Level 8 - Numbers 0-20 / Age

Here are the numbers from zero to twenty in French.

zéro	0
un	1
deux	2
trois	3
quatre	4
cinq	5
six	6
sept	7
huit	8
neuf	9
dix	10
onze	11
douze	12
treize	13
quatorze	14
quinze	15
seize	16
dix-sept	17
dix-huit	18
dix-neuf	19
vingt	20

Age

You might be asked the question **quel âge as-tu?** which means 'how old are you?' (literally 'what age have you?') In English when saying your age you say what you are, for example 'I am thirteen'. In French you say what you have. This means we use the verb **avoir** ('to have') when talking about ages. The French word **an** means 'year', and so **ans** means 'years'.

quel âge as-tu?	how old are you?
j'ai six ans	I am six
j'ai onze ans	I am eleven
j'ai dix-huit ans	I am eighteen
tu as deux ans	you are two
il a neuf ans	he is nine
Carole a seize ans	Carol is sixteen
nous avons dix-sept ans	we are seventeen
vous avez dix-huit ans	you are eighteen
Philippe et Pierre ont quatorze ans	Philippe and Pierre are fourteen
elles ont vingt ans	they are twenty (f.)

Level 9 - My Family

We have already learnt **le garçon** (boy) and **la fille** (girl). To these we can now add **l'homme** (man) and **la femme** (woman). Here are some more words for people in French - family members and friends.

Masculine

l'ami	friend
le beau-fils	stepson, son-in-law
le beau-frère	stepbrother, brother-in-law
le beau-père	stepfather, father-in-law
le camarade	colleague, classmate
le copain	mate, boyfriend
le cousin	cousin
le demi-frère	half-brother
le fils	son
le frère	brother
les grand-parents	grandparents
le grand-père	grandfather
le mari	husband
le neveu	nephew
l'oncle	uncle
les parents	parents
le père	father
le petit ami	boyfriend

Feminine

l'amie	friend
la belle-fille	stepdaughter, daughter-in-law
la belle-mère	stepmother, mother-in-law
la belle-sœur	stepsister, sister-in-law
la camarade	colleague, classmate
la copine	mate, girlfriend
la cousine	cousin
la demi-sœur	half-sister
la femme	wife
la fille	daughter
la grand-mère	grandmother
la mère	mother
la nièce	niece
la petite amie	girlfriend
la sœur	sister
la tante	aunt

Mon / Ma / Mes

In Levels [1](#) and [2](#) we learnt that the French words for 'a' and 'the' were different depending on the gender of the word (masculine or feminine). A similar thing happens with the French word for 'my'. There are three ways to say 'my' in French. If what you are talking about is masculine, it is **mon**. If it is feminine, the word is **ma** unless the next word begins with a vowel, in which case it is **mon**. If it is plural, the word is **mes**.

Masculine

mon ami	my friend
mon beau-fils	my stepson, son-in-law
mon beau-frère	my stepbrother, brother-in-law
mon beau-père	my stepfather, father-in-law
mon copain	my mate, boyfriend
mon cousin	my cousin
mon demi-frère	my half-brother
mon fils	my son
mon frère	my brother
mon grand-père	my grandfather
mon mari	my husband
mon neveu	my nephew
mon oncle	my uncle
mes parents	my parents
mon père	my father
mon petit ami	my boyfriend

Feminine

mon amie	my friend
ma belle-fille	my stepdaughter, daughter-in-law
ma belle-mère	my stepmother, mother-in-law
ma belle-sœur	my stepsister, sister-in-law
ma copine	my mate, girlfriend
ma cousine	my cousin
ma demi-sœur	my half-sister
ma femme	my wife
ma fille	my daughter
ma grand-mère	my grandmother
ma mère	my mother
ma nièce	my niece
ma petite amie	my girlfriend
ma sœur	my sister
ma tante	my aunt

Level 10 - S'appeler 'to be called'

In [Level 1](#) we responded to the question **comment t'appelles-tu?** (what is your name?) with the response **je m'appelle...** (my name is...). The verb **s'appeler** means 'to call oneself', so in French you're not exactly saying 'my name is John' but 'I call myself John'. It means the same thing.

comment t'appelles-tu?	what is your name?
je m'appelle James	my name is James
il s'appelle Alain	his name is Alain
elle s'appelle Claire	her name is Claire
ma mère s'appelle Margaret	my mother's name is Margaret
mon père s'appelle Peter	my father's name is Peter
mon frère s'appelle Christopher	my brother's name is Christopher
ma sœur s'appelle Sophie	my sister's name is Sophie
mon grand-père s'appelle Graham	my grandfather's name is Graham
ma grand-mère s'appelle Jane	my grandmother's name is Jane
le professeur s'appelle M. Martin	the teacher's name is Mr Martin
l'élève s'appelle Nicole	the pupil's name is Nicole

Level 11 - Clothes

The French word for clothes is **les vêtements**. Here is a list of the main items of clothing.

Masculine

le bas	pair of stockings*
les baskets	trainers
les bijoux	jewellery
le casque	helmet
le chapeau	hat
le chemisier	blouse
le collant	pair of tights*
le complet	man's suit
les gants	gloves
le gilet de sauvetage	life jacket
l'imper(méable)	raincoat
le jean	jeans*
le jogging	jogging trousers
le maillot	sports shirt
le maillot de bain	swimming trunks /
le manteau	swimsuit
le pantalon	coat
le pull(over)	pair of trousers*
le short	jumper (1)
le slip	pair of shorts
le soutien-gorge	pair of underpants
le tailleur	bra
le tricot	woman's suit
le t-shirt	jumper (2)
l'uniforme	t-shirt
	uniform

Feminine

les bottes	boots
la casquette	cap
la ceinture	belt
les chaussettes	socks
les chaussures	shoes
la chemise	shirt
la cravate	tie
la culotte	pair of knickers*
l'écharpe	scarf
la jupe	skirt
les lunettes (de soleil)	(sun)glasses
les pantoufles	slippers
la robe	dress
les sandales	sandals
la veste	jacket

- = These items are plural in English but singular in French.

Level 12 - Porter 'to wear'

Porter is the French verb 'to wear' and it also means 'to carry'. It is a model for all regular verbs ending in **-er**.

je porte	I wear
tu portes	you wear (sg.)
il porte	he wears
elle porte	she wears
David porte	David wears
nous portons	we wear
vous portez	you wear (pl.)
ils portent	they wear (m.)
elles portent	they wear (f.)
Sophie et Marie portent	Sophie and Marie wear

To say what you are wearing you will need to use the words **un** and **une** (meaning 'a') or **des** ('some').

je porte une chemise blanche et un pantalon noir	I am wearing a white shirt and some black trousers
tu portes un t-shirt rouge	you are wearing a red t-shirt
il porte des chaussures vertes	he is wearing some green shoes
Christine porte une veste rouge	Christine is wearing a red jacket
nous portons des maillots jaunes	we are wearing yellow sports shirts
vous portez un pull violet	you are wearing a purple jumper
elles portent des casquettes bleues	they are wearing blue caps

Level 13 - Regular -ER verbs

You have just worked with **porter**, the French verb 'to wear'. Verbs which have the ending **-er**, like **porter** and **s'appeler**, have something in common. When you go through the list of different people doing the verb (what is known as 'conjugating' the verb), the ending of the **je** form is always the same (always ending with the letter **e**) and so are the endings of the **tu**, **il**, **elle**, **nous**, **vous**, **ils** and **elles** forms. This works a bit like English. We say 'I wear' and 'you wear', but 'he wears' and 'she wears'.

Let's look again at the verb **porter** 'to wear'.

je porte	I wear
tu portes	you wear (sg.)
il porte	he wears
elle porte	she wears
on porte	one wears
nous portons	we wear
vous portez	you wear (pl.)
ils portent	they wear (m.)
elles portent	they wear (f.)

So the endings of regular **-er** verbs, when you take off the **-er** bit, are as follows.

je	-e
tu	-es
il	-e
elle	-e
on	-e

nous	-ons
vous	-ez
ils	-ent
elles	-ent

Aimer

Once you have learnt this, you have become a very powerful French learner. You can now conjugate any other French verb that ends in **-er**. You simply remove the **-er** from the end and attach the different endings. Here, for example, is **aimer**, 'to like'.

j' <u>aime</u>	I like
tu <u>aimes</u>	you like (sg.)
il <u>aime</u>	he likes
elle <u>aime</u>	she likes
on <u>aime</u>	one likes
nous <u>aimons</u>	we like
vous <u>aimez</u>	you like (pl.)
ils <u>aiment</u>	they like (m.)
elles <u>aiment</u>	they like (f.)

Other verbs

Here is a list of **-er** verbs which work in exactly the same way. If you've just started learning French there's no need to learn all these now! Come back to them later. The list of verbs you need to know for GCSE and Common Entrance can be found in the [verblist](#).

accepter	to accept
accompagner	to accompany
adorer	to love
aider	to help
aimer	to like
ajouter	to add
allumer	to turn on
annuler	to cancel
apporter	to bring
arrêter	to stop
arriver	to arrive
attaquer	to attack
bavarder	to chat
blessar	to hurt / to injure
brûler	to burn
cacher	to hide
casser	to break
causer	to cause
chanter	to sing
chercher	to look for
classer	to classify
collectionner	to collect
commander	to command / to order
comparer	to compare
composer (un numéro)	to compose / to dial (a number)
composter	to stamp
compter	to count
confirmer	to confirm
conseiller	to advise
continuer	to continue
copier	to copy
couper	to cut
coûter	to cost
critiquer	to criticise
danser	to dance
décider	to decide

décrocher	to pick up the phone
détester	to hate
décoller	to take off
déjeuner	to have lunch
demander	to demand / to ask for
dépenser	to spend
désirer	to want (to) / to desire (to)
dessiner	to draw
discuter	to discuss
dîner	to dine
distribuer	to distribute
donner	to give
doubler	to overtake
durer	to last
écouter	to listen (to)
embrasser	to kiss
empêcher	to prevent
emporter	to take (away)
emprunter	to borrow
énervé	to annoy
essayer	to try
enseigner	to teach
entrer	to enter
épouser	to marry
étudier	to study
expliquer	to explain
fermer	to close
fêter	to celebrate
frapper	to hit
fumer	to smoke
gagner	to earn / to win
garder	to keep
garer	to park
goûter	to taste
habiter	to live
heurter	to collide / to knock into
identifier	to identify
imprimer	to print
indiquer	to indicate
inviter	to invite
jouer	to play
laver	to wash
laisser	to leave
livrer	to deliver
loger	to lodge
louer	to hire / to rent
manquer	to lack / to miss / to be missing
marcher	to walk / to work (e.g. a machine)
mériter	to deserve
mesurer	to measure
monter	to go up
montrer	to show
noter	to note
organiser	to organise
oublier	to forget
pardonner	to forgive
parler	to speak / to talk
passer	to pass / to spend (time)
passionner	to fascinate
patiner	to skate
penser (que)	to think (that)
piquer	to sting
porter	to wear / to carry
poser	to put
pousser	to push
préparer	to prepare
présenter	to present / to introduce

prêter	to lend
proposer	to propose / to offer
quitter	to leave
raccrocher	to hang up
raconter	to tell
recommander	to recommend
refuser	to refuse
regarder	to look at / to watch
regretter	to regret / to miss
remercier	to thank
rencontrer	to meet
rentrer	to come home / to go home
réparer	to repair
réserver	to reserve
rester	to stay
retirer	to take back
retourner	to return
sauter	to jump
sauver	to save
sembler	to seem
signer	to sign
sonner	to sound
souhaiter	to wish (to)
souligner	to underline
stationner	to park
taper	to type/ to knock/hit
téléphoner	to telephone
terminer	to finish
tirer	to pull
tomber	to fall
toucher	to touch
tourner	to turn
tousser	to cough
travailler	to work
traverser	to cross
trouver	to find
utiliser	to use
vérifier	to check/verify
verser	to pour
visiter	to visit
voler	to fly / to steal

Level 14 - Regular -RE verbs

You have just worked with verbs ending in **-er** and learnt that the endings for the different ' persons ' of the verb are always the same. A similar thing happens with verb infinitives ending in **-re** , except the endings are different. Here is an example of an **-re** verb: **perdre** 'to lose '.

je perds	I lose
tu perds	you lose (sg.)
il perd	he loses
elle perd	she loses
on perd	one loses

nous perdons	we lose
vous perdez	you lose (pl.)
ils perdent	they lose (m.)
elles perdent	they lose (f.)

So the endings of regular **-re** verbs, when you take off the **-re** bit, are as follows.

je	-s
tu	-s
il	-
elle	-
on	-
nous	-ons
vous	-ez
ils	-ent
elles	-ent

Other verbs

Here is a list of **-re** verbs which work in exactly the same way. The list of verbs you need to know for GCSE and Common Entrance can be found in the [verblis](#).

attendre	to wait, to wait for
défendre	to defend
descendre	to descend / to go down
entendre	to hear
perdre	to lose
prétendre	to claim
rendre	to render / to give back
répondre	to respond
tendre	to stretch
vendre	to sell

Level 15 - Regular -IR verbs

We have just worked with verbs ending in **-er** and **-re** and learnt that the endings for the different 'persons' of the verb are always the same. A similar thing happens with verb infinitives ending in **-ir**, except the endings are different. Here is an example of an **-ir** verb: **finir** 'to finish'.

Let's look again at the verb **finir** 'to finish'.

je finis	I finish
tu finis	you finish (sg.)
il finit	he finishes
elle finit	she finishes
on finit	one finishes
nous finissons	we finish
vous finissez	you finish (pl.)
ils finissent	they finish (m.)
elles finissent	they finish (f.)

So the endings of regular **-ir** verbs, when you take off the **-ir** bit, are as follows.

je	-is
tu	-is
il	-it
elle	-it
on	-it
nous	-issons

vous	-issez
ils	-issent
elles	-issent

Other verbs

Here is a list of **-ir** verbs which work in exactly the same way. The list of verbs you need to know for GCSE and Common Entrance can be found in the [verblist](#).

agir	to act
avertir	to warn
atterrir	to land
bâtir	to build
choisir	to choose
établir	to establish
finir	to finish
fuir	to flee
obéir à	to obey
polir	to polish
punir	to punish
remplir	to fill
réussir	to succeed
saisir	to seize
vomir	to vomit

Level 16 - Reflexive verbs

Reflexive verbs are used when you are talking about doing something to yourself. In Level 1 we learnt **je m'appelle** ('my name is') and **comment t'appelles-tu?** (what is your name?). These are parts of the reflexive verb **s'appeler**. In Level 11 we learnt how to say what other people's names are. Below is the complete conjugation of the verb **s'appeler**. Well done if you spotted the double **l** in the spelling - this is for pronunciation reasons.

je m'appelle	I call <u>myself</u>
tu t'appelles	you call <u>yourself</u>
il s'appelle	he calls <u>himself</u>
elle s'appelle	she calls <u>herself</u>
nous nous appelons	we call <u>ourselves</u>
vous vous appelez	you call <u>yourselves</u>
ils s'appellent	they call <u>themselves</u>
elles s'appellent	they call <u>themselves</u>

Here is another reflexive verb: **se laver**, 'to wash oneself':

je me lave	I wash <u>myself</u>
tu te laves	you wash <u>yourself</u>
il se lave	he washes <u>himself</u>
elle se lave	she washes <u>herself</u>
nous nous lavons	we wash <u>ourselves</u>
vous vous lavez	you wash <u>yourselves</u>
ils se lavent	they wash <u>themselves</u>
elles se lavent	they wash <u>themselves</u>

The new words we have learnt here are those referring to the self and in French they go before the verb. They are:

me (or m' before a vowel)	myself
te (or t')	yourself

se (or s')	himself
se (or s')	herself
nous	ourselves
vous	yourselves
se (or s')	themselves
se (or s')	themselves

Other verbs

Here is a list of reflexive verbs which work in exactly the same way. The list of verbs you need to know for GCSE and Common Entrance can be found in the [verblist](#).

s'adresser à	to present oneself to / to go to see
s'amuser	to enjoy oneself
s'approcher de	to approach
s'arrêter	to stop
se (faire) bronzer	to sunbathe/tan
se baigner	to bathe
se blesser	to injure oneself
se brûler	to burn oneself
se brosser	to brush oneself
se casser	to break (part of body)
se connecter	to log in
se coucher	to go to bed
se débrouiller	to manage/get by
se déconnecter	to log out
se dépêcher	to hurry
se déshabiller	to get undressed
se disputer (avec)	to argue (with)
se doucher	to take a shower
s'échapper	to escape
s'énervé	to get worked up
s'entendre avec	to get along with
s'entraîner	to train
s'excuser	to apologise
s'évanouir	to faint
se fâcher	to get angry
s'habiller	to get dressed
s'habituer à	to get used to
s'intéresser à	to be interested in
s'occuper de	to take care of
se passer	to happen
se peigner	to comb oneself
se raser	to shave oneself
se rencontrer	to meet each other
se rendre	to surrender
se reposer	to rest
se réunir	to meet
se réveiller	to wake up
se terminer	to come to an end
se trouver	to be situated

Level 17 - Ne Pas

One of the most important things to be able to do in a foreign language is to say not only what something is, but also what it is not. This is called the negative. You can turn any statement or question into the negative in French by using two simple words: **ne** and **pas**. The **ne** goes before the verb and the **pas** goes after it. The **ne** becomes **n'** if the next word begins with a vowel or silent **h**.

Here are some examples.

je suis un garçon je <u>ne</u> suis <u>pas</u> un garçon	I am a boy I am <u>not</u> a boy
le stylo est rouge le stylo <u>n'est pas</u> rouge	the pen is red the pen is <u>not</u> red
les églises sont derrière la place les églises <u>ne</u> sont <u>pas</u> derrière la place	the churches are behind the square the churches are <u>not</u> behind the square
le professeur punit l'élève le professeur <u>ne</u> punit <u>pas</u> l'élève	the teacher punishes the pupil the teacher does <u>not</u> punish the pupil
nous attendons le professeur nous <u>n'attendons pas</u> le professeur	we are waiting for the teacher we are <u>not</u> waiting for the teacher
c'est un livre ce <u>n'est pas</u> un livre	it's a book it's <u>not</u> a book

There is one complication. If you are talking about numbers of objects in the negative, often represented in English translation by the word 'any', you must use the word **de** (or **d'** before a vowel or silent **h**) to represent the word **any**. This happens mostly with the verb **avoir** ('to have').

j'ai un frère je n'ai <u>pas de</u> frère	I have a brother I don't have a brother / <u>any</u> brothers
il donne des pièces il ne donne <u>pas de</u> pièces	he gives some coins he doesn't give <u>any</u> coins
nous avons une cravate orange nous n'avons <u>pas de</u> cravate orange	we have an orange tie we don't have an orange tie / <u>any</u> orange ties
tu portes un manteau tu ne portes <u>pas de</u> manteau	you are wearing a coat you are not wearing a coat / <u>any</u> coat

Level 18 - Numbers 21-31 / Days / Months / Dates / Birthdays

Here are the days of the week (**la semaine**) and the months (**les mois**) of the year (**l'année**) in French:

dimanche	Sunday
lundi	Monday
mardi	Tuesday
mercredi	Wednesday
jeudi	Thursday
vendredi	Friday
samedi	Saturday
janvier	January
février	February
mars	March
avril	April
mai	May
juin	June
juillet	July
août	August
septembre	September
octobre	October
novembre	November
décembre	December

More Numbers

To be able to give the date in French you need to know these words plus the numbers up to 31. You already know 1 to 20, so here are the rest:

vingt et un	21
vingt-deux	22
vingt-trois	23
vingt-quatre	24
vingt-cinq	25
vingt-six	26
vingt-sept	27
vingt-huit	28
vingt-neuf	29
trente	30
trente et un	31

Dates

To give the date you simply say the day, then the masculine word for 'the', which is **le** , followed by the number and the month.

dimanche, le six avril	Sunday 6th April
lundi, le douze juin	Monday 12th June
mercredi, le dix-neuf août	Wednesday 19th August
jeudi, le vingt-sept octobre	Thursday 27th October
vendredi, le trente décembre	Friday 30th December

A special exception, though, is the first of the month.

jeudi, le premier février	Thursday 1st February
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Birthdays

Someone might ask you **quelle est la date de ton anniversaire?** which means 'what is the date of your birthday?'. You answer by saying **mon anniversaire est le**. then give the date.

quelle est la date de ton anniversaire? mon anniversaire est le quatorze mai	when is your birthday? my birthday is the 14th May
quelle est la date de ton anniversaire? mon anniversaire est le trente et un octobre	when is your birthday? my birthday is the 31st October
aujourd'hui c'est mon anniversaire	today it is my birthday

Special days

le Jour de l'An	New Year's Day
Noël	Christmas
Pâques	Easter
le quatorze juillet, Fête Nationale	14th July, Bastille Day (official French national holiday)

Level 19 - Asking Questions (Part 1)

If you want to ask a question in French there are a number of ways to do it. One of these is to put a question mark at the end of the sentence and change the tone of your voice to make it sound like a question:

c'est jeudi	it's Thursday
-------------	---------------

c'est jeudi?

is it Thursday?

tu as un frère
tu as un frère?you have a brother
do you have a brother?

Another way of doing it is to take the sentence then simply put **est-ce que** in front of it. **Est-ce que** means 'is it that', so when you say **est-ce que tu as un frère** you are actually saying 'is it that you have a brother?'. If the word after **que** begins with a vowel the **que** becomes **qu'**. Here are some examples.

le café est dans la place
est-ce que le café est dans la place?the café is in the square
is the café in the square?c'est mercredi
est-ce que c'est mercredi?it's Wednesday
is it Wednesday?elle a une demi-sœur
est-ce qu'elle a une demi-sœur?she has a half-sister
does she have a half-sister?il porte une écharpe bleue
est-ce qu'il porte une écharpe bleue?he is wearing a blue scarf
is he wearing a blue scarf?

The third (and probably the hardest) way is to change the order of the person and the verb like this:

vous avez mon stylo
avez-vous mon stylo?you have my pen
do you have my pen?tu es dans le magasin
es-tu dans le magasin?you are in the shop
are you in the shop?

Other questions you can ask such as 'who?', 'why?', 'when?' etc can be found in **Level 43**

Level 20 - Animals

The French word for an animal is **un animal** and animals are **les animaux**. Here is a list of the main animals.

Masculine

un canard	duck
un chat	cat
un cheval	horse
un chien	dog
un cobaye	guinea pig (1)
un cochon	pig
un cochon d'Inde	guinea pig (2)
un dindon	turkey (1)
un éléphant	elephant
un escargot	snail
un hamster	hamster
un lapin	rabbit
un lion	lion
un loup	wolf
un moustique	mosquito
un mouton	sheep
un oiseau	bird
un ours	bear
un perroquet	parrot
un poisson	fish
un poisson rouge	goldfish

Feminine

une abeille	bee
une araignée	spider
une baleine	whale
une chèvre	goat
une dinde	turkey (2)
une fourmi	ant
une grenouille	frog
une guêpe	wasp
une mouche	fly
une oie	goose
une perruche	budgie
une poule	hen
une souris	mouse
une tortue	tortoise
une vache	cow

un poulet	chicken
un renard	fox
un singe	monkey
un tigre	tiger

Level 21 - Numbers 32-1000 / Ordinal Numbers

We have already learnt numbers 0-31. We noticed how in the twenties it was a simple case of adding the numbers 1, 2, 3 etc to the word **vingt**. The only complication was the **et** (and) in **vingt et un** and **trente et un**. Now if we learn the words for 40, 50 and 60 we can easily work out the numbers in between. 40 is **quarante** , 50 is **cinquante** and 60 is **soixante** .

Here are some examples of the numbers in between:

quarante et un	41
quarante-quatre	44
quarante-sept	47
cinquante-deux	52
cinquante-cinq	55
cinquante-huit	58
soixante-trois	63
soixante-six	66
soixante-neuf	69

The numbers beyond that are only slightly more complicated. 70 is **soixante-dix** ('sixty-ten'), making 71 **soixante-onze** ('sixty-eleven') and so on. 80 is **quatre-vingts** ('four twenties') and 90 is **quatre-vingt-dix** ('four-twenty-ten'), making 91 **quatre-vingt-onze** and so on. This means you should consider 60-79 as a set of twenty and 80-99 as a set of twenty.

Here are those numbers, written in full:

soixante-dix	70
soixante-onze	71
soixante-douze	72
soixante-treize	73
soixante-quatorze	74
soixante-quinze	75
soixante-seize	76
soixante-dix-sept	77
soixante-dix-huit	78
soixante-dix-neuf	79
quatre-vingts	80
quatre-vingt-un	81
quatre-vingt-deux	82
quatre-vingt-trois	83
quatre-vingt-quatre	84
quatre-vingt-cinq	85
quatre-vingt-six	86
quatre-vingt-sept	87
quatre-vingt-huit	88
quatre-vingt-neuf	89
quatre-vingt-dix	90
quatre-vingt-onze	91
quatre-vingt-douze	92
quatre-vingt-treize	93
quatre-vingt-quatorze	94
quatre-vingt-quinze	95
quatre-vingt-seize	96
quatre-vingt-dix-sept	97
quatre-vingt-dix-huit	98
quatre-vingt-dix-neuf	99

100 is **cent**. To make the rest of the hundreds it is very simple. 200 is **deux cents** ('two hundreds'). 300 is **trois cents** ('three hundreds') and so on up to 900. But note the spelling when something comes afterwards. 201 is **deux cent un** and 312 is **trois cent douze** for example (not **cents** anymore).

To make a number in French simply add the components together, for example:

cinq cent quarante et un	541
sept cent soixante-treize	773
neuf cent quatre-vingt-dix-neuf	999

Finally, 1000 is **mille**. If you use the number 1 and the next word is feminine remember it must become **une** e.g. **cent et une maisons** ('101 houses').

Ordinal Numbers

Ordinal numbers in English are first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth etc. We normally use the letters 'th' to represent this. In French we use **ième** after the number, with the exception of **premier**(first). The word **second** is another way of saying second. Note the spellings of **quatrième** (no e), **cinquième** (extra u) and **neuvième** (v instead of f). Here are the main ordinal numbers.

premier / première	first
second / seconde / deuxième	second
troisième	third
quatrième	fourth
cinquième	fifth
sixième	sixth
septième	seventh
huitième	eighth
neuvième	ninth
dixième	tenth

Level 22 - Irregular Plurals

Normally to form the plural in French you simply add the letter **s** to the end of the word, just as we do in English. However, certain words do not follow this rule.

Words which end in s, x or z keep the same spelling

un nez	a nose
des nez	some noses
une noix	a nut
des noix	some nuts
mon tapis	my carpet
mes tapis	my carpets

Words which end in eu and ou add x instead of s

un cheveu	a hair
des cheveux	some hairs
mes cheveux	my hair (all of them, not just one strand)
le bijou	the piece of jewellery
les bijoux	the pieces of jewellery

However, there are two important exceptions: **un clou** ('nail') becomes **des clous** ('some nails') and **un trou** ('hole') becomes **des trous** ('some holes').

Words which end in *al*, *ail* and *au* end in *aux*:

un cheval	a horse
deux chevaux	two horses
le travail	the piece of work
les travaux	the pieces of work
un tuyau	a hose
trois tuyaux	three hoses

However, an important exception is **un détail** ('detail') which becomes **des détails** ('some details').

Eyes

The eye is **l'œil** but the eyes are **les yeux**.

Level 23 - Avec / Sans / Il y a / Beaucoup / Peu

Avec, **sans**, **il y a**, **beaucoup** and **peu** are all very important words in French. Here are their meanings followed by some examples:

avec	with
sans	without
il y a	there is, there are
beaucoup (de)	many / much / a lot (of)
peu (de)	few / not much / not many (of)
un peu (de)	a little (of)
je suis avec mon ami	I am with my friend
une chemise avec quatre poches	a shirt with four pockets
il a un pantalon sans poches	he has some trousers without pockets
elle aime le thé sans sucre	she likes tea without sugar
j'aime beaucoup le café	I like coffee a lot
j'aime le café avec beaucoup de lait	I like coffee with lots of milk
il y a un peu d'eau dans le verre	there's a little water in the glass
le film est un peu long	the film is a little long
peu de gens attendant l'autobus	not many people are waiting for the bus
je parle peu de ma famille	I don't speak much about my family
il y a dix-sept crayons dans le sac	there are seventeen pencils in the bag
il y a beaucoup de gens dans le magasin	there are a lot of people in the shop
il n'y a pas de livres	there are no books

Pay special attention to the difference between **peu de** which means 'few' where the emphasis is on there not being much/many, and **un peu de** which means 'a little' where the emphasis is on there being some even if it's not that much/many. Also note that **il n'y a pas de** ('there is/are no') is a very common construction which you will see and hear often.

Level 24 - Countries / Places / Nationalities

Countries

You do not need to know all the countries of the world. Included here are those most likely to appear in a GCSE or Common Entrance exam and those places where visitors to this site are most likely to live.

Masculine

le Canada	Canada
le Danemark	Denmark
les États-Unis	United States
le Japon	Japan
les Pays-Bas	Netherlands
le Portugal	Portugal
le Pays de Galles	Wales
le Royaume-Uni	United Kingdom

Feminine

l'Afrique du Sud	South Africa
l'Allemagne	Germany
l'Angleterre	England
l'Australie	Australia
l'Autriche	Austria
la Belgique	Belgium
la Chine	China
l'Écosse	Scotland
l'Espagne	Spain
la Finlande	Finland
la Grande-Bretagne	Great Britain
la Grèce	Greece
l'Inde	India
l'Irlande	Ireland
l'Irlande du Nord	Northern Ireland
l'Italie	Italy
la Norvège	Norway
la Nouvelle-Zélande	New Zealand
la Russie	Russia
la Suède	Sweden
la Suisse	Switzerland

Other Places

Masculine

le Massif Central	Massif Central
le Midi	(mountains) South of France

Feminine

l'Afrique	Africa
les Alpes	the Alps
l'Amérique	America
l'Amérique du Nord	North America
l'Amérique du Sud	South America
l'Asie	Asia
la Bretagne	Brittany
la Corse	Corsica
l'Europe	Europe
la Manche	the English Channel
la Méditerranée	the Mediterranean Sea
les Pyrénées	the Pyrenees

Nationalities

Masculine

africain	African
allemand	German
américain	American
anglais	English
asiatique	Asian
australien	Australian
autrichien	Austrian
belge	Belgian
britannique	British
canadien	Canadian

Feminine

africaine	African
allemande	German
américaine	American
anglaise	English
asiatique	Asian
australienne	Australian
autrichienne	Austrian
belge	Belgian
britannique	British
canadienne	Canadian

chinois	Chinese	chinoise	Chinese
corse	Corsican	corse	Corsican
danois	Danish	danoise	Danish
écossais	Scottish	écossaise	Scottish
espagnol	Spanish	espagnole	Spanish
européen	European	européenne	European
finlandais	Finnish	finlandaise	Finnish
gallois	Welsh	galloise	Welsh
grec	Greek	grecque	Greek
hollandais	Dutch	hollandaise	Dutch
indien	Indian	indienne	Indian
irlandais	Irish	irlandaise	Irish
italien	Italian	italienne	Italian
japonais	Japanese	japonaise	Japanese
néo-zélandais	from New Zealand	néo-zélandaise	from New Zealand
norvégien	Norwegian	norvégienne	Norwegian
portugais	Portuguese	portugaise	Portuguese
russe	Russian	russe	Russian
sud-africain	South African	sud-africaine	South African
suédois	Swedish	suédoise	Swedish
suisse	Swiss	suisse	Swiss

If a nationality is spelt with a capital letter it is being used as a noun instead of an adjective.

Où habites-tu?

To say 'in' or 'to' when talking about countries and regions it depends on whether the country is masculine or feminine. For masculine countries you say **au** (or **aux** if plural) and for feminine countries **en**. Here are some examples.

où habites-tu?	where do you live?
j'habite en France	I live in France
il habite au Portugal	he lives in Portugal
nous habitons aux Pays-Bas	we live in the Netherlands

Level 25 - À / Au / À La / À L' / Aux

À means 'to', 'at' or in the case of towns and cities, 'in'. It is an extremely common word in French.

à Paris	in / to Paris (not dans)
à Londres	in / to London
à Édimbourg	in / to Edinburgh
à la ville	to the town
à l'usine	to the factory
où habites-tu?	where do you live?
j'habite à Douvres	I live in Dover

When **à** is followed by **la** or **l'** there is no problem - we simply say **à la** and **à l'**. But when the word **à** needs to be followed by **le** and **les** (plural), **à + le** becomes **au** and **à + les** becomes **aux**. We have already seen **au** and **aux** in [Level 24](#) when we learnt that **au Portugal** means 'in Portugal' and that **aux États-Unis** means 'in the United States'.

Here are some more examples.

au bureau	to the office / at the offices
aux bureaux	to the offices / at the offices
à l'hôtel	to the hotel / at the hotel

aux hôtels	to the hotels / at the hotels
à la maison	to the house / at the house
aux maisons	to the houses / at the houses
à l'école	to the school / at the school
aux écoles	to the schools / at the schools

Phrases containing à

'AWAY' phrases

à neuf kilomètres d'ici	9km away from here
à deux cents kilomètres	200km away
à dix-huit mètres d'ici	18 metres away from here
à mille mètres	1000 metres away

POSITION phrases

à côté de	next to
à droite	on the / to the right
à gauche	on the / to the left
au bord (de)	on the edge (of)
au bord de la mer	at the seaside
au bout (de)	at the end (of)
au coin	on the corner
au-dessus de	above
au-dessous de	below
au début (de)	at the beginning (of)
au fond (de)	at the bottom of (of)
au milieu (de)	in the middle (of)
à l'appareil	on the telephone
à l'étranger	abroad

TIME phrases

à sept heures	at 7 o'clock
à vingt-et-un heures	at 21:00
à l'avance	in advance, beforehand
à l'avenir	in the future
à l'heure	on time
à bientôt	see you soon
à demain	see you tomorrow
à plus tard	see you later (1)
à tout à l'heure	see you later (2)

TRAVEL phrases

à cheval	on horseback
(kilomètres) à l'heure	(kilometres) per hour
à pied	on foot
à vélo	by bike
à toute vitesse	at full speed

OTHER phrases

à la mode	fashionable (la mode = fashion)
à moi	to me
à mon avis	in my opinion (un avis = a piece of advice)
à toi	to you
à ton avis	in your opinion
à part	apart, apart from
à partir de	from, starting from
au moins	at least
au sujet de	about

au revoir goodbye

Level 26 - Irregular Stem-Changing Verbs

Stem-changing verbs do not follow the usual rules. The stem is the part of the verb which is not the ending.

Doubling the consonant

In [Level 10](#) we learnt the verb **s'appeler** where the **l** was doubled in all forms except **nous** and **vous**. Two other verbs like that are **épeler** (to spell) and **(se) rappeler** (to recall). Two verbs which do the same thing but with the letter **t** are **jeter** ('to throw') and **rejeter** ('to reject'). For example:

j'épelle	I spell
BUT nous épelons	we spell
tu jettes la balle	you throw the ball (sg.)
BUT vous jetez la balle	you throw the ball (pl.)

Spelling change after nous

Verbs ending **-cer** (like **commencer** 'to start') and **-ger** (like **manger** 'to eat') have the endings **çons** and **geons** in the **nous** form in order to keep the right sound (soft 'c' and soft 'g'). Everything else works normally. For example:

nous commençons	we start
nous mangeons	we eat

Important verbs that end in **-cer** and **-ger** include:

agacer	to aggravate
arranger	to arrange (1)
bouger	to move
changer	to change
commencer	to start
corriger	to correct
déranger	to disturb
effacer	to delete
encourager	to encourage
exiger	to demand
lancer	to throw
manger	to eat
mélanger	to mix
nager	to swim
partager	to share
placer	to place
plonger	to dive
ranger	to arrange (2)
remplacer	to replace
voyager	to travel

Accent change

Verbs containing an ending of **e / é + consonant + er** have a grave accent (**è**) placed on the first **e** in all forms except **nous** and **vous** which keep the original **e** or **é**. Here are some examples:

je complète	I complete
-------------	------------

tu complètes	you complete
il complète	he completes
elle complète	she completes
on complète	one completes
BUT nous complétons	we complete
AND vous complétez	you complete
ils complètent	they complete
elles complètent	they complete

Important verbs which work in this way include:

acheter	to buy
amener*	to bring
compléter	to complete
considérer	to consider
emmener	to take away
différer	to differ
espérer	to hope
emmener*	to take (away)
enlever	to remove
geler	to freeze
gérer	to manage
s'inquiéter	to worry
lever	to lift, raise
se lever	to get up
mener	to lead
peser	to weigh
posséder	to possess
préférer	to prefer
se promener	to go for a walk
protéger	to protect
répéter	to repeat
révéler	to reveal
suggérer	to suggest

* **Amener** and **emmener** mean to take or to bring something that you cannot carry on your person. If you can carry the item the verbs are **apporter** ('to bring') and **emporter** ('to take').

Y becomes i

Verbs ending **-yer** like **nettoyer** ('to clean') and **payer** ('to pay / pay for') change the **y** to an **i** in all forms except **nous** and **vous**. For example:

il nettoie la voiture	he cleans the car
je paie le serveur	I pay the waiter

Important verbs ending in **-yer** include:

appuyer (sur)	to press
effrayer	to frighten
employer	to employ
ennuyer	to bore
s'ennuyer	to get bored
essayer	to try
payer	to pay
nettoyer	to clean
se noyer	to drown
tutoyer	to use the tu form

Level 27 - De / Du / De La / De L' / Des

De or **d'** before a vowel or silent **h** means 'of' or 'from' and is extremely common in French. Whereas in English we indicate possession with an apostrophe and the letter 's' (e.g. Paul's car) in French we use **de**.

le maire de la ville	the mayor of the town
la voiture de Paul	Paul's car
le train arrive de Paris	the train arrives from Paris

When **de** is followed by **la** or **l'** there is no problem - we simply say **de la** and **de l'**. But when the word **de** needs to be followed by **le** and **les** (plural), **de + le** becomes **du** and **de + les** becomes **des**.

Here are some more examples.

du bureau	of the office / from the offices
des bureaux	of the offices / from the offices
de l'hôtel	of the hotel / from the hotel
des hôtels	of the hotels / from the hotels
de la maison	of the house / from the house
des maisons	of the houses / from the houses
de l'école	of the school / from the school
des écoles	of the schools / from the schools

Phrases containing de

d'abord	at first
d'accord	OK
d'avance	in advance
de bonne heure	early
de bonne humeur	in a good mood
de l'autre côté	on the other side
de la part de qui?	who's calling? (on the telephone)
de mauvaise humeur	in a bad mood
de rien	you're welcome (rien = nothing)
de temps en temps	from time to time
d'habitude	usually
du moins	at least
d'une grande valeur	of great value
à partir de	from, starting from
au sujet de	about
autour de	around
en dehors de	outside of
en face de	opposite
en provenance de	coming from
en train de	in the process of
hors de	outside of
loin de	far from
près de	near to

Some (partitive articles)

In [Level 2](#) we learnt that 'some' in French is **des**. But what about when we mean 'some' without it being plural, for example 'some water' or 'some bread'? If we are talking about an amount of a substance or idea which is not plural we are talking about mass nouns. Water, bread, petrol, gold, anger and time are all examples of mass nouns. But none of them is plural so **des** cannot be used. Instead we use **du**, **de la** or **de l'**. So in French, 'of the' and 'some' are the same. Here are some examples.

du temps	some time
du pain	some bread
du feu	some fire

de la crème	some cream
de la valeur	some value
de la fumée	some smoke
de l'espace	some space
de l'eau	some water
de l'huile	some oil

Some learners find it difficult to know which word for 'some' they should choose. First, ask yourself if you can count a number of the objects. If you can count them, some is **des** as in **des ordinateurs** ('some computers'). You can't count fire, smoke or water which is why they need **du**, **de la** and **de l'** respectively.

Level 28 - Adjectives

Adjectives are words which describe nouns. Remember that a noun can be a person, a place, an object, a quality or an idea.

This and that (demonstrative adjectives)

Demonstrative adjectives mean 'this' and 'that'. There are four different words: **ce** and **cet** (masculine), **cette** (feminine) and **ces** (plural). To make it clearer whether we mean 'this' or 'that' we can use the extra words **-ci** ('here') and **-là** ('there') to help us. Unlike most adjectives, these words go before the noun.

ce	this / that (m.)
ce livre	this book / that book
ce livre-ci	this book here
ce livre-là	that book there
cet	this / that (m. before vowel or silent h)
cet autobus	this bus / that bus
cet autobus-ci	this bus here
cet autobus-là	that bus there
cette	this / that (f.)
cette poire	this pear
cette poire-ci	this pear here
cette poire-là	that pear there
ces	these / those
ces livres	these books / those books
ces autobus-ci	these buses here
ces poires-là	those buses there

All / Every

There are four words for this: **tout** (masculine singular), **tous** (masculine plural), **toute** (feminine singular) and **toutes** (feminine plural). Again, unusually for adjectives, these go before the noun.

tout le monde	the whole world (everybody)
tous les jours	every day
toute l'argent	all the money
toutes les filles	all the girls

List of adjectives

Here is a list of adjectives which you need to know on top of the colours ([Level 3](#)), nationalities ([Level 24](#)) and personal description ([Level 29](#)). You do not have to learn them all now but make sure you come back to them later. Remember, adjectives in French normally go after the noun and must agree with the noun they are describing, whether masculine or feminine, singular or plural. To make a plural agreement we add **s** (unless there is already one there), to make a feminine agreement we add **e** (unless there is already one there; remember **é** is a different letter and so still needs an extra **e**) and to make a feminine plural agreement we add **es**. Some of these adjectives are irregular and these will be pointed out to you.

	abandonné	abandoned
	abominable	dreadful
	absent	absent
active	actif	active
affreuse	affreux	awful
	âgé	old
	agréable	nice
	aimable	kind / nice (person)
	ainé	older / oldest in the family
amoureuse de	amoureux de	in love with
	amusant	funny
ancienne	ancien	former / old
	animé	busy / lively
	aucun	no
	autre	other
	barbant	extremely boring
basse	bas	low
	bavard	talkative
bel before vowel or silent h / belle /	beau	beautiful / fine / handsome
beaux / belles	bête	stupid
	bien payé	well paid
bien payée	blesé	injured
	bon	good
bonne	bon marché	cheap
invariable, no s on plural	brief	brief
brève	bruyant	noisy
	calme	calm
	carré	square / straightforward
	cassé	broken
	célèbre	famous
	célibataire	single (marital status)
	central	central
	chaque	each
	chaud	hot
	cher	dear / expensive
chère	chic	nice / smart / stylish
invariable, no s on plural	chouette!	great!
	clair	clear / light (colour)
	comique	funny
	commercial	commercial
	commode	convenient / handy
	complet	complete
complète	compliqué	complicated
	compris	included
	confortable	comfortable
	content	happy
	correct	correct
	couvert	covered
dangereuse	dangereux	dangerous
	dégoûtant	disgusting
	délicieux	delicious
délicieuse	demi	half
	dernier	last
dernière	désolé	sorry
	différent	different
	difficile	difficult

	direct	direct
	divorcé	divorced
	double	double
douce	doux	soft / sweet / mild
	droit	straight
	drôle	funny
	dur	hard
	dynamique	dynamic
	égal	equal
	égoïste	selfish
	électrique	electric
	enchanté	delighted
ennuyeuse	ennuyeux	annoying / boring
	enrhumé	suffering from a cold
	ensoleillé	sunny
	entendu	agreed
	équilibré	well-balanced
étrangère	étranger	foreign, strange
	étroit	narrow
	exact	exact / correct
	excellent	excellent
	expérimenté	experienced
invariable, no s on plural extra	extra!	brilliant!
	facile	easy
	faible	weak
invariable fana	fana de	fanatical about
	fanatique de	fanatical about
	fatigant	tiring
	fatigué	tired
fausse	faux	false / wrong
favorite	favori	favourite
	fermé	closed
fermée à clef	fermé à clef	locked
	fier	proud
fière	foncé	dark (e.g. colour)
	formidable!	tremendous!
	fort	strong / loud
	fou	mad
fol before vowel or silent h / folle /	frais	fresh / cool
fous/ folles	franc	frank / straightforward
fraîche	froid	cold
franche	général	general
	généreux	generous
	génial!	fantastic!
généreuse	gentil	kind
	grand	great / big / tall
gentille	gras	fat
	gratuit	free (no cost)
grasse	grave	serious
	gros	fat
	habile	clever / skilful
grosse	habillé	dressed
	haut	high
	hebdomadaire	weekly
	heureux	happy
	historique	historical
heureuse	honnête	honest
	humide	wet / humid
	idiot	idiotic
	impatient	impatient
	impoli	impolite
	important	important
	impossible	impossible
	improbable	improbable
	inclus	inclusive
	incroyable	incredible
	individuel	individual

	industriel	industrial
individuelle	injuste	unfair
industrielle	intelligent	intelligent
	interdit	forbidden
	intéressant	interesting
	inutile	useless
	jeune	young
	joli	pretty / attractive
	journalier	daily
journalière	joyeux	joyful / merry
joyeuse	jumelé	twinned
	juste	fair
	laid	ugly
	large	wide
	léger	light (mild / not heavy)
légère	lent	slow
	libre	free (available)
	lointain	faraway
	long	long
longue	lourd	heavy
	magnifique	magnificent
	maigre	thin
	mal payé	badly paid
mal payée	malade	ill
	malheureux	unhappy / unfortunate / unlucky
malheureuse	malhonnête	dishonest
	marié	married
	mauvais	bad
	méchant	nasty / naughty
	meilleur	better
	même	same
	merveilleux	marvellous
merveilleuse	mignon	sweet / cute
mignonne	militaire	military
	mince	slim
	moche	ugly
	moindre	least
	moderne	modern
	montagneux	mountainous
montagneuse	mort	dead
	mou	soft
mol before vowel or silent h / molle / mous / molles	mouillé	wet / soaking
	moyen	average / medium
	mûr	ripe / mature
	musclé	muscular
moyenne	naturel	natural
	nautique	nautical
	nécessaire	necessary
naturelle	négatif	negative
	neuf	new
	nombreux	numerous
négative	non compris	not included
neuve	non potable	not drinkable
nombreuse	normal	normal
non comprise	nouveau	new
	nul	rubbish
nouvel before vowel or silent h / nouvelle / nouveaux / nouvelles / nulle	obligatoire	obligatory
	occupé	busy / occupied
	optimiste	optimistic
	ouvert	open
	 paresseux	lazy
	parfait	perfect
 paresseuse	pas cher	cheap
	passé	last (e.g. week, month)
pas chère	passionnant	exciting / fascinating
	patient	patient

	pauvre	poor
	pénible	hard / painful / tiresome
	pessimiste	pessimistic
	petit	small
	physique	physical
	pire	worse
	pittoresque	picturesque
	plastique	plastic
	plein	full
	pluvieux	rainy
	poli	polite
pluvieuse	pollué	polluted
	portable	portable
	positif	positive
	possible	possible
positive	potable	drinkable
	pratique	practical
	préféré	favourite
	premier	first
	présent	present
	pressé	urgent / hurried / pressed
première	prêt	ready
	principal	main
	privé	private
	probable	probable
	prochain	next
	proche	nearby
	professionnel	professional
	propre	own / clean
professionnelle	public	public
	qualifié	qualified
	quelque	some
publique	quotidien	daily
	rapide	fast
	rare	rare
quotidienne	ravi	delighted
	récent	recent
	recherché	elegant / refined
	reconnaissant	grateful
	réduit	reduced
	réel	real
	religieux	religious
	riche	rich
réelle	sage	wise
religieuse	sain	healthy
	sal	dirty
	satisfait	satisfied
	scolaire	to do with school
	sec	dry
	second	second
	séparé	separated
sèche	sérieux	serious
	seul	only / alone / lonely
	sévère	severe
sérieuse	silencieux	silent
	simple	simple / single
	situé	situated
silencieuse	sombre	dark (e.g. night, room) / gloomy
	sot	silly / foolish
	sous-titré	subtitled
	spacieux	spacious
sotte	spécial	special
	sportif	sporty / to do with sport
spacieuse	strict	strict
	stupide	stupid
sportive	sucré	sugared / sweet (flavour)
	suivant	following

	super	super
	sympa	nice
	tardif	late
super	timide	shy
sympa	touristique	for tourists
tardive	tranquille	quiet
	travailleur	hard-working
	triste	sad
	typique	typical
travailleuse	unique	unique
	utile	useful
	valable	valid / worthwhile
	varié	varied
	vaste	vast
	végétarien	vegetarian
	vêtu	dressed
	vide	empty
végétarienne	vieux	old
	vilain	ugly / nasty / naughty
	voisin	neighbouring
vieil before vowel or silent h / vieille / vieux / vieilles	vrai	true / real

Adjectives which go before the noun

We learnt in [Level 3](#) that adjectives in French are positioned after the noun - we say **un stylo rouge** (literally 'a pen red') when we mean 'a red pen'. There is however a list of adjectives which go before the noun in French. Sometimes the adjective can go before or after and the meaning is slightly changed by this positioning. If you want to say 'some' before one of these adjectives you must say **de** instead of **des**, for example **de jolies filles** 'some pretty girls'.

autre	other
beau	beautiful / fine / handsome
bon	good
bref	brief
double	double
gros	fat
haut	high
jeune	young
joli	pretty / attractive
long	long
mauvais	bad
méchant	nasty / naughty
nouveau	new
petit	small
tout	every
vaste	vast
vilain	ugly / nasty / naughty
vieux	old

Meaning before noun

Meaning after noun

old (former)	ancien	old (in age)
dear (cherished)	cher	expensive
last (final)	dernier	last (previous, e.g. week, month)
big, great	grand	tall
poor (unfortunate)	pauvre	poor (not rich)
own	propre	clean
only	seul	alone / lonely

Level 29 - Describing Yourself (Physical)

Here is a list of the main words you will need when describing yourself. Adjectives which do not change spelling to agree with the noun are marked with a *.

FACIAL FEATURES

la barbe	beard
la moustache	moustache
la tache de rousseur	freckle
les cheveux	hair
les lunettes	glasses
les yeux	eyes

EYE COLOURS (masculine plural to agree with **les yeux**)

bleus	blue
marron*	brown
verts	green
noisette*	hazel

HAIR COLOURS (masculine plural to agree with **les cheveux**)

blancs	white
blonds	blond(e)
bruns	brown
brun clair*	light brown
brun foncé*	dark brown
châtain*	chestnut brown
gris	grey
noirs	black
roux	red / ginger

HAIR TYPES (masculine plural to agree with **les cheveux**)

bouclés	curly
courts	short
en brosse*	spiky
longs	long
frisés	curly / wavy
mi-longs	shoulder-length
raides	straight
être chauve	to be bald

PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES

très	very
assez	quite
âgé / âgée	aged
beau / belle	beautiful / handsome
de taille moyenne / de taille moyenne	medium-sized
faible / faible	weak
fort / forte	strong
grand / grande	tall
gros / grosse	fat
jeune / jeune	young
joli / jolie	pretty
laid / laide	ugly
maigre / maigre	thin
mignon / mignonne	cute
mince / mince	slim
	ugly
	muscular
	short

moche / moche
musclé / musclée
petit / petite
vieux / vieille

old

HEIGHT AND WEIGHT

to measure (height)
 to weigh

mesurer
peser

(je pèse, tu pèses, il/elle/on pèse, nous pesons,
 vous pesez, ils/elles pèsent)

metre
 kilo

un mètre
un kilo

Giving a description of yourself

Read these personal descriptions and note the order of the words and the verbs used. These can be used as templates for your own version.

je m'appelle Jacques
j'ai vingt-cinq ans
je porte des lunettes
j'ai une moustache mais je n'ai pas de barbe
j'ai les yeux marron
j'ai les cheveux noirs, courts et bouclés
je suis très grand et assez mince
je suis fort et musclé
je ne suis pas petit et je ne suis pas faible
je mesure 1 mètre 90
je pèse 78 kilos

my name is Jacques
 I am 25
 I wear glasses
 I have a moustache but I don't have a beard
 I have brown eyes
 I have black, short, curly hair
 I am very tall and quite slim
 I am strong and muscular
 I am not short and I am not weak
 I am 1 metre 90 tall
 I weigh 78 kilos

je m'appelle Christine
j'ai cinquante et un ans
je ne porte pas de lunettes
j'ai beaucoup de taches de rousseur
j'ai les yeux verts
j'ai les cheveux blonds, mi-longs et frisés
je suis jolie et je suis un peu grosse
je suis petite mais je suis assez forte
je ne suis pas moche et je ne suis pas maigre
je mesure 1 mètre 55
je pèse 73 kilos

my name is Christine
 I am 51
 I do not wear glasses
 I have lots of freckles
 I have green eyes
 I have blonde, shoulder-length wavy hair
 I am pretty and I am a little fat
 I am short but I am quite strong
 I am not ugly and I am not thin
 I am 1 metre 55 tall
 I weigh 73 kilos

Level 30 - Describing Where You Live

We learnt in [Level 7](#) that a town or city is **une ville** and a village is **un village**. Here is the main vocabulary you will need to know when describing where you live. Remember to revise the different places in town in [Level 7](#).

Masculine

GEOGRAPHIC
 FEATURES

le bois
le bord de la mer
le centre
le champ
le fleuve

wood
 seaside
 centre
 field
 large river
 lake

Feminine

la banlieue
la campagne
la colline
la côte
la ferme
la forêt

suburbs
 countryside
 hill
 coast
 farm
 forest

le lac
le pays
le paysage
le quartier

country
landscape
district

l'île
la montagne
la plage
la région
la rivière
la route
la rue
la vallée

island
mountain / the
mountains
beach
region
river
road
street
valley

DIRECTIONS (les directions)

le nord
le sud
l'est
l'ouest
le nord-est
le nord-ouest
le sud-est
le sud-ouest

north
south
east
west
north-east
north-west
south-east
south-west

ATTRACTIONS

le centre commercial
le château
le cinéma
le cirque
le club
le musée
le parc
le parc d'attraction
le stade
le théâtre
le zoo

shopping centre
castle
cinema
circus
club
museum
park
theme park
stadium
theatre
zoo

la boîte (de nuit)
la cathédrale
la discothèque
l'église
la patinoire
la piscine

nightclub
cathedral
disco
church
ice rink
swimming pool

ADJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTIONS

à la mode

fashionable

ancien / ancienne
beau / bel (before vowel or silent h) / belle
calme / calme
commercial / commerciale
ensoleillé / ensoleillée
historique / historique
industriel / industrielle
laid / laide
militaire / militaire
moderne / moderne
montagneux / montagneuse
nouveau / nouvelle
pittoresque / pittoresque
pluvieux / pluvieuse
principal / principale
touristique / touristique
tranquille / tranquille
situé / située
vallonné / vallonnée
vieux / vieil (before vowel or silent h) / vieille

old
beautiful
calm
commercial
sunny
historic
industrial
ugly
military
modern
mountainous
new
picturesque
rainy
main
for tourists
quiet
situated
hilly
old

central / centrale
nord / nord
sud / sud
est / est
ouest / ouest

central
northern
southern
eastern
western

LOCATIONS

à la campagne	in the country
à la montagne	in the mountains
au bord de la mer	at the seaside / on the coast
dans la banlieue	in the suburbs
en centre-ville	in the centre of town
en ville	in town
loin de	far from
près de	near to
tout près de	very near to

Giving a description of where you live

Read this description of where someone lives and note the order of the words and the verbs used. These can be used as templates for your own version.

j'habite à Nice	I live in Nice
c'est une grande ville dans le sud-est de la France	it is a big city in the south-east of France
il y a trois cent cinquante habitants	there are 350,000 inhabitants
Nice est située au bord de la mer	Nice is situated at the seaside
elle se trouve tout près de la frontière italienne	it is found very near to the Italian border
le centre-ville est historique et commercial	the centre of town is historic and commercial
le centre-ville est très bruyant	the centre of town is very noisy
la banlieue est plus tranquille et elle est assez vallonnée	the suburbs are quieter and they are quite hilly
il y a beaucoup d'attractions	there are lots of attractions
il y a plusieurs cinémas et quelques musées	there are several cinemas and some museums
il y a une longue plage	there is a long beach
mon frère n'aime pas Nice mais j'adore ma ville	my brother doesn't like Nice but I love my town

Level 31 - Your House

The house as we saw in [Level 8](#) is **la maison**. The rooms are **les pièces**. Here is a list of vocabulary you will need when talking about your house:

Masculine

le balcon	balcony
le bureau	study
le chauffage central	central heating
l'escalier	staircase
l'étage	floor (storey)
le garage	garage
le gazon	lawn (1)
le grenier	attic
le jardin	garden
le mur	wall
le plafond	ceiling
le plancher	floor
le rez-de-chaussée	ground floor
le salon	living room
le sol	floor / ground
le sous-sol	basement
le tapis	carpet
le toit	roof

HOUSE TYPES**Feminine**

l'allée	driveway
la buanderie	utility room
la cave	cellar
la chambre	bedroom
la cheminée	chimney
la cuisine	kitchen
la douche	shower
la fenêtre	window
la pelouse	lawn (2)
la salle à manger	dining room
la salle de bains	bathroom

l'appartement	flat / apartment	la maison	house
le bungalow	bungalow	la maison individuelle	detached house
l'immeuble	block of flats	la maison jumelée	semi-detached house
le pavillon	small detached house	la rangée de maisons	terrace

ADJECTIVES AND ADVERBS

chaud / chaude	warm
clair / claire	bright
confortable / confortable	comfortable
froid / froide	cold
moderne / moderne	modern
sombre / sombre	dark / gloomy
spacieux / spacieuse	spacious
vieux / vieille	old
dedans	inside
dehors	outside
en bas	downstairs
en haut	upstairs

Describing your house

j'habite dans un grand appartement à Marseille	I live in a big flat in Marseilles
avec mon père et ma mère	with my mum and dad
il est moderne, chaud et spacieux	it is modern, warm and spacious
nous avons un bureau, deux chambres et un grand salon	we have a study, three bedrooms and a big sitting room
la salle de bains est très sombre	the bathroom is very gloomy
dehors il n'y a pas de jardin	outside there is no garden
ma chambre est claire et confortable	my bedroom is bright and comfortable

Level 32 - Possession

In Level 9 we learnt that **mon**, **ma** and **mes** all mean 'my' depending on whether the thing you are describing is masculine, feminine or plural. Here are the other ways of indicating possession. Take care to note that the agreement is with the thing owned, not the person owning it. Here is the complete table for showing possession, followed by some examples.

MEANING	MASCULINE FEM. before vowel or silent h	FEMININE	PLURAL
my	mon	ma	mes
your (sg.)	ton	ta	tes
his / her / its / one's	son	sa	ses
our	notre	notre	nos
your (pl.)	votre	votre	vos
their	leur	leur	leurs

mon vélo	my bike
ton vélo	your bike (sg.)
son vélo	his/ her / its / one's bike
notre vélo	our bike
votre vélo	your bike (pl.)
leur vélo	their bike

ma maison	my house
ta maison	your house (sg.)
sa maison	his/ her / its / one's house

notre maison	our house
votre maison	your house (pl.)
leur maison	their house
mes bonbons	my sweets
tes bonbons	your sweets (sg.)
ses bonbons	his/ her / its / one's sweets
nos bonbons	our sweets
vos bonbons	your sweets (pl.)
leurs bonbons	their sweets

EXCEPTIONS BEFORE VOWEL OR SILENT H

mon école	my school
ton école	your school
son école	his / her school

Level 33 - Aller 'to go' / Venir 'to come'

We now move onto two more key verbs: **aller** ('to go') and **venir** ('to come'). Like many key verbs, they happen to be irregular. Here they are in the present tense, followed by some example sentences.

je vais	I go
tu vas	you go (sg.)
il va	he goes
elle va	she goes
on va	one goes
nous allons	we go
vous allez	you go (pl.)
ils vont	they go (m.)
elles vont	they go (f.)

je viens	I come
tu viens	you come (sg.)
il vient	he comes
elle vient	she comes
on vient	one comes
nous venons	we come
vous venez	you come (pl.)
ils viennent	they come (m.)
elles viennent	they come (f.)

je vais en France	I'm going to France
tu vas au Canada	you're going to Canada
il va en ville	he's going into town
nous allons à l'école	we're going to the school
vous allez à Paris	you're going to Paris
elles vont au café	they're going to the café

je viens en ville	I'm coming into town
tu viens à ma maison	you're coming to my house
elle vient au stade	she's coming to the stadium
nous venons avec vous	we're coming with you
est-ce que vous venez?	are you coming?
ils viennent samedi	they're coming on Saturday

Tu vas bien? / vous allez bien?

These mean 'how are you?' and is usually to be responded to with **(je vais) très bien merci** ('very well thank you'). if you are not well, find out what you should say in [Level 69](#).

Phrases with aller

aller au lit	to go to bed
aller bien	to be well (literally 'to go well')
aller chercher	to fetch
aller mieux	to be better (literally 'to go better')

D'où-viens-tu / d'où venez-vous

These mean 'where do you come from?' (literally: 'from where come you?'). You answer by saying **je viens de** ('i come from') followed by the name of the place (unless it's a masculine country beginning with a consonant like **le Portugal** and **le Danemark**) e.g. **je viens d'Angleterre, je viens de Londres, je viens de Paris, je viens de France, je viens du Portugal.**

Level 34 - House Contents

We already know the names of the rooms of the house. If you want to revise them they can be found in [Level 31](#). Here is a list of things you could expect to find in a house. For food and drink items see [Level 48](#) and for clothes see [Level 11](#).

Masculine

DANS LA CUISINE

le bol	bowl
le congélateur	freezer
le couteau	knife
l'évier	sink
le four	oven
le four à micro-ondes	microwave oven
le frigidaire	fridge (1)
le frigo	fridge (2)
le lave-vaisselle	dishwasher
le réfrigérateur	fridge (3)
le placard	cupboard
les robinets	taps
le verre	glass

DANS LE SALON

le canapé	sofa
le fauteuil	armchair
le meuble	piece of furniture
le placard	cupboard
le radiateur	radiator
le rayon	shelf (1)
les rideaux	curtains
le tableau	painting
le tapis	carpet / rug
le téléviseur*	television set
le tiroir	drawer
le ventilateur	fan

DANS LA CHAMBRE

l'abat-jour	lampshade
les CDs	CDs
le drap	sheet
le jeu	game
le jeu vidéo	video game
le jouet	toy
le lit	bed
l'ordinateur	computer

IN THE KITCHEN

Feminine

la bouilloire	kettle
la casserole	saucepan
la cuiller / la cuillère	spoon
la fourchette	fork
la marmite	cooking pot
la plante	plant
la poubelle	dustbin
la table	table
la tasse	cup
la vaisselle	washing-up

IN THE LIVING ROOM

l'étagère	shelf (2)
la bibliothèque	bookcase
la bougie	candle
la fleur	flower
la lumière	light
la plante	plant
la télévision	television set (2)

IN THE BEDROOM

l'armoire	wardrobe
la chaîne-stéréo	stereo
la couverture	blanket
la lampe	lamp

l'oreiller	pillow		
le sèche-cheveux	hairdryer		
DANS LA SALLE DE BAINS	IN THE BATHROOM		
le dentifrice	toothpaste	la baignoire*	bathtub
le lavabo	washbasin	l'éponge	sponge
le miroir	mirror	la brosse à dents	toothbrush
les robinets	taps	la douche	shower
le savon	soap	la serviette	towel
le shampoing	shampoo	la toilette	toilet
DANS LA BUANDERIE	IN THE UTILITY ROOM		
le fer à repasser	iron	l'eau de Javel	bleach
le linge	washing (dirty)	la lessive	washing (clean)
le seau	bucket	la machine à laver	washing machine
le séchoir à air chaud	tumble dryer		

* **un bain** is a bath as in the action of taking a bath (**prendre un bain**).

Describing your own room

j'ai une grande chambre
dans ma chambre il y a un lit, un ordinateur et
beaucoup de jeux
je n'ai pas de chaîne-stéréo ou de jouets
j'ai quelques livres

I have a big bedroom
in my bedroom there is a bed, a computer and lots of
games
I don't have a stereo or any toys
I have some books

Level 35 - Personality Types

Here is a list of the nouns you will need when describing someone's personality.

active	actif	active
agréable	agréable	nice
aimable	aimable	kind / nice
amusante	amusant	funny
bavarde	bavard	talkative
bête	bête	stupid
calme	calme	calm
chic	chic	nice / smart / stylish
comique	comique	funny
contente	content	happy
drôle	drôle	funny
dynamique	dynamique	dynamic
égoïste	égoïste	selfish
ennuyeuse	ennuyeux	annoying / boring
fana de	fana de	fanatical about
fanatique de	fanatique de	fanatical about
folle	fou / fol before vowel or	mad
franche	silent h	frank / straightforward
généreuse	franc	generous
géniale	généreux	great / ingenious
gentille	génial	kind
habile	gentil	clever / skilful
heureuse	habile	happy
honnête	heureux	honest
idiote	honnête	idiotic
impatiente	idiot	impatient
impolie	impatient	impolite

intelligente	impoli	intelligent
intéressante	intelligent	interesting
joyeuse	intéressant	joyful / merry
malheureuse	joyeux	unhappy / unfortunate / unlucky
malhonnête	malheureux	dishonest
méchante	malhonnête	nasty / naughty
mûre	méchant	mature
normale	mûr	normal
optimiste	normal	optimistic
paresseuse	optimiste	lazy
patient	paresseux	patient
pauvre	patient	poor
pessimiste	pauvre	pessimistic
polie	pessimiste	polite
privée	poli	private
recherchée	privé	elegant / refined
religieuse	recherché	religious
sage	religieux	wise, well-behaved
saine	sage	healthy
sérieuse	sain	serious
seule	sérieux	lonely
sévère	seul	severe
simple	sévère	simple
sombre	simple	gloomy
sotte	sombre	silly
sportive	sot	sporty
stricte	sportif	strict
stupide	strict	stupid
sympa	stupide	nice
timide	sympa	shy
tranquille	timide	quiet
travailleuse	tranquille	hard-working
triste	travailleur	sad
vilaine	triste	nasty / naughty
	vilain	

Describing someone

je suis aimable, bavard, assez généreux et très optimiste	I am kind, talkative, quite generous and very optimistic (male)
je suis aimable, bavarde, assez généreuse et très optimiste	I am kind, talkative, quite generous and very optimistic (female)
il est égoïste, malhonnête, assez méchant et très paresseux	he is selfish, dishonest, quite naughty and very lazy
elle est travailleuse et sportive, elle n'est pas timide	she is hard-working and sporty, she's not shy

Level 36 - Faire 'to do / to make'

Faire, meaning 'to do' or 'to make' is without doubt one of the most important verbs in French and is found in all sorts of other phrases too. Here it is below in the present tense, along with some examples:

je fais	I do / make
tu fais	you do / make (sg)
il fait	he does / makes
elle fait	she does / makes
on fait	one does / makes
nous faisons	we do / make
vous faites	you do / make (pl)

ils font	they do / make (m)
elles font	they do / make (f)
je fais ça	I do that
tu ne fais pas ça	you don't do that
il fait un bruit	he is making a noise
nous faisons une bonne chose	we are doing a good thing
vous faites quelque chose	you are doing something
elles font une affiche	they are making a poster

Phrases with faire

Faire is often used when describing things people do. When talking about leisure activities **faire** is the most commonly seen verb. Here is a list of **faire** phrases (see [Level 45](#) for a fuller list of sports, games and activities):

ça ne fait rien	that doesn't matter
faire attention à	to pay attention to
faire mal à	to do damage to
faire de la bicyclette	to go cycling (1)
faire de la lecture	to read
faire de la musculation	to lift weights
faire de la natation	to go swimming
faire de la peinture	to paint
faire de la planche à voile	to go windsurfing
faire de la voile	to go sailing
faire de l'aérobic	to do aerobics
faire de l'athlétisme	to do athletics
faire de l'équitation	to go horse riding (1)
faire de l'escalade	to go climbing
faire des achats	to go shopping
faire des économies	to make savings
faire des randonnées	to go hiking
faire du bateau	to go boating
faire du bricolage	to do DIY
faire du camping	to go camping
faire du canoë	to go canoeing
faire du cheval	to go horse riding (2)
faire du footing	to go running
faire du jardinage	to garden
faire du jogging	to go jogging
faire du kayak	to go kayaking
faire du patinage	to go ice skating
faire du roller*	to go roller skating
faire du skateboard**	to go skateboarding
faire du ski	to go skiing
faire du ski nautique	to go water skiing
faire du snowboard***	to go snowboarding
faire du sport	to do sport
faire du théâtre	to do drama
faire du vélo	to go cycling (2)
faire du VTT	to go mountain biking
faire la cuisine	to cook
faire les courses	to do the grocery shopping
faire une promenade	to go for a walk

* You may also come across **faire du patin à roulettes** for roller skating

** You may also come across **faire de la planche à roulettes** for skateboarding

*** You may also come across **faire de la planche à neige** or **faire du surf des neiges** for snowboarding

Level 37 - Time

To tell the time start off by saying **il est** ('it is'), then give the hour e.g. **trois**, then say **heures** ('hours'), or **heure** if it's 1 o'clock, and finally give the number of minutes. Instead of saying **quinze** and **trente** you have the choice of saying **et quart** and **et demie** to mean 'quarter past' and 'half past' Here are some examples.

il est une heure cinq	it's 1.05
il est deux heures dix	it's 2.10
il est trois heures quinze	it's 3.15
il est trois heures et quart	it's quarter past three
il est quatre heures vingt	it's 4.20
il est cinq heures vingt-cinq	it's 5.25
il est six heures trente	it's 6.30
il est six heures et demie	it's half past six

Moins

In English we often talk about how many minutes there are until the hour, for example 'twenty to six' instead of 5.40. This happens in French too. The word **moins** ('minus') is used to represent this as in the examples below:

il est deux heures moins cinq	it's five to two
il est trois heures moins dix	it's ten to three
il est trois heures moins quinze	it's fifteen to three
il est trois heures moins le quart	it's quarter to three
il est quatre heures moins vingt	it's twenty to four
il est cinq heures moins vingt-cinq	it's twenty-five to five

24 hour clock

This works in just the same way, except you can't use **et quart**, **et demie** or **moins le quart**. But we don't say half past thirteen in English either. Here are some examples.

il est treize heures cinq	it's 13.05
il est quatorze heures dix	it's 14.10
il est quinze heures quinze	it's 15.15
il est seize heures vingt	it's 16.20
il est dix-sept heures vingt-cinq	it's 17.00
il est zéro heure	it's 00.00

À

À means 'at'.

j'arrive à trois heures cinq	I arrive at 3.05
le match commence à huit heures moins le quart	the match starts at quarter to eight
le magasin ferme à neuf heures et demie	the shop closes at half past nine

Avant / après

Avant means 'before' and **après** means after.

Level 38 - En

En means 'in' but it is less flexible than **dans** and tends to appear in set phrases. We have already seen in [Level 24](#) that it is used with feminine countries to mean 'in' or 'to' but there are many more uses, of which the list below is a selection.

en avance	ahead of schedule
en bas	down / at the bottom / downstairs
en ce moment	at the moment
en centre-ville	in the centre of town
en colère	angry
en face de	opposite
en forme	fit, in form
en général	in general
en haut	up / at the top / upstairs
en même temps	at the same time
en panne	broken down
en plein air	in the open air
en provenance de	coming from
en retard	late
en sixième, en cinquième, en quatrième, en troisième, en seconde, en première, en terminale	in Year 7, in Year 8, in Year 9, in Year 10, in Year 11, in Year 12, in Year 13 (at school)
en train de	in the process of
en ville	in town

Of it / of them / some

En also means 'of it', 'of them' or 'some' and it appears before the verb you are using, for example:

j'<u>en</u> suis très fier	I am very proud <u>of it</u>
qu'est-ce que tu <u>en</u> penses?	what do you think <u>of it</u> ?
il y <u>en</u> a beaucoup	there are lots <u>of them</u>
j'<u>en</u> mange	I'm eating <u>some</u>

Level 39 - Saying what you like and don't like

The key verbs here are **adorer** ('to love'), **aimer** ('to like'), **préférer** ('to prefer') and **détester** ('to hate'). When expressing your likes and dislikes you will also be using the **ne pas** construction ('not') first seen in [Level 17](#).

j'<u>adore</u> le football	I <u>love</u> football
j'<u>aime</u> jouer au golf	I <u>like</u> playing golf
j'<u>aime</u> le riz mais je <u>préfère</u> les pâtes	I <u>like</u> rice but I <u>prefer</u> pasta
je <u>n'aime pas</u> le temps anglais	I <u>don't like</u> English weather
je <u>déteste</u> danser	I <u>hate</u> dancing

Notice how you can use a noun (like **le football**) or a verb infinitive (like **jouer**) after the first verb **aimer**, **détester** etc. If it is a noun you use be sure to include the word for 'the', e.g. **le football** not just **football**.

The vocabulary you will most likely need when talking about things you love, like, dislike or hate are school subjects ([Level 40](#)), sports and leisure activities ([Level 45](#)) and food and drink ([Level 48](#)).

Level 40 - School and ICT

The French for school is **une école**. We'll start off with the list of school subjects - **les matières**.

Masculine

l'allemand	German
l'anglais	English
l'art dramatique	drama
le dessin	art
l'espagnol	Spanish
le français	French
le latin	Latin
le sport	sport

Feminine

la biologie	biology
la chimie	chemistry
l'éducation physique / l'E.P.S.	P.E.
la géographie / la géo	geography
l'histoire	history
l'informatique	I.C.T.
l'instruction civique	citizenship
l'instruction religieuse	religious studies
les maths	maths
la musique	music
la physique	physics
la science	science
la science économique	economics
la technologie	technology

Saying what you like, what you don't like, and why

You may want to revise [Level 39](#) for vocabulary on liking and disliking before reading these examples. There are many more adjectives you could use listed in [Level 28](#).

j'adore l'anglais parce que c'est intéressant
 j'aime les maths parce que le professeur est formidable
 mais je préfère la biologie
 je n'aime pas la technologie parce que c'est ennuyeux
 je déteste le dessin parce que c'est nul

I love English because it's interesting
 I like maths because the teacher is brilliant
 but I prefer biology
 I don't like technology because it's boring
 I hate art because it's rubbish

School rooms, types of school and other school wordsMasculine

l'apprentissage	apprenticeship
l'atelier	workshop / studio
le collège	secondary school
le cours	lesson (1)
le déjeuner	lunch
le demi-pensionnaire	pupil who eats school lunch
les devoirs	homework/prep
l'emploi du temps	timetable
l'enseignement	education / teaching
l'examen*	exam
l'internat	boarding school
le laboratoire / le labo	laboratory
le lycée	sixth-form college
le projet	project
le règlement scolaire	list of school rules
le terrain de sports	sports field
le trimestre	term
l'uniforme scolaire	school uniform

Feminine

la bibliothèque	library
la cantine	canteen
la classe	class
la cloche	bell
la cour	playground
la demi-pensionnaire	pupil who eats school lunch
la dissertation	essay
l'école mixte	mixed school
l'école pour filles	girls' school
l'école pour garçons	boys' school
l'école élémentaire / primaire	primary school
l'école privée	private school
l'école publique	state school
l'épreuve	test
les études	studies
les grandes vacances	summer holidays
la journée scolaire	school day
la leçon	lesson (2)
la mi-temps	half-term
la pause-déjeuner	lunch break
la récréation / la récré	break
la rentrée	start of school year
la salle de classe	classroom
la salle des professeurs	staff room

* **passer un examen** is to take an exam, not to pass it! To pass an exam is **réussir à un examen** and to fail one is **rater un examen**.

School routine

Here is a description of a typical day at school. You can change various elements to suit your own situation.

j'arrive à l'école à huit heures et demie
mon premier cours est l'allemand
puis j'ai un cours de chimie
à onze heures moins le quart c'est la récré
après la récré j'ai un cours d'anglais
à midi je mange le déjeuner à la cantine
ensuite il y a une longue pause et je joue au
football dans la cour
après la pause-déjeuner il y a trois cours...
...la géographie, le dessin et la musique
à quatre heures les cours finissent et je rentre
chez moi à pied

I arrive at school at half past eight
my first lesson is German
then I have a chemistry lesson
at quarter to eleven it's break time
after break I have an English lesson
at midday I eat lunch at the canteen
then there is a long break and I play football in the
playground
after the lunch break there are three lessons...
...geography, art and music
at four o'clock lessons end and I return home on foot

ICT vocabulary

Masculine

le clavier	keyboard
le courriel	e-mail (1)
le courrier	e-mail (2)
électronique	cursor
le curseur	screen
l'écran	e-mail (3)
l'e-mail	file
le fichier	internet
l'Internet	disk drive
le lecteur de	software
disquettes	message
le logiciel	monitor
le message	password
le moniteur	computer
le mot de passe	website
l'ordinateur	
le site Internet/web	

Feminine

la disquette	disk
les données	data
l'imprimante	printer
la messagerie	electronic
électronique	communication
la souris	mouse

cliquer	to click
se connecter	to log in
se déconnecter	to log out
écrire	to write
effacer	to delete
envoyer	to send
imprimer	to print
sauvegarder	to save

Level 41 - Daily Routine

There are a number of basic structures involved in describing your daily routine and you can change various elements of each sentence to suit your own situation. Here is an example of a daily routine with changeable elements underlined and a sample alternative.

SAMPLE MEANING

je me réveille à sept heures et quart
 je me lève à sept heures et demie
 ensuite je me douche
 je prends le petit déjeuner à huit heures
 je mange du pain grillé avec du beurre
 je bois du jus d'orange
 puis je me brosse les dents
 et je me peigne les cheveux
 après ça je quitte la maison
 et je vais à l'école à pied
 je suis à l'école jusqu'à trois heures dix
 après l'école je sors avec mes amis
 puis je fais mes devoirs
 je prends le dîner à six heures du soir
 je regarde un peu la télé
 après ça je me couche
 et je m'endors à neuf heures et demie

I wake up at quarter past seven
 I get up at half past seven
 then I shower
 I have breakfast at 8 o'clock
 I eat toast with butter
 I drink orange juice
 then I brush my teeth
 and I comb my hair
 after that I leave the house
 and I go to school on foot
 I'm at school until 3.10
 after school I go out with my friends
 then I do my homework
 I have dinner at 6pm
 I watch TV for a bit
 after that I go to bed
 and I go to sleep at half past nine

ALTERNATIVES
 huit heures moins dix
 huit heures et quart
 je me baigne
 huit heures vingt
 des céréales
 du thé
 je me lave le visage
 je me maquille
 l'appartement
 à vélo
 quatre heures moins dix
 je rentre chez moi
 je fais les courses
 sept heures du soir
 je fais un peu de lecture
 plus tard
 dix heures et quart

ten to eight
 half past eight
 I take a bath
 8.20
 cereal
 tea
 I wash my face
 I put on make-up
 the flat
 by bike
 ten to four
 I return home
 I do the shopping
 7pm
 I do a bit of reading
 later on
 quarter past ten

This is such a broad topic and you have a lot of freedom in what you say. Some of the vocabulary you may want can be found here:

Level 7	Places In Town
Level 16	Reflexive Verbs
Level 37	Time
Level 40	At school
Level 42	Pocket Money And Chores
Level 45	Sports, Games And Activities
Level 48	Food And Drink

Level 42 - Pocket Money And Chores

The French word for a British pound (£) is **une livre**. You can say how much pocket money you receive per week or month by using the word **par**, meaning 'each' (it also means 'by'). The key verbs are **recevoir** 'to receive' (which is irregular: see [Level 58](#)) and **donner** 'to give'.

je reçois dix livres par semaine	I receive £10 a week
je reçois trente livres par mois	I receive £30 month
mes parents me donnent cinq livres par semaine	my parents give me £5 a week
ma mère me donne vingt livres par mois	my mum gives me £20 a month

Qu'est-ce que tu fais à la maison? Tous les quand?

Qu'est-ce que tu fais à la maison? means 'what do you do at home?' and tous les quand? means 'how often?'. Here is a list of jobs you might do to earn your pocket money.

j'aide à la maison	I help in the house
je fais du babysitting	I do the babysitting
je fais la lessive	I do the washing
je fais la vaisselle	I do the washing-up
je fais le jardinage	I do the gardening
je fais le ménage	I do the housework
je fais le repassage	I do the ironing
je fais les courses	I do the shopping

je fais mon lit	I make my bed
je garde les enfants	I look after the children
je lave la voiture	I wash the car
je mets la table	I lay the table
je débarrasse la table	I clear the table
je nettoie la cuisine / la salle de bains	I clean the kitchen / bathroom
je passe l'aspirateur	I do the vacuuming
je range ma chambre	I tidy my bedroom
je sors la poubelle	I take the rubbish out
je vide la poubelle	I empty the rubbish
TOUS LES QUAND?	HOW OFTEN?
tous les jours / chaque jour	every day
tous les soirs / chaque soir	every evening
tous les lundis / chaque lundi	every Monday
tous les mardis / chaque mardi	every Tuesday
tous les mercredis / chaque mercredi	every Wednesday
tous les jeudis / chaque jeudi	every Thursday
tous les vendredis / chaque vendredi	every Friday
tous les samedis / chaque samedi	every Saturday
tous les dimanches / chaque dimanche	every Sunday
une fois par jour / semaine / mois	once a day / week / month
deux fois par jour / semaine / mois	twice a day / week / month

Level 43 - Asking Questions Part 2

So far we have seen a few questions in French but here is the complete list and some examples of how to use them. With certain questions you need to change the order of subject (person doing the thing) and the verb after the question word. This is called inversion. See if you can spot inversion happening in the examples, but don't get too concerned about it - the main thing here is to recognise the meanings of the different words.

à quelle heure	at what time
combien (de)	how much, how many
comment	how
où	where
d'où	from where
pourquoi	why
quand	when
quel / quelle / quels / quelles	which / what (the word must agree with the noun which follows)
qui	who / whom
que / qu'est-ce que	what (object of the sentence)
qu'est-ce qui	what (subject of the sentence)
quoi	what (after prepositions like à, de, avec)
à quelle heure tu viens? / à quelle heure viens-tu?	<u>what time</u> are you coming?
combien de pommes désirez-vous?	<u>how many</u> apples do you want?
comment ça marche?	<u>how</u> does that work?
où est-il?	<u>where</u> is he?
d'où est-il?	<u>where</u> is he from?
pourquoi tu pleures?	<u>why</u> are you crying?
tu arrives quand?	<u>when</u> do you arrive?
<u>quel</u> est le problème?	<u>what's</u> the problem?
<u>quelle</u> voiture préférez-vous?	<u>which</u> car do you prefer?
<u>quels</u> bonbons aimes-tu?	<u>which</u> sweets do you like?
<u>quelles</u> sont les priorités?	<u>what</u> are the priorities?

qui êtes-vous?
 que penses-tu? / qu'est-ce que tu penses?
 qu'est-ce qui se passe?
 avec quoi tu joues?

who are you?
what do you think?
what's happening?
what are you playing with?

Level 44 - Asking For And Giving Directions

As well as being of vital importance when you're actually in France, you will need to know all about asking for and giving directions for your exams. Luckily, it's very simple and is all based around a few set phrases like **pour aller à** (literally 'for to go to' or 'in order to go to'). Just remember that **à + le = au** ([Level 25](#)).

Asking for directions

pour aller **à la banque**, s'il vous plaît?
 pour aller **à la boulangerie**, s'il vous plaît?
 pour aller **à l'église**, s'il vous plaît?
 pour aller **à l'hôtel de ville**, s'il vous plaît?
 pour aller **au musée**, s'il vous plaît?
 pour aller **au stade**, s'il vous plaît?

how do I get to the bank, please?
 how do I get to the baker's, please?
 how do I get to the church, please?
 how do I get to the town hall, please?
 how do I get to the museum, please?
 how do I get to the stadium, please?

Giving directions

Assume you are helping someone in the street you haven't met. You will give them instructions using the verb form that goes with **vous** (the polite form of 'you'). This is called the imperative and you can learn more about it in [Level 66](#) but for now you only need to learn these key phrases. Take care to notice the difference between **droit** ('straight on') and **droite** ('right').

à droite
 à gauche
 tournez à droite
 tournez à gauche
 allez tout droit
 allez jusqu'à...
 continuez tout droit
 traversez la rue
 traversez le pont
 et vous voilà

> to the right
 < to the left
 < turn left
 > turn right
 ^ go straight on
 ^ go as far as...
 ^ continue straight on
 cross the street
 cross the bridge
 and there you are

Landmarks

These are all masculine nouns that will help you give precise directions. Don't forget all the other places in town you know from [Level 7](#).

le bout de la rue
 le carrefour
 les feux
 le panneau
 le pont
 le rond-point

the end of the street
 crossroads
 traffic lights (literally 'fires')
 sign
 bridge
 roundabout

A conversation

MADAME: pardon monsieur, pour aller au parc,
 s'il vous plaît?

excuse me Sir, how do I get to the park?

MONSIEUR:

continuez tout droit jusqu'aux feux
aux feux, tournez à gauche
au rond-point, tournez à droite
traversez le pont et allez jusqu'au
bout de la rue
et vous voilà madame, le parc est à
gauche

carry straight on as far as the traffic lights
at the traffic lights, turn left
at the roundabout, turn right
cross the bridge and go as far as the end of the
street
and there you are Madam, the park is on the left

Level 45 - Sports, Games And Activities

A sport is **un sport**, a game is **un jeu**, an activity is **une activité** and a hobby is **un passe-temps**. There is a list of them below separated by the verb used. Notice how activities you can do by yourself often need **faire** 'to do' (see [Level 36](#)) while sports and musical instruments need **jouer** 'to play'. A few activities also need **aller** 'to go' (see [Level 33](#)).

VERB REQUIRED

faire	de la bicyclette	to go cycling (1)
	de la lecture	to read
	de la musculation	to lift weights
	de la natation	to go swimming
	de la peinture	to paint
	de la planche à voile	to go windsurfing
	de la voile	to go sailing
	de l'aérobic	to do aerobics
	de l'athlétisme	to do athletics
	de l'équitation	to go horse riding (1)
	de l'escalade	to go climbing
	des achats	to go shopping
	des randonnées	to go hiking
	du bateau	to go boating
	du bricolage	to do DIY
	du camping	to go camping
	du canoë	to go canoeing
	du cheval	to go horse riding (2)
	du footing	to go running
	du jardinage	to garden
	du jogging	to go jogging
	du kayak	to go kayaking
	du patinage	to go ice skating
	du roller*	to go roller skating
	du skateboard**	to go skateboarding
	du ski	to go skiing
	du ski nautique	to go water skiing
	du snowboard***	to go snowboarding
	du sport	to do sport
	du théâtre	to do drama
	du vélo	to go cycling (2)
	du VTT	to go mountain biking
	la cuisine	to cook
	une promenade	to go for a walk
jouer	au badminton	to play badminton
	au basket(ball)	to play basketball
	au cricket	to play cricket
	aux échecs	to play chess
	au football	to play football
	au golf	to play golf
	au hockey sur gazon	to play field hockey
	au hockey sur glace	to play ice hockey
	aux jeux vidéo	to play video games

	à l'ordinateur	to play on the computer
	au rugby	to play rugby
	au squash	to play squash
	au tennis	to play tennis
	au volley(ball)	to play volleyball
	de la guitare	to play the guitar
	du piano	to play the piano
	du violon	to play the violin
aller	à la plage	to go to the beach
	à la chasse	to go hunting
	à la pêche	to go fishing

* You may also come across **faire du patin à roulettes** for roller skating

** You may also come across **faire de la planche à roulettes** for skateboarding

*** You may also come across **faire de la planche à neige** or **faire du surf des neiges** for snowboarding

Other activities with their own verbs

	chanter	to sing (le chant = singing)
	danser	to dance (la danse = dancing)
	dessiner	to draw
	écouter de la musique	to listen to music
	nager	to swim (la natation = swimming)
regarder des films / la télévision		to watch films / TV
	tricoter	to knit
	visiter...	to visit...

Books, films, music, television and radio

les actualités / les informations	TV news
une bande dessinée	comic strip
une chaîne	channel
un dessin animé	TV cartoon
un documentaire	documentary
une émission	programme
un feuilleton	soap opera
un film	film
un jeu télévisé	game show
un journal	newspaper
un magazine (hebdomadaire)	(weekly) magazine
une nouvelle	short story
les publicités	adverts
un roman	novel

GENRES

classique	classical
comique	comedy
d'amour	love / romance
d'épouvante	horror (1)
d'horreur	horror (2)
de musique	music
de sport	sport
de science-fiction	science fiction
policier / policière	detective
moderne	modern
pop	pop
rock	rock

Level 46 - Shopping

For this topic you will have to know a range of shop types. For the items on sale see [Level 48](#) for food and drink and [Level 11](#) for clothes.

Masculine

le bureau de change	bureau de change
le café	café
le centre commercial	shopping centre
le grand magasin	department store
l'hypermarché	hypermarket
le magasin	shop (1)
le marchand de fruits et légumes	greengrocer
le marchand de vins	wine merchant
le magasin de chaussures	shoe shop
le magasin de jouets	toy shop
le magasin de vêtements	clothes shop
le marché	market
le supermarché	supermarket
le tabac	tobacconist's

Feminine

la banque	bank
la bijouterie	jeweller's
la boucherie	butcher's
la boulangerie	baker's
la boutique	shop (2)
la charcuterie	pork butcher's
la confiserie	sweet shop
la droguerie	hardware shop (1)
l'épicerie	grocery store
la librairie	bookshop
la maison de la presse	newsagent's
la papeterie	stationer's
la parfumerie	perfume shop
la pâtisserie	cake shop
la pharmacie	chemist's
la poissonnerie	fishmonger's
la poste	post office
la quincaillerie	hardware shop (2)
la station-service	petrol station

Key words

acheter	to buy
essayer	to try (on)
faire des économies	to save
livrer	to deliver
payer	to pay
payer comptant / payer en espèces	to pay in cash
vendre	to sell
cher / chère	expensive
bon marché / pas cher / pas chère	cheap
fermé / fermée	closed
ouvert / ouverte	open
l'achat	purchase
l'affaire / l'occasion	bargain
la caisse	cash desk / checkout
la carte de crédit	credit card
le chèque	cheque
le client / la cliente	customer
la livraison	delivery
la pièce	each
la pointure	shoe size
les soldes	sales (lower prices)
la taille	size
le vendeur / la vendeuse	shop assistant
la vente	sale (transaction)

Shopping phrases

CUSTOMER PHRASES

avez-vous / est-ce que vous avez...?	do you have...?
avez-vous quelque chose de moins cher?	do you have anything less expensive?
avez-vous quelque chose de moins...?	do you have anything less...

avez-vous quelque chose de plus grand?
 avez-vous quelque chose de plus...?
 c'est combien? / ça coûte combien?
 donnez-moi
 j'adore
 j'aime
 je n'aime pas
 je cherche
 je le prends
 je préfère
 je voudrais
 en rouge, en bleu etc.
 le rouge, le bleu etc.
 trop

do you have anything bigger?
 do you have anything more....?
 how much is it?
 give me
 I love
 I like
 i don't like
 I'm looking for
 I'll take it
 I prefer
 I would like
 in red, in blue etc.
 the red one, the blue one etc.
 too

SHOP EMPLOYEE PHRASES

avec ça
 bonne journée
 ça fait €...
 c'est tout?
 je peux vous aider?
 je vous en prie
 vous désirez?
 tenez

anything else?
 have a good day
 the total is €...
 is that everything?
 can I help you?
 you're welcome
 how can I help you? (literally, 'do you want?')
 here you go

A conversation in a clothes shop

VENDEUR: bonjour madame, je peux vous aider?

hello Madam, can I help you?

MADAME: oui, je cherche un chapeau

yes, I'm looking for a hat

VENDEUR: nous en avons plusieurs - de quelle couleur?

we have several of them - what colour?

MADAME: je voudrais un chapeau bleu ou violet

I want a blue or purple hat

VENDEUR: voici un bleu que vous pouvez essayer

here's a blue one you can try on

MADAME: ow, it's too small!

ow, it's too small!

VENDEUR: aïe, il est trop petit!

yes, it's too small

MADAME: oui, il est trop petit

do you have anything bigger?

VENDEUR: avez-vous quelque chose de plus grand?

the purple one - but it's very expensive

MADAME: le violet - mais il est très cher

how much is it?

VENDEUR: c'est combien?

€100

MADAME: €100

it's perfect, I'll take it

VENDEUR: il est parfait, je le prends

is that everything?

MADAME: c'est tout?

yes - do you accept credit cards?

VENDEUR: oui - vous acceptez les cartes de crédit?

yes Madam

MADAME:

here you are

VENDEUR: oui madame

thank you...here is your card and your purchase

MADAME: tenez

thank you very much

VENDEUR: merci, voici votre carte et votre achat

you're welcome, have a good day

MADAME: **merci beaucoup** thank you, goodbye
 je vous en prie, bonne journée
 merci, au revoir

Level 47 - Phrases With Avoir

The verb **avoir** 'to have' (see [Level 6](#)) can mean so much more than just 'to have' - it is associated with lots of different phrases. Here is a list of them, followed by some examples.

avoir chaud	to be hot (person)
avoir froid	to be cold (person)
avoir faim	to be hungry
avoir soif	to be thirsty
avoir raison	to be right
avoir tort	to be wrong
avoir besoin de	to need
avoir de la chance	to be lucky
avoir du succès	to be successful
avoir envie de	to want (followed by either noun or verb)
avoir l'air	to seem
avoir lieu	to take place
avoir mal à...	to be in pain at... (followed by part of body)
avoir peur	to be afraid
en avoir assez (de)	to have had enough of
en avoir marre (de)	to have had enough of
j'ai besoin d'un stylo	I need a pen
j'ai chaud	I'm hot
tu as froid	you're cold
il a faim	he's hungry
elle a soif	she's thirsty
nous avons raison	we're right
vous avez tort	you're wrong
ils ont de la chance	they're lucky
elles ont envie de danser	they want to dance
Marie a l'air intelligent	Marie seems intelligent
le match a lieu dans le stade	the match takes place in the stadium
j'ai mal au bras	my arm hurts (see Level 69 for more about this)
tu as peur?	are you afraid?

Level 48 - Food And Drink

When talking about food and drink the main verbs are **manger** (to eat), **boire** (to drink) and **prendre** ('to take / eat / drink'). Here they are in the present tense, followed by a few other key words and phrases:

je mange	I eat
tu manges	you eat (sg.)
il mange	he eats
elle mange	she eats
on mange	one eats
nous mangeons	we eat
vous mangez	you eat (pl.)
ils mangent	they eat (m.)
elles mangent	they eat (f.)

je bois	I drink
tu bois	you drink (sg.)
il boit	he drinks
elle boit	she drinks
on boit	one drinks
nous buvons	we drink
vous buvez	you drink (pl.)
ils boivent	they drink (m.)
elles boivent	they drink (f.)
je prends	I take
tu prends	you take (sg.)
il prend	he takes
elle prend	she takes
on prend	one takes
nous prenons	we take
vous prenez	you take (pl.)
ils prennent	they take (m.)
elles prennent	they take (f.)
prendre le petit déjeuner	to have breakfast
déjeuner	to have lunch
dîner	to have dinner
goûter	to taste / to have afternoon tea
souper	to have supper
le repas	meal
le petit déjeuner	breakfast
le déjeuner	lunch
le dîner	dinner
le goûter	afternoon tea
le souper	supper

Food and drink

When talking about food and drink we often use the words for 'a', 'an' and 'some': **un, une, du, de la, de l'** or **des**. To revise the different ways of saying 'some' in French see [Level 27](#). In the list below we will stick to **le, la** and **les**.

Masculine

MEALS AND INGREDIENTS	
l'agneau	lamb
le bifteck / le steak	steak
le beurre	butter
le bœuf	beef
le bouillon	broth
le canard	duck
le casse-croûte	snack
le consommé	thin soup
le croissant	croissant
le croque-monsieur	ham and cheese toastie
les escargots	snails
le fromage	cheese
les fruits de mer	seafood
le hamburger	hamburger
le hors d'œuvre	starter
le hot dog	hot dog
le jambon	ham
le jus de viande	gravy
le lapin	rabbit
le miel	honey
	mutton

Feminine

l'huile (d'olive)	(olive) oil
l'oie	goose
l'omelette	omelette
la baguette	baguette
les céréales	cereals
les chips	crisps
la confiture	jam
la côte(lette)	chop
la crème	cream
la dinde	turkey
la farine	flour
les frites	chips
les huîtres	oysters
les moules	mussels
la moutarde	mustard
les pâtes	pasta
la pizza	pizza
la sauce	sauce
la saucisse	sausage
la soupe	soup
la tartine	slice of bread with

le mouton	egg	la viande	topping
l'œuf	bread		meat
le pain	pâté		
le pâté	fish		
le poisson	pepper (condiment)		
le poivre	pork		
le porc	soup		
le potage	(roast) chicken		
le poulet (rôti)	rice		
le riz	sandwich		
le sandwich	large slicing sausage		
le saucisson	salt		
le sel	spaghetti		
les spaghettis	sugar		
le sucre	tuna		
le thon	veal		
le veau	vinegar		
le vinaigre			
VEGETABLES (les légumes)	garlic	la carotte	
	mushroom	les crudités	carrot
	cabbage	la laitue	raw vegetables
l'ail	cauliflower	la pomme de terre	lettuce
le champignon	Brussels sprout	la purée	potato
le chou	cucumber	la salade	mashed potato
le chou-fleur	green beans	la tomate	salad
le chou de Bruxelles	onion		tomato
le concombre	peas		
les haricots verts	leek		
l'oignon	pepper		
les (petits) pois			
le poireau			
le poivron			
FRUITS (les fruits)	apricot	la banane	
	pineapple	la cerise	banana
l'abricot	blackcurrant	la fraise	cherry
l'ananas	lemon	la framboise	strawberry
le cassis	lime	la pêche	raspberry
le citron	melon	l'orange	peach
le citron vert	grapefruit	la poire	orange
le melon	grape	la pomme	pear
le pamplemousse			apple
le raisin			
DESSERTS (les desserts)	biscuit	la crème anglaise	
	chocolate	la crème caramel	custard
	cake	la crêpe	caramel custard
le biscuit	yogurt	la glace (à la vanille)	pancake
le chocolat		la glace (au chocolat)	(vanilla) ice cream
le gâteau		la mousse (à la fraise)	(chocolate) ice cream
le yaourt		la mousse (au chocolat)	(strawberry) mousse
		la pâtisserie	(chocolate) mousse
		la salade de fruits	pastry / small cake
		la tarte	fruit salad
		la tarte aux poires	tart
			pear tart
DRINKS (les boissons)	alcohol	la bière	beer
	aperitif	l'eau	water
	Orangina	l'eau minérale	mineral water
	coffee	la limonade	lemonade
l'alcool	coffee with milk		
l'apéritif	hot chocolate		
l'orangina	cider		
le café	sweetened lemon juice		

le café crème / le café	drink
au lait	Coca Cola
le chocolat chaud	fruit juice
le cidre	orange juice
le citron pressé	milk
le coca (cola)	tea
le jus de fruits	tea with milk
le jus d'orange	white wine
le lait	sweet wine
le thé	red wine
le thé au lait	dry wine
le vin blanc	
le vin doux	
le vin rouge	
le vin sec	

Flavours

A flavour is **un parfum** (it also means perfume). In French you can give a flavour to something by using the words 'to the' after the name of the object (**au**, **à la**, **à l'** or **aux** - see [Level 25](#)), for example:

la tarte au chocolat	chocolate tart
la tarte à la vanille	vanilla tart
la tarte aux cassis	blackcurrant tart
la tarte aux pommes	apple tart
la tarte au citron*	lemon tart

* Why is a lemon tart a **tarte au citron** and not a **tarte aux citrons**? Because the whole tart tastes of lemon rather than containing several lemons.

Example sentences about food and drink

Notice how we use the word for 'some' when people are eating and drinking some of whatever is on the menu, but if we are talking about the food or drink in general (as in the second sentence and last two sentences) we use the word for 'the'.

je mange du bœuf avec des frites et des tomates	I eat beef with chips and tomatoes
tu aimes les raisins?	do you like grapes?
il boit du vin rouge	he is drinking red wine
elle boit de la bière belge	she is drinking Belgian beer
nous mangeons du poisson	we are eating fish
vous buvez du vin blanc sec	you are drinking dry white wine
ils n'aiment pas le fromage britannique	they don't like British cheese
elles adorent la glace italienne	they love Italian ice cream

Level 49 - In The Restaurant

When you go to a restaurant or a café in France remember to speak politely to the waiter (**le serveur**) or waitress (**la serveuse**). When ordering you should use the phrase **je voudrais**, which means 'I would like' (literally 'I would want' - see [Level 77](#) for how to use conditional phrases in French).

PEOPLE

le serveur / le garçon	waiter
la serveuse	waitress
le/la chef	chef

le directeur
la directrice

manager
manageress

ITEMS

l'assiette	plate
le bol	bowl
la carafe (d'eau)	jug (of water)
la carte	menu
le couteau	knife
la cuiller / la cuillère	spoon
la fourchette	fork
le menu (à prix fixe)	fixed price meal option
le pourboire	tip
la serviette	serviette / napkin
le verre (à vin)	(wine) glass

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR STEAK?

bleu	very rare
saignant	rare
à point	medium
bien cuit	well done

SECTIONS OF THE MENU

les desserts	desserts
les entrées	starters
les hors d'œuvre	appetizers
les légumes	vegetables
les plats	dishes
les plats principaux	main courses
les boissons	drinks
service compris	service included in the price
service non compris	service not included in the price
les viandes	meats

WHAT THE RESTAURANT STAFF MIGHT SAY

que voulez-vous / qu'est-ce que vous voulez (manger/boire)?	what do you want (to eat/drink)?
que désirez-vous / qu'est-ce que vous désirez (manger/boire)?	what do you want (to eat/drink)?
bon appétit	enjoy your meal

WHAT YOU MIGHT SAY

j'ai réservé une table à nom de Smith	I've reserved a table in the name of Smith
qu'est-ce que vous avez comme légumes?	what do you have in the way of vegetables?
qu'est-ce que vous avez comme desserts?	what do you have in the way of desserts?
qu'est-ce que vous avez comme boissons?	what do you have in the way of drinks?
l'addition, s'il vous plaît	the bill, please

Notice the use of **comme** ('as' / 'like') in the above sense to mean 'in the way of'.

Level 50 - Expressions Of Quantity

Here is a list of expressions of quantity in French. Notice how they end in **de** ('of'). Just a couple of exceptions to this are **plusieurs** 'several' and **quelque(s)** 'some'.

Masculine

Feminine

un bol de	a bowl of	une barquette de	a punnet of
un bon nombre de	a good many...	une boîte de	a box/can of
un gramme de	1g of	une bouteille de	a bottle of
100 grammes de	100g of	une canette de	a can of (for drinks)
un kilo(gramme) de	a kilo of	une carafe de	a jug of
un litre de	a litre of	une corbeille de	a basket of (2)
10 centilitres de	10cl (100ml) of	une cuillerée de	a spoonful of
un demi litre de	half a litre of	une douzaine de	a dozen.
un morceau de	a piece of	une moitié de	a half of
un panier de	a basket of (1)	une paire de	a pair of
un paquet de	a packet of	une part de	a serving of
un pichet de	a small jug of	une pincée de	a pinch of
un seau de	a bucket of	une tasse de	a cup of
un tas de	lots of / a heap of	une tranche de	a slice of
un tiers de	a third of		
un verre de	a glass of		
	assez de		enough
	pas assez de		not enough
	beaucoup de		lots of
	pas mal de		quite a few
	peu de		a little ... / few...
	plein de		lots of / full of
	plusieurs		several
	quelque(s)		some
	très peu de		very little... / very few...
	trop de		too many... / too much...

Examples

Notice how after the word **de** ('of') you simply give the noun. You do not need to say **du, de la, de l'** or **des**.

j'ai une bouteille de vin rouge	I have a bottle of red wine
je voudrais 300 grammes de fromage	I would like 300g of cheese
un morceau de gâteau, s'il vous plaît	a piece of cake, please
il y a assez de gens ici	there are enough people here
ils ont beaucoup d'argent	they have lots of money
il y a trop de sel dans la soupe	there is too much salt in the soup

Level 51 - Weather

The weather in French is **le temps**. (The word **temps** can also mean 'time'.) **La météo** means 'weather forecast'. If someone is asking you to describe the weather the question will be **quel temps fait-il?** Here is a list of weather types and other words relating to weather.

il fait beau	it's fine
il fait gris	it's grey
il fait mauvais	it's bad
il fait chaud	it's hot
il fait froid	it's cold
il fait frais	it's cool / chilly
il fait jour	it's daytime
il fait nuit	it's nighttime
il fait de l'orage / il y a des orages	it's stormy
il fait des éclairs / il y a des éclairs	there's lightning
il fait des nuages / il y a des nuages	it's cloudy
il fait du brouillard / il y a du brouillard	it's foggy
il fait du soleil / il y a du soleil	it's sunny
il fait du tonnerre / il y a du tonnerre / il tonne	there's thunder
il fait du vent / il y a du vent	it's windy

il y a des éclaircies	there are sunny spells
il gèle	it's freezing
il neige	it's snowing
il pleut	it's raining
il pleut à verse	it's pouring down

PHENOMENA

l'air	air
l'arc en ciel	rainbow
le brouillard	fog
la brume	mist
la chaleur	heat
le ciel	sky
l'éclair	flash of lightning
l'éclaircie	bright spell
le froid	cold
l'orage	storm (1)
la neige	snow
le nuage	cloud
la pluie	rain
le soleil	sun
la tempête	storm (2)
le tonnerre	thunder
le vent	wind

ADJECTIVES

brumeux	misty
couvert	overcast
ensoleillé	sunny
nuageux	cloudy
orageux	stormy
pluvieux	rainy

TIMES AND SEASONS (**les saisons**)

le jour	day
la nuit	night
le matin	morning
l'après-midi	afternoon
le soir	evening
l'automne	autumn
l'été	summer
l'hiver	winter
le printemps	spring
en automne	in autumn
en été	in summer
en hiver	in winter
au printemps	in spring

Level 52 - Making The Future Tense With Aller 'to go'

In [Level 33](#) we learnt the present tense of the verb **aller** 'to go'.

je vais	I go
tu vas	you go (sg.)
il va	he goes
elle va	she goes

on va	one goes
nous allons	we go
vous allez	you go (pl.)
ils vont	they go (m.)
elles vont	they go (f.)

If we follow any of these phrases with a verb infinitive (i.e. the form that ends in **-er**, **-re** or **-ir**) then we have made a phrase in the future tense. This is how we describe what is going to happen. Here are some example sentences:

je vais louer une voiture	I am going to hire a car
tu vas attendre le train	you are going to wait for the train
il va finir l'histoire	he is going to finish the story
elle va se coucher	she is going to go to bed
on va éteindre la lumière	we are / one is going to turn off the light
nous allons atterrir l'avion	we are going to land the plane
vous allez visiter la ville	you are going to visit the town
ils vont rendre mon magazine	they are going to give back my magazine
elles vont réussir	they are going to succeed

Level 53 - On Holiday

In [Level 52](#) we learnt how to say things in the future tense by using the verb **aller** 'to go' plus an infinitive. In this level we will look at all the things you can do on holiday and how you can express that in the future tense as well. A good place to start would be to revise the list of countries and places in [Level 24](#), the sports, games and activities in [Level 45](#) and perhaps also the weather in [Level 51](#). For a complete list of methods of transportation see [Level 65](#). Now here is a selected list of holiday related verbs.

aller à la plage	to go to the beach
aller à la pêche	to go fishing
aller à l'étranger	to go abroad
aller en vacances	to go on holiday
envoyer une carte postale	to send a postcard
faire de la lecture	to read
faire de la natation	to go swimming
faire de l'escalade	to go climbing
faire des achats	to go shopping
faire des promenades	to go for walks
faire du camping	to go camping
faire du vélo	to go cycling
faire du ski	to go skiing
faire sa valise / ses bagages	to pack one's suitcase / bags
défaire sa valise / ses bagages	to unpack one's suitcase / bags
jouer au golf	to play golf
jouer au tennis	to play tennis
jouer au volley(ball)	to play volleyball
louer	to hire
nager	to swim
partir en vacances	to leave on holiday
regarder la télé	to watch TV
réserver	to book
se (faire) bronzer / prendre un bain de soleil	to sunbathe
se baigner (dans la mer)	to bathe (in the sea)
visiter...	to visit...
voyager à (+ TOWN) / en / au / aux (+ COUNTRY)	to travel to

Holiday related nouns

Masculine

l'appareil-photo	camera
l'avion	aeroplane
les bagages	luggage
le bateau	boat
le bord de la mer	seaside
le centre-ville	town centre
le château	castle
le ferry	ferry
le gîte	holiday cottage
le guichet	ticket office / counter
le guide	guidebook
l'hôtel	hotel
le jour de congé	day off
le jour férié	public holiday
le maillot de bain	swimming costume
le musée	museum
l'office de tourisme	tourist office (1)
le pays	country
quinze jours	fortnight ("15 days")
le sac de couchage	sleeping bag
le séjour	stay
le soleil	sun
le souvenir	souvenir
le syndicat d'initiative	tourist office (2)
le temps	weather
le trajet	journey (1)
le sable	sand
le voyage	journey (2)
le wagon-lit	sleeping car
le wagon-restaurant	restaurant car
le zoo	zoo

Feminine

la campagne	countryside
la caravane	caravan
la carte postale	postcard
la cathédrale	cathedral
la chambre d'hôte	bed and breakfast
la colonie de vacances	holiday camp
la côte	coast
la douane	customs
l'église	church
l'excursion	trip
la frontière	border
la location	hire
les lunettes de soleil	sunglasses
la mer	sea
la montagne	mountain / mountains
la photo	photo
la piscine	swimming pool
la plage	beach
la région	region
la tente	tent
les vacances	holidays
la valise	suitcase

Où vas-tu aller en vacances?

où vas-tu aller en vacances?

where are you going to go on your holidays?

je vais aller en France
je vais aller au Portugal
je vais aller aux États-Unis

I'm going to go to France
I'm going to go to Portugal
I'm going to go to the USA

Qu'est-ce que tu vas faire pendant les vacances?

qu'est-ce que tu vas faire pendant les vacances?

what are you going to do during the holidays?

je vais me bronzer sur la plage
je vais faire du camping avec ma famille
je vais visiter des musées et des châteaux
je vais faire des promenades à la campagne
je vais faire du ski à la montagne
je vais nager dans la piscine

I'm going to sunbathe on the beach
I'm going to go camping with my family
I'm going to visit museums and castles
I'm going to go for walks in the countryside
I'm going to go skiing in the mountains
I'm going to swim in the swimming pool

Comment vas-tu voyager?

comment vas-tu voyager?

how are you going to travel?

je vais voyager en avion
je vais voyager en bateau
je vais voyager en Eurostar
je vais voyager en ferry

I'm going to travel by plane
I'm going to travel by boat
I'm going to travel by Eurostar (channel tunnel)
I'm going to travel by ferry

Level 54 - Vouloir 'to want'

Vouloir means 'to want' and is an irregular verb. It can be followed by what someone wants (a noun) or what they want to do (a verb). The slight variant **vouloir bien** means 'to be happy to'. Here is the verb in the present tense:

je veux	I want
tu veux	you want
il/elle/on veut	he/she/one wants
nous voulons	we want
vous voulez	you want
ils/elles veulent	they want

AND A SPECIAL FORM YOU MUST KNOW

je voudrais	I would like
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Examples with nouns

je veux du chocolat	I want some chocolate
tu veux les bonbons	you want the sweets
il veut celui-ci	he wants this one
nous voulons une grande maison	we want a big house
qu'est-ce que vous voulez?	what do you want?
est-ce qu'elles veulent quelque chose?	do they want something?
je voudrais deux tickets, s'il vous plaît	I would like two tickets, please

Examples with verbs

je veux aller	I want to go
tu veux venir?	do you want to come?
elle veut bien faire des achats	she'd be happy to go shopping
nous voulons nous échapper	we want to escape
vous voulez être le directeur	you want to be the manager
ils veulent avoir du succès	they want to be successful
je voudrais répondre	I would like to respond

Level 55 - Pouvoir 'to be able to'

Pouvoir means 'to be able to' ('can') and is an irregular verb. It is usually followed by what someone can do (a verb). Here is the verb in the present tense:

je peux	I can
tu peux	you can
il/elle/on peut	he/she/one can
nous pouvons	we can
vous pouvez	you can
ils/elles peuvent	they can

Examples

je peux aller	I can go
tu peux venir?	can you come?

elle peut visiter l'école
 nous pouvons voyager en avion
 est-ce que vous pouvez attendre?
 ils peuvent retourner demain

she can visit the school
 we can travel by plane
 can you wait?
 they can return tomorrow

Having a special skill

If someone can do something which they have learnt to do, for example swimming or dancing, the verb used is not **pouvoir** but **savoir** 'to know' (see [Level 56](#)).

Level 56 - Savoir 'to know (how to)'

Savoir means 'to know' or 'to know how to' and is an irregular verb. It is usually followed by what someone knows (another phrase often introduced by **que** 'that') or what they know how to do (a verb). Here is the verb in the present tense:

je sais
 tu sais
 il/elle/on sait
 nous savons
 vous savez
 ils/elles savent

I know
 you know
 he/she/one knows
 we know
 you know
 they know

Examples

je sais qu'il est ici
 tu sais où elle est?
 elle sait nager
 nous savons que c'est un grand problème
 savez-vous danser?
 ils savent parler allemand

I know that he is here
 do you know where she is?
 she knows how to swim / she can swim
 we know that it is a big problem
 do you know how to dance? / can you dance?
 they know how to speak German / they can speak German

Having a special skill

If someone can do something which they have learnt to do, for example swimming or dancing, the verb used is not **pouvoir** but **savoir**.

Level 57 - Devoir 'to have to'

Devoir means 'to have to' ('must') and is an irregular verb. It is followed by what someone must do (a verb). Here is the verb in the present tense:

je dois
 tu dois
 il/elle/on doit
 nous devons
 vous devez
 ils/elles doivent

I must
 you must
 he / she / one must
 we must
 you must
 they must

Examples

je dois aller

I must go

tu dois rentrer
on doit frapper à la porte
nous devons manger quelque chose
vous devez vous excuser
elles doivent aller chercher les enfants

you must come home
he/she/one must knock at the door
we must eat something
you must apologise
they must fetch the children

Level 58 - Irregular Verbs (Present Tense)

We have already seen some important verbs which are irregular (work differently) in the present tense like **être**, **avoir**, **aller** and **faire**. Here is a list of the main ones you need to know:

VERB	<i>je / j'</i>	<i>tu</i>	<i>il / elle / on</i>	<i>nous</i>	<i>vous</i>	<i>ils / elles</i>
accueillir to welcome	accueille	accueilles	accueille	accueillons	accueillez	accueillent
aller to go	vais	vas	va	allons	allez	vont
apprendre to learn	apprends	apprends	apprend	apprenons	apprenez	apprennent
avoir to have	ai	as	a	avons	avez	ont
boire to drink	bois	bois	boit	buvons	buvez	boivent
comprendre to understand	comprends	comprends	comprend	comprenons	comprenez	comprennent
conduire to drive	conduis	conduis	conduit	conduisons	conduisez	conduisent
connaître to know	connais	connais	connaît	connaissons	connaissez	connaissent
construire to build	construis	construis	construit	construisons	construisez	construisent
contenir to contain	contiens	contiens	contient	contenons	contenez	contiennent
courir to run	cours	cours	court	courons	courez	courent
couvrir to cover	couvre	couvres	couvre	couvrons	couvrez	couvrent
croire to believe	crois	crois	croît	croyons	croyez	croient
découvrir to discover	découvre	découvres	découvre	découvrons	découvrez	découvrent
décrire to describe	décris	décris	décrit	décrivons	décrivez	décrivent
devenir to become	deviens	deviens	devient	devenons	devenez	deviennent
devoir to have to	dois	dois	doit	devons	devez	doivent
dire to say / tell	dis	dis	dit	disons	dites	disent
dormir to sleep	dors	dors	dort	dormons	dormez	dorment
écrire to write	écris	écris	écrit	écrivons	écrivez	écrivent
être	suis	es	est	sommes	êtes	sont

to be faire	fais	fais	fait	faisons	faites	font
to do / make introduire	introduis	introduis	introduit	introduisons	introduisez	introduisent
to introduce lire	lis	lis	lit	lisons	lisez	lisent
to read mettre	mets	mets	met	mettons	mettez	mettent
to put mourir	meurs	meurs	meurt	mourons	mourez	meurent
to die naître	nais	nais	naît	naissons	naissez	naissent
to be born offrir	offre	offres	offre	offrons	offrez	offrent
to offer ouvrir	ouvre	ouvres	ouvre	ouvrons	ouvrez	ouvrent
to open paraître	parais	parais	paraît	paraissions	paraissiez	paraissent
to seem partir	pars	pars	part	partons	partez	partent
to leave permettre	permets	permets	permet	permettons	permettez	permettent
to allow plaire	plais	plais	plaît	plaisons	plaisez	plaisent
to please pleuvoir	-	-	pleut	-	-	-
to rain pouvoir	peux	peux	peut	pouvons	pouvez	peuvent
to be able to prendre	prends	prends	prend	prenons	prenez	prennent
to take recevoir	reçois	reçois	reçoit	recevons	recevez	reçoivent
to receive revenir	reviens	reviens	revient	revenons	revenez	reviennent
to come back revoir	revois	revois	revoit	revoyons	revoyez	revoient
to see again rire	ris	ris	rit	rions	riez	rient
to laugh sentir	sens	sens	sent	sentons	sentez	sentent
to feel s'asseoir	m'assois m'assieds	t'assois t'assieds	s'assoit s'assied	nous asseyons nous asseyons	vous assoyez vous asseyez	s'assoient s'asseyent
to sit down savoir	sais	sais	sait			savent
to know se taire	me tais	te tais	se tait	savons	savez	se taisent
to be quiet se plaindre	me plains	te plains	se plaint	nous taisons	vous taisez	se plaignent
to complain servir	sers	sers	sert	nous plaignons	vous plaignez	servent
to serve sortir	sors	sors	sort	servons	servez	sortent
to go out souffrir	souffre	souffres	souffre	sortons	sortez	souffrent
to suffer sourire	souris	souris	sourit	souffrons	souffrez	sourient
to smile suivre	suis	suis	suit	sourions	souriez	suivent
to follow tenir	tiens	tiens	tient	suivons	suivez	tiennent
to hold venir	viens	viens	vient	tenons	tenez	viennent
to come vivre	vis	vis	vit	venons	venez	vivent
to live voir	vois	vois	voit	vivons	vivez	voient

to see vouloir to want	veux	veux	veut		voyons	voyez	veulent
					voulons	voulez	

Level 59 - Perfect Tense (Le Passé Composé) Part 1

The perfect tense is the main past tense we use when we want to talk about what has happened in the past. The verb to have in French is **avoir** and in nearly all cases we start a sentence in the past tense with the bit of **avoir** that we need. Here is a reminder of the verb **avoir**:

j'ai	I have
tu as	you have (sg.)
il a	he has, it has (m.)
elle a	she has, it has (f.)
on a	one has
nous avons	we have
vous avez	you have (pl.)
ils ont	they have (m.)
elles ont	they have (f.)

The first part of the perfect tense is therefore the **avoir** bit. The second part of the perfect tense is called the past participle and is formed using the infinitive of the verb which describes what has happened.

To make the past participle for **er** verbs remove the **er** ending and add **é** (e.g. **donner** > **donné**)
(For more **er** verbs see [Level 13.](#))

To make the past participle for **re** verbs remove the **re** ending and add **u** (e.g. **vendre** > **vendu**)
(For more **re** verbs see [Level 14.](#))

To make the past participle for **ir** verbs remove the **ir** ending and add **i** (e.g. **finir** > **fini**)
(For more **ir** verbs see [Level 15.](#))

Sample sentences

j'ai donné	I have given / I gave
tu as donné	you have given / you gave
il a donné	he has given / he gave
elle a donné	she has given / she gave
on a donné	one has given / one gave
nous avons donné	we have given / we gave
vous avez donné	you have given / you gave
ils ont donné	they have given / they gave
elles ont donné	they have given / they gave
j'ai vendu	I have sold / I sold
tu as vendu	you have sold / you sold
il a vendu	he has sold / he sold
elle a vendu	she has sold / she sold
on a vendu	one has sold / one sold
nous avons vendu	we have sold / we sold
vous avez vendu	you have sold / you sold
ils ont vendu	they have sold / they sold
elles ont vendu	they have sold / they sold
j'ai fini	I have finished / I finished
tu as fini	you have finished / you finished
il a fini	he has finished / he finished
elle a fini	she has finished / she finished

on a fini	one has finished / one finished
nous avons fini	we have finished / we finished
vous avez fini	you have finished / you finished
ils ont fini	they have finished / they finished
elles ont fini	they have finished / they finished

Some verbs have irregular past participles - see [Level 60](#).

A small list of verbs use **être** 'to be' instead of **avoir** 'to have' to make the perfect tense - see [Level 61](#).

When the present tense talks about the past

The present tense is normally used to express what is happening now - the current state of affairs. There are however two present tense constructions in French which refer to what has happened. The first is **ça fait ... que** where you say how long something has been happening. The second is the word **depuis** which means 'since' and is used to say since when something has been happening. The present tense is used because the situation is not completed but continues into the present. Here are some examples:

ça fait deux ans que je travaille avec Paul	I've been working with Paul for two years
ça fait dix minutes que j'attends le bus	I've been waiting for the bus for ten minutes
je travaille avec Paul depuis deux ans	I've been working with Paul for two years
j'attends le bus depuis dix minutes	I've been waiting for the bus for ten minutes

Level 60 - Perfect Tense (Le Passé Composé) Part 2

The perfect tense is the main past tense we use when we want to talk about what has happened in the past. We have seen how the perfect tense is made - by using the verb **avoir** 'to have' followed by a past participle. To make the past participle for **er** verbs we remove the **er** ending and add **é**, to make the past participle for **re** verbs we remove the **re** ending and add **u** and to make the past participle for **ir** verbs we remove the **ir** ending and add **i**.

However, there is a list of important verbs which have irregular past participles. That means we cannot simply remove the infinitive ending and add **é**, **u** or **i** accordingly. Instead we have to learn these individually.

Irregular past participles

VERB	IRREGULAR PAST PARTICIPLE
apprendre to learn	appris
avoir to have	eu
boire to drink	bu
comprendre to understand	compris
conduire to drive	conduit
connaître to know	connu
construire to build	construit
contenir to contain	contenu
courir to run	couru
couvrir to cover	couvert
croire	cru

to believe	découvrir	découvert
to discover	décrire	décrit
to describe	devenir	devenu*
to become	devoir	dû
to have to	dire	dit
to say	écrire	écrit
to write	être	été
to be	faire	fait
to do / make	introduire	introduit
to introduce	lire	lu
to read	mettre	mis
to put	mourir	mort*
to die	naître	né*
to be born	offrir	offert
to offer	ouvrir	ouvert
to open	paraître	paru
to seem	permettre	permis
to allow	plaire	plu
to please	pleuvoir	plu
to rain	pouvoir	pu
to be able to	prendre	pris (all other verbs ending in -prendre work in this way)
to take	recevoir	reçu
to receive	revenir	revenu*
to come back	revoir	revu
to see again	rire	ri
to laugh	s'asseoir	assis*
to sit down	savoir	su
to know	se taire	tu*
to be quiet	se plaindre	plaint*
to complain	souffrir	souffert
to suffer	sourire	souri
to smile	suivre	suivi
to follow	tenir	tenu (all other verbs ending in -tenir work in this way)
to hold		

venir to come	venu* (all other verbs ending in -venir work in this way)
vivre to live	vécu
voir to see	vu
vouloir to want	voulu

* A small list of verbs (as well as all reflexive verbs) use **être** 'to be' instead of **avoir** 'to have' to make the perfect tense - see [Level 61](#).

Examples

j'ai appris le français	I learnt French
tu as eu le temps de visiter le musée?	did you have time to visit the museum?
Jacques a bu un verre d'eau	Jacques drank a glass of water

Level 61 - Perfect Tense (Le Passé Composé) Part 3

The perfect tense is the main past tense we use when we want to talk about what has happened in the past. We have seen how the perfect tense is made - by using the verb **avoir** 'to have' followed by a past participle. However, a small list of verbs need **être** 'to be' instead of **avoir** 'to have' to make the perfect tense. These verbs have something in common - they are 'intransitive', which means they cannot take a direct object afterwards. For example you cannot 'go something' or 'be born something' in the way that you can buy something or look at something. Here is a reminder of the verb **être** 'to be':

je suis	I am
tu es	you are
il est	he is, it is (m.)
elle est	she is, it is (f.)
on est	one is, we are
nous sommes	we are
vous êtes	you are
ils sont	they are (m.)
elles sont	they are (f.)

Another important difference is in the spelling of the past participle. With these verbs that use **être** the past participle must agree with the person doing the verb. If the person is female or persons are female (**elle** and **elles**, but could also be **tu**, **nous** and **vous**) we add the letter **e** onto the end of the past participle. If they are plural (**nous**, **ils** and **elles** and often **vous**) we add the letter **s** onto the end of the past participle. If the doers of the verb are feminine and plural we add **es**.

Let us now look at the verbs. They can be set out as **5 pairs of opposites, 4 Rs and DTP**. It should also be noted that ALL reflexive verbs (see [Level 16](#) for an explanation and list of these) need **être** to make the perfect tense. See [Level 68](#) for more detailed treatment of this.

Verbs which need être in the perfect tense

VERB	PAST PARTICIPLE
aller to go	allé / allée / allés / allées
venir to come	venu / venue / venus / venues (irregular past participle)
naître to be born	né / née / nés / nées (irregular past participle)
mourir	

to die	mort / morte / morts / mortes (irregular past participle)
arriver to arrive	arrivé / arrivée / arrivés / arrivées
partir to leave	parti / partie / partis / parties
sortir to go out	sorti / sortie / sortis / sorties
entrer to enter	entré / entrée / entrés / entrées
monter to go up	monté / montée / montés / montées
descendre to go down	descendu / descendue / descendus / descendues
rester to stay	resté / restée / restés / restées
retourner to return	retourné / retournée / retournés / retournées
revenir to come back	revenu / revenue / revenus / revenues
rentrer to come back / go back	rentré / rentrée / rentrés / rentrées
devenir to become	devenu / devenue / devenus / devenues
tomber to fall	tombé / tombée / tombés / tombées
passer to pass by	passé / passée / passés / passées

Examples

je suis allé au zoo je suis allée à la bibliothèque	I went to the zoo I went to the library (female)
tu es venu aussi tu es venue aussi	you came too you came too (female)
il est né en juin Jean est né en avril	he was born in June Jean was born in April
elle est morte en mai Hélène est morte en janvier	she died in May Hélène died in January
nous sommes arrivés ce matin nous sommes parties hier	we arrived this morning (males / mixture of males and females) we left yesterday (females)
est-ce que vous êtes sorti? vous êtes entrée dans la maison vous êtes montés au sommet de la montagne vous êtes descendues au fond de la colline	did you go out? (masculine singular, polite form) you entered the house (feminine singular, polite form) you went up to the top of the mountain (males / mixture, plural) you went down to the bottom of the hill (females, plural)
ils sont restés dans le café elles sont retournées	they stayed in the café (males / mixture of males and females) they returned (females)

On ('one' / 'we')

On means 'one' or 'people in general' but many French people use it instead of **nous** ('we'). In the perfect tense you have a choice whether or not to make the past participle agree if you use **on** to mean 'we'.

on est revenu	we came back
on est revenus	we came back (males / mixture of males and females)
on est revenues	we came back (females)

Level 62 - Perfect Tense (Le Passé Composé) Part 4

The perfect tense is the main past tense we use when we want to talk about what has happened in the past. We have seen how a small list of verbs need **être** 'to be' instead of **avoir** 'to have' to make the perfect tense. There is one more set of verbs which always uses **être**: reflexive verbs (see [Level 16](#) for an explanation and a list of reflexive verbs). With these verbs that use **être** the past participle must agree with the person doing the verb (the letter **e** for a feminine agreement, the letter **s** for a plural agreement and **es** for feminine plural). Here is a reminder of the verb **être** 'to be':

je suis	I am
tu es	you are
il est	he is, it is (m.)
elle est	she is, it is (f.)
on est	one is, we are
nous sommes	we are
vous êtes	you are
ils sont	they are (m.)
elles sont	they are (f.)

We place the reflexive element (**me/m'**, **te/t'**, **se/s'**, **nous**, **vous** and **se/s'**) before the **être** bit as seen in the examples below.

Examples

je me suis levé à six heures je me suis levée à six heures	I got up at six o'clock I got up at six o'clock (female)
tu t'es amusé tu t'es amusée	you enjoyed yourself you enjoyed yourself (female)
il s'est excusé	he apologised
elle s'est évanouie	she fainted
on s'est habillé/ habillés/habillées de bonne heure	we got dressed early (optional agreement if applicable)
nous nous sommes occupés du problème nous nous sommes occupées du problème	we took care of the problem we took care of the problem (female)
est-ce que vous vous êtes blessé? est-ce que vous vous êtes blessée? est-ce que vous vous êtes blessés? est-ce que vous vous êtes blessées?	did you hurt yourself (polite, male) did you hurt yourself (polite, female) did you hurt yourself (plural, males or mixture) did you hurt yourself (polite, females)
ils se sont fâchés	they got angry
elles se sont rendues	they surrendered

Level 63 - Talking About The Past

As well as understanding the perfect tense we have to show evidence that we can use it. You might be asked in an oral exam **qu'est-ce que tu as fait hier?** which means 'what did you do yesterday?'. You will also have to write about what has happened. Here is a list of lots of things you could say which includes a mixture of **avoir** and **être** verbs, irregular past participles and reflexive verbs. If you are female remember to add the e agreement where indicated. This normally makes no difference to the sound of a word but the spelling is important in a written exam.

qu'est-ce que tu as fait hier?

je me suis réveillé(e) à sept heures et demie
et je me suis levé(e) tout de suite
je suis descendu(e) en bas pour prendre le petit
déjeuner
j'ai mangé du pain grillé avec du beurre et du
miel
et j'ai bu du jus d'orange
après ça je me suis peigné les cheveux
et je me suis brossé les dents
puis j'ai préparé mon sac d'école et j'ai quitté la
maison
j'ai voyagé à l'école en vélo.
je suis arrivé(e) à l'école à neuf heures moins dix
les cours ont fini à quatre heures moins le quart
ensuite je suis allé(e) au café avec mes copains
et nous avons bu du coca
à six heures je suis rentré(e) chez moi
j'ai mangé le dîner avec ma famille
nous avons pris du poulet avec des frites et des
légumes
pour le dessert j'ai mangé une banane
après le dîner j'ai regardé la télévision avec mon
frère
puis je me suis brossé les dents et je me suis
couché(e)
j'ai lu mon livre pendant dix minutes et je me
suis endormi(e)

what did you do yesterday?

I woke up at seven o'clock
and I got up straightaway
I went down for breakfast
I ate toast with butter and honey
and I drank orange juice
after that I combed my hair
and I brushed my teeth
then I prepared my school bag and I left the house
I travelled to school by bike
I arrived at school at ten to nine.
lessons finished at quarter to four
then I went to the café with my friends
and we drank Coke
at six o'clock I returned home
I ate dinner with my family
we had chicken with chips and vegetables
for dessert I ate a banana
after dinner I watched television with my brother
then I brushed my teeth and I went to bed
I read my book for ten minutes and I fell asleep.

You may have noticed that in phrases such as **je me suis brossé les dents** there is no feminine agreement. To find out why, see [Level 69](#).

Qu'est-ce que tu as fait pendant les vacances?

This means 'what did you do during the holidays?' and is another common question. Again, here are some phrases you could use to answer the question.

qu'est-ce que tu as fait pendant les vacances?

je suis allé(e) en France avec ma famille
nous sommes allés en avion à Cannes
...une ville célèbre au bord de la mer dans le sud-
est de la France nous sommes restés une
semaine dans un grand hôtel
...qui donne sur la mer
j'ai nagé dans la mer tous les jours
mon frère a fait de la planche à voile et ma sœur
s'est bronzée ...sur la plage
mes parents ont lu leurs livres
nous avons visité beaucoup de lieux d'intérêt
par exemple des châteaux, des musées et de
belles églises nous avons très bien mangé tous
les soirs

what did you do during the holidays?

I went to France with my family
we went by plane to Cannes
...a famous seaside town in the south east of France
we stayed for a week in a big hotel
...on the seafront
I swam in the sea every day
my brother went windsurfing and my sister
sunbathed
... on the beach
my parents read their books
we visited many places of interest
for example castles, museums and beautiful
churches
we ate very well every evening

... dans les restaurants excellents.

... in some excellent restaurants.

Level 64 - Negatives

In [Level 17](#) we learnt about the **ne pas** 'not' construction which allows us to change a positive statement to a negative one, e.g. **je suis ici** 'I am here' but **je ne suis pas ici** 'I am not here'. **Ne ... pas** (or **n'** before a vowel) 'not' is the most common negative construction but there are several others, including ones which are not negative in English. You should be able to use **pas** and at least recognise Here is a list of the negative phrases you need to know together with their meanings:

ne ... aucun / aucune / aucuns / aucunes	no / not any (aucun must agree with the following noun)
ne ... guère	hardly
ne ... jamais	never (not ever)
ne ... ni ... ni	neither ... nor
ne ... nulle part	nowhere (not anywhere)
ne ... pas	not
ne ... personne	nobody / no one (not anybody / not anyone)
ne ... plus	no longer / not anymore
ne ... que (qu' before a vowel or silent h)	only
ne ... rien	nothing (not anything)

As we learnt in [Level 17](#), if you want to convey the idea of 'any' after a negative, do not use **un, une, du, de la, de l'** or **des**. Instead use just **de** (or **d'** before a vowel or silent h).

Examples

je n'ai aucune idée	I have no idea (more emphatic than je n'ai pas d'idée)
je n'ai guère dormi	I've hardly slept
je ne fume jamais	I never smoke
je ne suis ni gros ni maigre	I am neither fat nor thin
je ne vais nulle part	I'm going nowhere (I'm not going anywhere)
ce n'est pas juste	it's not fair
je ne vois personne	I see nobody (I don't see anybody)
je n'habite plus à Londres	I don't live in London anymore
je n'ai que dix euros	I only have ten euros
je ne veux rien	I want nothing (I don't want anything)

Level 65 - Travel And Transport

Here is the main vocabulary you will need to know when describing where you live. Remember to revise the different places in town in [Level 7](#), countries and places in [Level 24](#), describing where you live in [Level 30](#) and holidays in [Level 53](#).

FORMS OF TRANSPORT

l'aéroglisseur	hovercraft
l'autobus / le bus	bus
l'avion	plane
le bateau	boat
le car	coach
le cheval	horse
l'Eurostar	Eurostar
le ferry	ferry

HOW YOU TRAVEL

en / par aéroglisseur	by hovercraft
en / par autobus / bus	by bus
en / par avion	by plane
en / par bateau	by boat
en / par car	by coach
à / en cheval	on horseback
en / par Eurostar	by Eurostar
en / par ferry	by ferry

l'hélicoptère	helicopter
le métro	underground train
la moto / la motocyclette	motorbike
le navire	ship
le pied	foot
le taxi	taxi
le train	train
le vélo / la bicyclette	bicycle
le vélomoteur / la mobylette	moped
/ la mob	car
la voiture / l'auto	

PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND TRAVEL-RELATED NOUNS

l'aller simple	single ticket
l'aller retour	return ticket
l'arrêt d'autobus	bus stop
les bagages	luggage
le bureau de renseignements	information office
le bureau des objets trouvés	lost property office
le billet	ticket
le contrôleur	ticket collector
le chemin de fer	railway
le guichet	ticket desk
l'horaire	timetable
le passager	passenger
le passeport	passport
le quai	platform
le retard	delay
le supplément	supplement
le trajet	journey (1)
le voyage	journey (2)
le wagon-lit	sleeping car
le wagon-restaurant	restaurant car

ROAD-RELATED NOUNS

l'accident	accident
l'automobiliste	motorist
l'embouteillage	traffic jam
le carrefour	crossroads
le départ	departure
les feux	traffic lights ("fires")
les freins	brakes
le panneau	sign
le parking	car park
le permis de conduire	driving licence
le pont	bridge
le rond-point	roundabout
le sens unique	one way street
le trottoir	pavement

TRAVEL-RELATED VERBS

aller	to go
(s')arrêter	to stop
arriver (en avance / en retard)	to arrive (ahead of schedule / behind schedule)
atterrir	to land
composter (un billet)	to stamp (a ticket)
conduire	to drive
décoller	to take off
doubler	to overtake
être en retard	to be late

en / par hélicoptère	by helicopter
en / par métro	by underground train
à / en moto / motocyclette	by motorbike
en / par navire	by ship
à / en pied	on foot
en / par taxi	by taxi
en / par / par le train	by train
à / en vélo / bicyclette	by bicycle
en vélomoteur / mobylette / mob	by moped
en / par voiture, en auto	by car

la consigne	left luggage office
la contrôlease	ticket collector (f)
la couchette	couchette / berth
la destination	destination
la douane	customs
la gare	railway station
la gare routière	bus station
l'horloge	clock
la passagère	passenger (f)
la portière	door (on vehicle)
la salle d'attente	waiting room
la station-service	petrol station

l'arrivée	arrival
l'automobiliste	motorist
l'autoroute	motorway
l'essence (sans plomb)	(unleaded) petrol
la circulation	traffic
la collision	crash / collision
la route (nationale)	(main) road
la rue	street
la zone piétonne	pedestrian zone

faire de l'autostop	to hitch-hike
garer	to park (1)
manquer	to miss
marcher	to walk
partir	to leave / depart
passer	to pass
rouler	to drive / go / roll (vehicle)
stationner	to park (2)
tomber en panne	to break down
se situer	to be situated (1)
tourner	to turn
traverser	to cross
se trouver	to be situated (2)
venir	to come
voler	to fly
voyager	to travel

TRAVEL-RELATED ADJECTIVES AND ADVERBS

à droite	to the left
à gauche	to the right
de bonne heure	early (1)
en avance	ahead of schedule / early
en retard	behind schedule / late
en avant	forward(s)
en arrière	backward(s)
lent / lente	slow
lentement	slowly
plein / pleine	full
rapide	quick
rapidement	quickly (1)
tôt	early (2)
vide	empty
vite	quickly (2)

Level 66 - Imperatives and Il Faut 'it is necessary to'

The imperative form of a verb is used to give a command. It is very simple. To give a command to someone you know well use the **tu** form of the present tense and take off the final **s** if it's an **-er** verb. To give a polite command to someone you don't know, or to a number of people, use the **vous** form without saying **vous**. Finally, to suggest something to a number of people including yourself, use the **nous** form without **nous**. Here are some examples:

parle français	speak French (sg.)
parlez français	speak French (pl.)
parlons français	let's speak French
prend l'argent	take the money (sg.)
prenez l'argent	take the money (pl.)
prenons l'argent	let's take the money
cours	run (sg.)
courez	run (pl.)
courons	let's run
finis	finish (sg.)
finissez	finish (pl.)
finissons	let's finish

For negative imperatives just put **ne** and **pas** around the verb as normal: **ne partez pas!** = don't leave!

Irregular imperatives

The verbs with irregular imperatives are **être** 'to be', **avoir** 'to have' and **savoir** 'to know'. The word **veuillez**, from the verb **vouloir** 'to want', means 'please' before making a request with an infinitive.

sois	be (sg.)
soyez	be (pl.)
soyons	let's be
aie	have (sg.)
ayez	have (pl.)
ayons	let's have
sache	know (sg.)
sachez	know (pl.)
sachons	let's know
veuillez entrer	please enter

Il faut

Il faut means 'it is necessary to' and can also be used instead of **devoir** 'to have to' to give a command or to say what needs to be done. Simply give an infinitive (the form which ends in **-er**, **-re** or **-ir**) afterwards to explain what it is necessary to do:

il faut parler français	it is necessary to speak French
il faut prendre l'argent	it is necessary to take the money
il faut courir	it is necessary to run
il faut finir	it is necessary to finish

Level 67 - Parts Of The Body

Here is a list of the parts of the body.

Masculine

le bras	arm
le cerveau	brain
les cheveux	hair
le cil	eyelash
le cœur	heart
le cou	neck
le coude	elbow
le doigt	finger
le doigt de pied	toe
le dos	back
l'estomac	stomach
le foie	liver
le genou	knee
le nez	nose
l'œil	eye
l'ongle	finger nail
l'ongle du pied	toe nail
l'orteil	toe
l'os*	bone
le pied	foot
le poignet	wrist
le pouce	thumb
le poumon	lung
le rein	kidney
le sang	blood
les seins	breasts

Feminine

la bouche	mouth
la cheville	ankle
la dent	tooth
l'épaule	shoulder
la gorge	throat
la jambe	leg
la joue	cheek
la langue	tongue
la lèvre	lip
la main	hand
l'oreille	ear
la paupière	eyelid
la peau	skin
la poitrine	chest
la tête	head

le sourcil	eyebrow
le ventre	stomach
le visage	face
les yeux	eyes

* If you are talking about one bone (**un os**) you pronounce the **s** in **os**. If you are talking about some bones (**des os**) you do not pronounce the **s**.

Level 68 - Reflexive Verbs and Parts Of The Body

See [Level 16](#) for an explanation of reflexive verbs. You will often find parts of the body used in conjunction with reflexive verbs in French. For example:

je me lave le visage	I am washing my face
tu te brosses les cheveux	you are brushing your hair
il se touche l'oreille	he touches his ear

The reflexive element of the sentence (**me, te, se** etc.) is another way of saying 'my', 'your', 'his', 'her' etc. and is far more common than saying something like **je lave mon visage**. The **me, te, se** etc. mean 'to me', 'to you', 'to him/her' etc. Here are just some of the verbs which you might find being used in this way, including some referring to medical accidents:

se toucher	to touch
se laver	to wash
se brosser	to brush
se raser	to shave
se nettoyer	to clean
se sécher	to dry
se casser	to break
se couper	to cut
se fouler	to sprain
se tordre	to twist

Perfect tense

In Level 61 we learnt how all reflexive verbs need **être** to make the perfect tense. Note how the past participle (the part which tends to end in **é, u** or **i**) does not have any feminine or plural agreements in these sorts of phrases.

je me suis lavé les cheveux	I washed my hair
tu t'es cassé la jambe	you broke your leg
il s'est touché l'épaule	he touched his shoulder
nous nous sommes coupé les cheveux	we cut our hair
elles se sont foulé la cheville	they sprained their ankles

See [Level 69](#) for a more detail on talking about medical problems.

Level 69 - Medical Problems

An illness is **une maladie**. Revise [Level 68](#) for a list of parts of the body . When talking about medical problems we can use either the present tense to describe what is wrong with you or the perfect tense to describe what is wrong. If you go to see a doctor (**un/une médecin** or **un/une docteur**) he or she may ask you **qu'est-ce qu'il y a** which means 'what is wrong' (literally 'what is there?').

MEDICAL PROBLEMS IN THE PRESENT TENSE

j'ai de la fièvre	I have a fever / temperature
j'ai la diarrhée	I have diarrhoea
j'ai la grippe	I have the 'flu
j'ai la migraine	I have a migraine
j'ai le mal de mer	I am feeling seasick
j'ai le mal de l'air	I am feeling airsick
j'ai très chaud	I'm very hot
j'ai très froid	I'm very cold
j'ai un coup de soleil	I have sunstroke (1)
j'ai un rhume	I have a cold (1)
j'ai une crise cardiaque	I'm having a heart attack
j'ai une insolation	I have sunstroke (2)
j'ai une toux	I have a cough
je me sens malade	I feel ill
je me sens très fatigué / fatiguée	I'm feeling very tired
je suis enrhumé / enrhumée	I have a cold (2)
je suis constipé / constipée	I'm constipated

MEDICAL PROBLEMS IN THE PERFECT TENSE*

je me suis brûlé le doigt	I've burnt my finger
je me suis cassé le bras	I've broken my arm
je me suis coupé le pouce	I've cut my thumb
je me suis foulé la cheville	I've sprained my ankle
je me suis tordu le genou	I've twisted my knee

* Examples are given with parts of the body - any part of the body can be used in phrases like these

Avoir mal à

The simplest way to explain what is wrong is to use the phrase **avoir mal à** which means 'to have pain at'. After **à** you can then insert any part of the body which hurts. If it is masculine you say **j'ai mal au** then the body part and if it is feminine you say **j'ai mal à la** then the body part. If the word begins with a vowel it is **j'ai mal à l'** and if the word is plural you say **j'ai mal aux**. Here are some examples:

j'ai mal au genou	my knee hurts
j'ai mal à la tête	my head hurts (I have a headache)
j'ai mal à l'épaule	my shoulder hurts
j'ai mal aux jambes	my legs hurt

Treatments

<u>Masculine</u>		<u>Feminine</u>	
le bandage	bandage	l'aspirine	aspirin
le comprimé	tablet	la crème	cream
le médicament	medicine (1)	la médecine	medicine (2)
le pansement	dressing	l'ordonnance	written prescription
le sirop	syrup	la pastille	pastille / lozenge
le sparadrap	sticking plaster	la pilule	pill

Level 70 - Venir De 'to have just'

Venir on its own means 'to come'. Here is a reminder of the verb **venir** in the present tense.

je viens	I come
tu viens	you come (sg)
il / elle / on vient	he / she / one comes
nous venons	we come
vous venez	you come
ils / elles viennent	they come

Venir de means 'to have just' as in 'to have just done something'. It is followed by the infinitive of the verb which describes what you have just done. We use it to explain what has happened in the past, but we still use the verb in its present tense. Here are some examples:

je viens d'arriver	I've just arrived
est-ce que tu viens d'entrer?	have you just come in?
il vient de manger	he has just eaten
nous venons de regarder le film	we have just seen the film
vous venez d'ouvrir la porte	you have just opened the door
elles viennent de rentrer	they have just come home

Level 71 - Direct Object Pronouns

A direct object pronoun is a word which replaces a noun in a sentence. For example, instead of saying "I opened the door" you could say, "I opened it". 'It' is therefore a direct object pronoun and is another way of saying 'door'. In French direct object pronouns are positioned before the verb except when you are using the imperative (see [Level 66](#)). Here are the direct object pronouns in French:

me (m' before a vowel or silent h)	me
te (t' before a vowel or silent h)	you (sg)
le (l' before a vowel or silent h)	him / it (m)
la (l' before a vowel or silent h)	her / it (f)
nous	us
vous	you (pl)
les	them
en	some / of it / of them

Examples

ça <u>me</u> plaît	that pleases <u>me</u>
je <u>t'</u>aime	I love <u>you</u>
je <u>le</u> déteste	I hate <u>him</u> / <u>it</u> (a masculine thing)
elle ne <u>l'</u>aime pas	she doesn't like / <u>him</u> / <u>her</u> / <u>it</u>
nous <u>la</u> voyons	we see <u>her</u> / <u>it</u> (a feminine thing)
je <u>vous</u> ai appelé hier*	I called <u>you</u> yesterday
je vais <u>les</u> regarder**	I'm going to watch <u>them</u>
est-ce que vous <u>en</u> voulez?	do you want <u>some</u> ?
il <u>en</u> a eu beaucoup	he has had a lot of <u>it</u>
ils vont <u>en</u> acheter cinq	they are going to buy five of <u>them</u>

* In the perfect tense the direct object goes before the **avoir** bit

** In the future tense the direct object goes after the **aller** bit

Level 72 - Indirect Object Pronouns and Disjunctive Pronouns

This level probably has the scariest name - but in truth it's just as easy as [Level 71](#) which was about direct object pronouns. An indirect object pronoun is a word which replaces the word **à** ('to' or 'at') plus a noun in a sentence. For example, instead of saying "I gave the present to my friend" you could say, "I gave the present to him". 'To him' is therefore an indirect object pronoun and is another way of saying 'to my friend'. In French indirect object pronouns are positioned before the verb except when you are using the imperative (see [Level 66](#)). Here are the indirect object pronouns in French:

me (m' before a vowel or silent h)	to me
te (t' before a vowel or silent h)	to you (sg)
lui	to him / her / it
nous	to us
vous	to you (pl)
leur	to them
y	to it / to them / there

Examples

elle me donne le cadeau	she gives the present <u>to me</u>
je te rend visite	I pay a visit <u>to you</u>
il lui a passé le sel*	he passed the salt <u>to him</u> / <u>to her</u>
il va nous donner les tickets**	he is going to give the tickets <u>to us</u>
je vous promets que je vais le faire	I promise <u>to you</u> that I'm going to do it
je voudrais leur raconter l'histoire	I would like to tell the story <u>to them</u>
j'ai reçu une lettre et je vais y répondre	I received a letter and I'm going to respond <u>to it</u>
ils y habitent	they live <u>there</u>

* In the perfect tense the direct object goes before the **avoir** bit

** In the future tense the direct object goes after the **aller** bit

Disjunctive pronouns

A disjunctive pronoun is a word referring to a person or a thing which appears after a preposition like **à** ('to' or 'at'), **de** ('of') or **avec** ('with'). Here is a list of French disjunctive pronouns:

moi	me
toi	you (sg)
lui	him
elle	her
soi	oneself
nous	us
vous	you (pl)
eux	them (m)
elles	them (f)

Note also that each of these words can be followed by the word **même** ('same' or 'self') for emphasis.

Examples

viens avec moi	come with <u>me</u>
je suis amoureux / amoureuse de toi	I am in love with <u>you</u>
est-ce que tu es venu avec lui?	did you go with <u>him</u> ?
donnez l'argent à elle	give the money to <u>her</u>
il faut avoir confiance en soi	it is necessary to have confidence in <u>oneself</u>
qu'est-ce qu'il pense de nous?	what does he think about <u>us</u> ?
parlez entre vous	talk amongst <u>yourselves</u>
je me tiens en face d'eux	I am standing opposite <u>them</u> (m)
le roman a été écrit par elles	the novel was written by <u>them</u> (f)

Possession

Possession is indicated by the word **de** 'of' but we can also use **à** 'to' with a disjunctive pronoun, for example **c'est à moi** 'it's mine', **c'est à toi** 'it's yours'.

Level 73 - Adverbs

An adverb describes how a verb is done. For example, in the sentence "I read quickly", the adverb is 'quickly'. In English nearly all adverbs are made up of an adjective and the letters 'ly'. Similarly in French to make an adverb we take an adjective (in its feminine form) and add **-ment**. For a list of French adjectives see [Level 28](#). Adverbs can also describe adjectives (**trop** 'too') or can be used as 'linking words' (e.g. **cependant** 'however'). Here are some examples of adverbs:

FEMININE ADJECTIVE	ADVERB
active 'active'	activement 'actively'
agréable 'nice'	agréablement 'nicely'
calme 'calm'	calmement 'calmly'
molle 'soft'	mollement 'softly'

Exceptions

Unfortunately there are a few exceptions to the rule. Adjectives ending in **-é**, **-u** and **-i** use the masculine form to make the adverb. The two main ones like this are **absolument** 'absolutely' and **vraiment** 'really'. And with adjectives ending in **-ant** or **-ent** to make the adverb we remove those endings and add **-amment** or **-emment** respectively. The most important ones of this type are **apparemment** 'apparently' and **couramment** 'fluently', as in **parler couramment** 'to speak fluently'. Note that **lentement** 'slowly' does not follow this special rule.

Other important adverbs

The French for 'good' is **bon** but the adverb 'well' is translated as **bien**. Bad is **mauvais** but 'badly' is **mal**. The following section contains examples of these two adverbs as well as other important ones:

tu es un bon chanteur - tu chantes bien	you are a good singer - you sing <u>well</u>
Marie est une mauvaise danseuse - elle danse mal	Marie is a bad dancer - she dances <u>badly</u>
	elsewhere
ailleurs	afterwards
après	before
avant	however
cependant	first
d'abord	already
déjà	again, still, (not) yet
(pas) encore	finally / at last
enfin	behind schedule
en retard	together
ensemble	then / next (1)
ensuite	about / around
environ	for a long time
longtemps	now
maintenant	unfortunately
malheureusement	sometimes (1)
parfois	everywhere
partout	maybe / perhaps
peut-être	rather
plutôt	yet (as in 'but')
pourtant	near
près	nearly
presque	then / next (2)
puis	sometimes (2)
quelquefois	only
seulement	suddenly
soudain	often
souvent	overall
surtout	so much
tant	late
tard	early
tôt	always, still

toujours	immediately
tout de suite	too / too much
trop vite	quickly

Level 74 - Imperfect Tense

The perfect tense (see Levels [59](#), [60](#), [61](#) and [62](#)) describes a completed action - something that happened or has happened but which is no longer happening. The imperfect tense is used to describe what *was happening* or what *used to happen*. Whether or not the action is completed or not does not matter. For example, "I was watching the television" is imperfect while "I watched the television" is perfect.

To make the imperfect tense, take the nous form of the verb in the present tense, remove **ons** and add the following endings:

je	-ais
tu	-ais
il / elle / on	-ait
nous	-ions
vous	-iez
ils / elles	-aient

Examples

je regardais la télévision	I was watching television
tu vendais les voitures	you used to sell cars
il finissait ses devoirs	he was finishing his homework
elle portait une écharpe bleue	she was wearing a blue scarf
on travaillait beaucoup	one (we) used to work a lot
nous avions une voiture rouge	we used to have a red car
vous dormiez quand je suis entré	you were sleeping when I came in
ils prenaient le petit déjeuner	they were having breakfast
elles dansaient	they were dancing / they used to dance

Être

Être 'to be' is the only irregular verb in the imperfect tense and it is also the one you are most likely to use. Here are its various parts and a couple of examples:

j'étais	I was
tu étais	you were (sg)
il / elle / on était	he / she / one was
c'était	it was
nous étions	we were
vous étiez	you were (pl)
ils / elles étaient	they were
c'étaient	they were
j'étais dans la cuisine	I was in the kitchen
c'était fantastique!	it was fantastic!
ce n'était pas du tout ennuyeux	it wasn't at all boring

Avoir

This is the verb you are second most likely to use, especially **j'avais** 'I had' and **il y avait** / 'there was / there were'.

Level 75 - Comparatives and Superlatives

More and less (comparatives)

In French 'more' is **plus** and 'less' is **moins**. We can describe things as being more or less something by using one of these words before the adjective. We can also use the word **que** here. **Que** can also mean 'what' and 'that' but here it means 'than'.

le camion est **plus grand que** la voiture
la tarte est **plus sucrée que** le biscuit
les voitures sont **moins grandes que** les camions
les biscuits sont **moins sucrés que** la tarte
je cours **plus rapidement que** toi
tu cours **moins rapidement que** moi

the lorry is bigger than the car
the cake is sweeter than the biscuit
the cars are less big than the lorries
the biscuits are less sweet than the tarts
I run more quickly than you
you run less quickly than me

Most and least (superlatives)

By adding the French word for 'the' we can say something is the most or least something.

ce film est **le plus comique**
cette tarte est **la plus sucrée**
les **moins grandes** voitures sont noires
les biscuits **les plus sucrés** sont dans la boîte
je cours **le plus rapidement**
tu cours **le moins rapidement**

this film is the funniest
this tart is the sweetest
the smallest cars are black
the sweetest biscuits are in the box
I run the most quickly
you run the least quickly

Meilleur, mieux, pire

As usual, the irregular ones are the especially important ones. 'Better' is **meilleur / meilleure / meilleurs / meilleures** if it is an adjective and **mieux** if it is an adverb. 'Worse' is **pire** (plural **pires**) if it is an adjective but as an adverb it is what you would expect - **plus mal**. Like **bon** and **mauvais** ('good' and 'bad'), **meilleur** and **pire** as adjectives are positioned before the noun when placed together.

le bleu est **meilleur**
la chimie est **meilleure que** la biologie
le **meilleur sport** est le golf
elles sont les **meilleures professeurs de** l'école
tu chantes **mieux qu'elle**, elle est **pire que** toi
mais je chante **le mieux**
il est le **pire élève de** la classe

the blue one is better
chemistry is better than biology
the best sport is golf
they (f) are the best teachers in the school
you sing better than her, she is worse than you
but I sing the best
he is the worst pupil in the class

Level 76 - Jobs

A job in **un métier**. Below is a list of jobs in French. Some of them slightly change in the feminine form but many do not. In some jobs traditionally done by a man there is no feminine version. There are still arguments as to whether some jobs (e.g. **soldat** 'soldier') have a feminine version at all. This is not a great problem for you at this level as long as you understand the meanings of the words.

FEMININE	MASCULINE	
actrice	acteur	actor
agent de police	agent de police	police officer
animatrice	animateur	TV host
	apprenti	apprentice

apprentie	architecte	architect
auteur	avocat	author
avocate	boucher	lawyer
bouchère	boulangier	butcher
boulangère	caissier	baker
caissière	chauffeur	cashier
chauffeur	chef	driver (1)
chef	coiffeur	chef / cook / leader
coiffeuse	comptable	hairdresser / barber
comptable	conducteur	accountant
conductrice	conseiller	driver (2)
conseillère	dentiste	adviser / councillor / counselor
dentiste	directeur	dentist
directrice	docteur	manager / director
docteur	écrivain	doctor (1)
écrivain	employé (de bureau)	writer
électricienne	employeur	electrician
employée (de bureau)	étudiant	(office) worker / employee
employeuse	facteur	employer
étudiante	fermier	student
factrice	gendarme	postman / postwoman
fermière	homme d'affaires	farmer
gendarme	infirmier	military policeman / policewoman in the country or a small town
femme d'affaires	informaticien	businessman / businesswoman
infirmière	ingénieur	nurse
informaticienne	instituteur	computer programmer / IT worker
ingénieur	journaliste	engineer
institutrice	juge	primary school teacher
journaliste	maçon	journalist
juge	maire	judge
maçon	mécanicien	builder
mairesse	médecin	mayor / mayoress
mécanicienne	moniteur	mechanic / train driver
médecin	ouvrier	doctor (2)
monitrice	patron	instructor
ouvrière	pharmacien	worker (1)
patronne	plombier	owner
pharmacienne	(sapeur-)pompi	pharmacist / chemist
plombier	er	plumber
(sapeur-)pompier	professeur	fireman / firewoman
professeur	secrétaire	teacher
secrétaire	serveur	secretary
serveuse	soldat	waiter / waitress
soldat	stagiaire	soldier
stagiaire	surveillant	trainee
surveillante	travailleur	warder / monitor
travailleuse	vendeur	worker (2)
vendeuse		salesman / saleswoman
		unemployed
au chômage	au chômage	

Describing what you do

When saying what job someone does, leave out the **un** or **une** ('a' / 'an') as follows:

je suis acteur	I am an actor
elle est conductrice	she is a driver
Jean était médecin	Jean used to be a doctor
les étudiantes vont être journalistes	the students are going to be journalists

Level 77 - The Conditional

In [Level 54](#) we learnt a special form of the verb **vouloir** 'to want' which was **je voudrais** 'I would like' (literally 'I would want'). This is in fact a conditional form of the verb, represented by the English word 'would'. The other conditional form you need to know is **j'aimerais** from the verb **aimer** 'to like' which also means 'I would like'. To make the conditional form simply add the following endings (which are the same as the imperfect endings) onto the infinitive of the verb you want to use, taking the final **e** off **-re** verbs:

je	-ais
tu	-ais
il / elle / on	-ait
nous	-ions
vous	-iez
ils / elles	-aient

Examples

j'arriverais	I <u>would</u> arrive
tu vendrais	you <u>would</u> sell
il / elle / on finirait	he / she / one <u>would</u> finish
nous penserions	we <u>would</u> think
vous prendriez	you <u>would</u> take
ils / elles changeraient	they <u>would</u> change

Exceptions

A few important verbs have irregular stems, that is, beginnings. They are **être** 'to be' (**ser-**), **avoir** 'to have' (**aur-**), **aller** 'to go' (**ir-**), **faire** 'to do / make' (**fer-**) and **vouloir** 'to want' (**voudr-**). Here are some examples of those verbs in action:

je serais très content	I <u>would</u> be very happy
tu en aurais besoin	you <u>would</u> need some
il irait demain	he <u>would</u> go tomorrow
elle le ferait facilement	she <u>would</u> do it easily
nous voudrions y aller	we <u>would</u> like to go there

Level 78 - Relative Pronouns

Relative pronouns link two phrases known as *clauses* which both contain a verb. Thankfully you don't need to be able to explain what a relative pronoun is; just make sure you recognise them and understand their meanings:

dont	of which
lequel / laquelle / lesquels / lesquelles	which
où	where (sometimes when)

qui
que

which / who / whom
that

Examples

je vois l'outil dont j'ai besoin
voilà le bureau dans lequel je travaille
voici le magasin où j'ai acheté le cadeau
août est le mois où il fait le plus chaud
j'ai un chat qui dort dans le jardin
c'est mon frère avec qui je partage une chambre
l'homme que j'ai vu hier est là-bas

I see the tool of which I have need (I see the tool I need)
there is the office in which I work
this is the shop where I bought the present
August is the month when it is the hottest
I have a cat which sleeps in the garden
it's my brother with whom I share a bedroom
the man that I saw yesterday is over there

Level 79 - Pluperfect Tense

The pluperfect tense is used to explain what *had happened*. To make it, take the imperfect tense of the verb **avoir** 'to have' (see [Level 74](#)) and add the past participle of the verb which had been done. With the verbs which need **être** 'to be' in the perfect tense (see Levels [61](#) and [62](#)), use the imperfect of **être** and make the past participle agree with the person(s) performing the verb. Here are some examples:

j'avais mangé le sandwich
tu étais arrivé
il m'avait attendu
elle était partie
nous avions fini
vous en aviez pris
ils avaient ouvert la porte
elles y étaient retournées

I had eaten the sandwich
you had arrived
he had waited for me
she had left
we had finished
you had taken some
they had opened the door
they had returned there

Level 80 - Simple Future Tense

In [Level 52](#) we learnt how to talk about what is going to happen by using the verb **aller** 'to go'. This is probably the easiest way to do it, but there is another way to do this in French and it is called the simple future tense. To make it, simply add the following endings (which look like the present tense of the verb **avoir** 'to have') onto the infinitive of the verb you want to use, taking the final **e** off **-re** verbs:

je	-ai
tu	-as
il / elle / on	-a
nous	-ons
vous	-ez
ils / elles	-ont

Examples

j'arriverai
tu vendras
il / elle / on finira
nous penserons
vous prendrez
ils / elles changeront

I will arrive
you will sell
he / she / one will finish
we will think
you will take
they will change

Exceptions

As with the conditional ([Level 77](#)), there are irregular stems. They are **être** 'to be' (**ser-**), **avoir** 'to have' (**aur-**), **aller** 'to go' (**ir-**), **faire** 'to do / make' (**fer-**) and **vouloir** 'to want' (**voudr-**). Here are some examples of those verbs in action:

je <u>serai</u> très content	I <u>will</u> be very happy
tu en <u>auras</u> besoin	you <u>will</u> need some
il <u>ira</u> demain	he <u>will</u> go tomorrow
elle le <u>fera</u> facilement	she <u>will</u> do it easily
nous <u>voudrions</u> y aller	we <u>will</u> want to go there

This is the end

Congratulations. You have finished the final level. But there's still a lot of vocabulary you need to know which didn't appear in the last 80 levels - make sure you visit the [dictionary](#) and learn it.

List of French verbs

FRENCH	ENGLISH	IRREGULAR PAST PARTICIPLES
* = needs être in the perfect tense		
accepter	to accept	
accompagner	to accompany	
accueillir	to welcome	
acheter	to buy	
amener	to bring	
adorer	to love	
agacer	to aggravate	
agir	to act	
aider	to help	
aimer	to like	
ajouter	to add	
aller *	to go	
aller chercher *	to fetch	allé / allée / allés / allées chercher
allumer	to turn on	
annuler	to cancel	
apporter	to bring	
apprendre	to learn	
appuyer (sur)	to press	appuis
arranger	to arrange (1)	
(s')arrêter (*)	to stop (oneself)	
arriver *	to arrive	
attaquer	to attack	
attendre	to wait, to wait for	
atterrir	to land	
avertir	to warn	
avoir besoin de	to need	eu besoin de
avoir du succès	to succeed	eu du succès
avoir	to have	eu
bâtir	to build	
bavarder	to chat	
blesser	to hurt / injure	
boire	to drink	bu
bouger	to move	
brûler	to burn	
cacher	to hide	
casser	to break	
causer	to cause	
changer	to change	

chanter	to sing	
chercher	to look for	
choisir	to choose	
classer	to classify	
collectionner	to collect	
commander	to command / order	
commencer	to start	
comparer	to compare	
compléter	to complete	
composer (un numéro)	to compose / dial (a number)	
composter	to stamp	
comprendre	to understand	compris
compter	to count	
conduire	to drive	conduit
confirmer	to confirm	connu
connaître	to know (person / place)	
conseiller	to advise	
considérer	to consider	
construire	to build	construit
contenir	to contain	contenu
continuer	to continue	
copier	to copy	
corriger	to correct	
couper	to cut	
courir	to run	couru
coûter	to cost	
couvrir	to cover	couvert
critiquer	to criticize	
croire	to believe	cru
danser	to dance	
(se) débarrasser (de)	to get rid of	
décider	to decide	
décrocher	to pick up the phone	
défendre	to defend	
détester	to hate	
décoller	to take off	
découvrir	to discover	découvert
décrire	to describe	décrit
déjeuner	to have lunch	
demander	to demand / ask for	
dépenser	to spend	
déranger	to disturb	
descendre	to descend / go down	
désirer	to want / desire (to)	
dessiner	to draw	
devenir *	to become	devenu
devoir	to have to	dû
différer	to differ	
dire	to say	dit
discuter	to discuss	
dîner	to dine	
distribuer	to distribute	
donner	to give	
dormir	to sleep	
doubler	to overtake	
durer	to last	
échanger	to exchange	
écouter	to listen to	
écrire	to write	écrit
effacer	to delete	
effrayer	to frighten	
embrasser	to kiss	
emmener	to take (away)	
empêcher	to prevent	
employer	to employ	
emporter	to take (away)	
emprunter	to borrow	

énervé	to annoy	
enlever	to remove	
ennuyer	to bore	
envoyer	to send	
essayer	to try	
encourager	to encourage	
enseigner	to teach	
entendre	to hear	
entrer *	to enter	
épeler	to spell	
épouser	to marry	
espérer	to hope	
établir	to switch off	
éteindre	to establish	éteint
être	to be	été
étudier	to study	
exiger	to demand	
expliquer	to explain	
faire	to do, to make	fait
fermer	to close	
fêter	to celebrate	
finir	to finish	
frapper	to hit	
fuir	to flee	
fumer	to smoke	
gagner	to earn, to win	
garder	to keep	
garer	to park	
geler	to freeze	
gérer	to manage	
goûter	to taste	
habiter	to live	
heurter	to collide / knock into	
identifier	to identify	
imprimer	to print	
indiquer	to indicate	
introduire	to introduce	introduit
inviter	to invite	
jeter	to throw	
jouer	to play	
lancer	to throw	
laver	to wash	
laisser	to leave	
lever	to raise/lift	
lire	to read	lu
livrer	to deliver	
loger	to lodge	
louer	to hire/rent	
manger	to eat	
manquer	to lack / miss / be missing	
marcher (1)	to walk	
marcher (2)	to work	
mélanger	to mix	
mener	to lead	
mériter	to deserve	
mesurer	to measure	
mettre	to put (on)	mis
monter *	to go up	
montrer	to show	
mourir *	to die	mort / morte / morts / mortes
nager	to swim	
neiger	to snow	
naître *	to be born	né / née / nés / nées
nettoyer	to clean	
noter	to note	
obéir à	to obey	
offrir	to offer	offert

organiser	to organize	
oublier	to forget	
ouvrir	to open	ouvert
paraître	to seem	paru
pardonner	to forgive	
parler	to speak / talk	
partager	to share	
partir *	to leave / depart	
passer (*)	to pass * / to spend (time)	
passionner	to fascinate	
patiner	to skate	
payer	to pay	
penser (que)	to think (that)	
perdre	to lose	
permettre	to allow	permis
peser	to weigh	
piquer	to sting	
placer	to place	
plaire	to please	plu
pleurer	to cry	
pleuvoir	to rain	plu
plonger	to dive	
polir	to polish	
porter	to carry, to wear	
poser	to put	
posséder	to possess	
pousser	to push	
pouvoir	to be able to	pu
préférer	to prefer	
prendre	to take	pris
préparer	to prepare	
présenter	to present / introduce	
prétendre	to claim	
prêter	to lend	
proposer	to propose / offer	
protéger	to protect	
punir	to punish	
quitter	to leave	
raccrocher	to hang up	
raconter	to tell	
ranger	to arrange (2)	
recevoir	to receive	reçu
recommander	to recommend	
refuser	to refuse	
regarder	to look at / watch	
regretter	to regret, to miss	
rejeter	to reject	
remercier	to thank	
remplacer	to replace	
remplir	to fill	
rencontrer	to meet	
rendre	to render	
rentrer *	to come home / go home	
réparer	to repair	
répéter	to repeat	
répondre	to respond	
réserver	to reserve	
rester *	to stay	
retirer	to take back	
réussir	to succeed	
retourner *	to return	
révéler	to reveal	
revenir *	to come back	revenu / revenue / revenus /
revoir	to see again	revenues
rire	to laugh	revu
(se) rappeler (*)	to recall	ri
(se) sentir (*)	to feel	

s'adresser * à	to present oneself to / to go to see	
s'amuser *	to enjoy oneself	
s'appeler *	to be called	
s'approcher de *	to approach	
s'arrêter *	to stop	
s'asseoir *	to sit down	
s'échapper *	to escape	assis / assise / assis / assises
s'écrire *	to write to each other	
s'énervier *	to get worked up	écrit
s'ennuyer *	to get bored	
s'entendre * avec	to get along with	
s'entraîner *	to train	
s'excuser *	to apologise	
s'évanouir *	to faint	
s'habiller *	to get dressed	
s'habituer * à	to get used to	
s'inquiéter *	to worry	
s'intéresser * à	to be interested in	
s'occuper * de	to take care of	
saisir	to seize	
sauter	to jump	
sauver	to save	
savoir	to know (facts)	
se (faire) bronzer *	to sunbathe/tan	su
se baigner *	to bathe	(fait)
se blesser *	to injure oneself	
se brûler *	to burn oneself	
se brosser *	to brush oneself	
se casser *	to break (part of body)	
se connecter *	to log in	
se coucher *	to go to bed	
se débrouiller *	to manage/get by	
se déconnecter *	to log out	
se dépêcher *	to hurry	
se déshabiller *	to get undressed	
se disputer * (avec)	to argue (with)	
se doucher *	to take a shower	
se fâcher *	to get angry	
se faire mal *	to hurt oneself	
se lever *	to get up	fait
se noyer *	to drown	
se passer *	to happen	
se peigner *	to comb oneself	
se plaindre *	to complain	
se promener *	to go for a walk	plaint / plainte / complaints / plaintes
se raser *	to shave oneself	
se rencontrer *	to meet each other	
se rendre *	to surrender	
se reposer *	to rest	
se réunir *	to meet	
se réveiller *	to wake up	
se servir * de	to use	
se taire *	to be quiet	
se tenir * (debout)	to be standing up	tu / tue / tus / tues
se terminer *	to come to an end	tenu / tenue / tenus / tenues
se trouver *	to be situated	
se voir *	to see oneself, each other	
sembler	to seem	vu / vue / vus / vues
servir	to serve	
signer	to sign	
sonner	to sound	
sortir *	to go out	
souffrir	to suffer	
souhaiter	to wish	souffert
souigner	to underline	
sourire	to smile	
stationner	to park	souri

suggérer	to suggest	
suivre	to follow	
taper	to type, to knock / hit	suivi
téléphoner	to telephone	
tendre	to stretch	
tenir	to hold	
tenir à	to care about / to be anxious to	tenu
terminer	to finish	tenu
tirer	to pull	
tomber *	to fall	
toucher	to touch	
tourner	to turn	
tousser	to cough	
tutoyer	to use the tu form	
travailler	to work	
traverser	to cross	
trouver	to find	
utiliser	to use	
vendre	to sell	
venir *	to come	
venir * de	to have just	venu / venue / venus / venues
vérifier	to check / verify	
verser	to pour	
visiter	to visit	
voir	to see	
voler	to fly, to steal	vu
vomir	to vomit	
vouloir	to want (to)	
vouloir bien	to be glad to	voulu
vouloir dire	to mean	bien voulu
voyager	to travel	voulu dire

Exam Rubrics

Rubrics are the various mark schemes and instructions printed on the exam paper which the examiners use to decide how many marks you deserve. In French exams at GCSE and Common Entrance these tend to be given in French. Although you are normally given an example of how to answer a question, whether it be ticking a box, writing down a number or whatever, it is a good idea to make sure you understand what these instructions mean. Below is a list of common instructions and questions. They are imperatives given sometimes in the **tu** form and sometimes in the **vous** form.

INSTRUCTIONS

choisis / choisissez la bonne réponse	choose the correct answer
coche / cochez la case / la bonne phrase	tick the box / the correct sentence
complète / complétez	complete
décris / décrivez	describe
écoute / écoutez	listen (to)
écris / écrivez	write
explique / expliquez	explain
fais / faites correspondre	match up
fais / faites une liste	make a list
identifie / identifiez	identify
indique / indiquez	indicate
lis / lisez les phrases suivantes / la lettre / le texte	read the following sentences / the letter / the text
mets / mettez dans le bon ordre	put into the correct order
mentionne / mentionnez	mention
note / notez	note down
regarde / regardez	look at
remplis / remplissez la grille	fill in the grid
réponds / répondez en anglais / en français	answer in English / French
souligne / soulignez	underline

trouve / trouvez
utilisez les mots dans la liste ci-dessous

find
 use the list of words below

QUESTIONS

à quelle heure	at what time?
combien (de)	how many / how much?
comment	how?
où	where?
pourquoi	why?
quand	when?
quel / quelle / quels / quelles	which? / what? (the word must agree with the noun which follows)
qui	who? / whom?
que / qu'est-ce que	what? (object of the sentence)
qu'est-ce qui	what? (subject of the sentence)
quoi	what? (after prepositions like à, de, avec)

>> Learn French for free - Conjugation -

Personal Pronouns	Redondant suffixes	Simplified Tenses
je I tu you (sing.) il - elle he - she nous we vous you (plural) ils - elles they	je verb + s tu verb + s il verb + t nous verb + ons vous verb + ez ils verb + nt	Future - Futur Present – Présent Preterite – Perfect... Passé composé

First conjugation for **-er** verbs

Aimer (to love)

Present (Présent)

verb without -er + ending

J'aime	-e
Tu aimes	-es
Il aime	-e
Nous aimons	-ons
Vous aimez	-ez
Ils aiment	-ent

Past tense (Passé composé)

avoir (to have) + participle

J' ai aimé	-ai	+ pp
Tu as aimé	-as	+ pp
Il a aimé	-a	+ pp
Nous avons aimé	-avons	+ pp
Vous avez aimé	-avez	+ pp
Ils ont aimé	-ont	+ pp

Future (Futur)

Second conjugation for **-ir** verbs

Finir (to end/finish)

Present (Présent)

verb without -ir + ending

je finis	-is
tu finis	-is
il finit	-it
nous finissons	-issons
vous finissez	-issez
ils finissent	-issent

Past tense (Passé composé)

avoir (to have) + participle

j'**ai** fini ...

Third/Fourth conj. (rare)

Boire (to drink)

je bois	-s
tu bois	-s
il boit	-t
nous buvons	-ons
vous buvez	-ez
ils boivent	-ent

j'**ai** bu...

infinitive + ending**Chanter** (to sing)

Je chanter**ai** **-ai**
 Tu chanter**as** **-as**
 Il chanter**a** **-a**
 Nous chanter**ons** **-ons**
 Vous chanter**ez** **-ez**
 Ils chanter**ont** **-ont**

Participle (Participe)

Aimé **-é**

Future (Futur)**infinitive + ending**

je finir**ai** **-ai**
 ...

Fini **-i**

Je boir**ai** **-ai**
 ...

irregular

Bu **-u**

Nouns and adjectives agree in gender and number.

Plural

Generally, the plural is formed by adding **s** to singular forms (Sg.) :

Plural	=	Sg.	+ s
		Sg. in s, x, z	do not change
		Sg. in au, eau, eu	+ x
		Sg. in al	aux (m.), ales (f.)
Ex: principal (m.), principaux (plur.), principales (f. plur.)			

Feminine

The feminine is generally formed by adding **e** to masculine. Ex: un ami, une amie (a friend)

Nouns and adjectives in **x** are changed into **se**. Ex: heureux, heureuse (happy)

er **ère**

eur **euse**

teur **trice**

f **ve**

c **que** or **che**

el, eil, en, et, on, double final consonant before adding **e**. Ex: lion, lionne (lion) ; ancien, ancienne (ancient)

Negation

not should be translated by
never

not...anybody or nobody

not...anything or nothing

not...anywhere or nowhere

ne ... pas

ne ... jamais

ne ... personne

ne ... rien

ne ... nulle part

I do not speak, je **ne** parle **pas**

He never comes, il **ne** vient **jamais**

nobody, when subject

nothing

personne ne

rien ne

Nobody laughs, **personne ne** rit

Nothing stirred, **rien n'**a bougé

Contractions and adaptations

- > In French, often, an initial vowel can't follow a final vowel, as in English : "a man" but "**an** elephant"
- > The mark of this adaptation/contraction is an apostrophe :

Ex: *Je aime* (I love) is changed into *J'aime*
Le avion (the aircraft) *L'avion*
Le éléphant (the elephant) *L'éléphant*
Le homme (the man) *L'homme*

Adjectives agree in gender and number with the nouns they qualify

My life / **Ma vie** (*vie* is a feminine noun)
 My bike / **Mon vélo** (*vélo* is a masculine noun)
 My bikes / **Mes vélos** (plural)

Possessive Adjectives

my	mon (m.)	ma (f.)	mes (pl.)
your (single)	ton	ta	tes
his	son		ses
its	son		ses
her		sa	ses
our	notre		nos
your (plural)	votre		vos
their	leur		leurs

Possessive Pronouns

mine	le mien		les miens
mine		la mienne	les miennes
yours	le tien		les tiens
yours		la tienne	les tiennes
his	le sien		les siens
her		la sienne	les siennes
its	le sien		les siens
ours	le notre	la votre	les notres
yours	le votre	la votre	les vôtres
theirs			les leurs

Adjectives

>> Relatively to English the syntax is at the opposite direction

>> Color's adjectives are always written after the noun

-- Syntax --

One adjective

adjective + noun

(my little bike / mon petit vélo)

The	le (m.)	la (f.)	les (pl.)	l' (contraction)
A/an	un	une	des (~some)	
Some	du	de la	des	This ce
That	ce			
These	ces			
Those	ces			

Contractions and adaptations

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Relative/Interrogative Pronouns, adverbs and conjunctions...

What	que (object), quel/quels/quelle/quelles (question)	
Where		où
When		quand
Which	qui (subject), que (object)	
Who	qui	
Whom	que (qui after a preposition)	
Whose		dont
Why		pourquoi
How		comment
How many	combien	

Ex:

What do you say? **Que** dis-tu?

The books **which** (that) I read. Les livres **que** je lis.

The man **who** comes. L'homme **qui** vient.

The girl (**whom**) I see. La fille **que** je vois.

The autor **whose** book I read. L'auteur **dont** je lis le livre.

1 un	(1st = premier)
2 deux	(2nd = second / deuxième)
3 trois	(3rd = troisième)
4 quatre	(4th = quatrième)
5 cinq	(... + ième)
6 six	...
7 sept	..
8 huit	.
9 neuf	
10 dix	

11 onze
12 douze
13 treize
14 quatorze
15 quinze
16 seize
17 dix-sept
18 dix-huit
19 dix-neuf

20 vingt
21 vingt-et-un
22 vingt-deux
23 vingt-trois

...

30 trente
40 quarante
50 cinquante
60 soixante
70 soixante-dix
80 quatre-vingt
90 quatre-vingt-dix

100 cent
200 deux cents
300 trois cents

...

1000 mille
2000 deux mille

...

100 000 cent mille

1 000 000 <u>un</u> million
2 000 000 deux millions

...

1 000 000 000 un milliard

...

VOWELS

a

is in "cat" and in "father".

ai

is pronounced as "a" short e like in "bed"

Ex: j'aime /em/ ('I love')

au, aux, eau, eaux

are pronounced as a clipped long "o"

Ex: châteaux /sha to/ ('castle')

e

is pronounced as a short "e" before two or more consonants

is silent at the end of a word

é

is pronounced as a long "a"

Ex: donné /dun nay/, ('given')

è

is pronounced as a short "e"

Ex: très /treh/ ('very'), mère /mehr/ ('mother')

ei

is pronounced as a short "e" like in "bed"

Ex: reine /ren/ ('queen')

eu, eux

are pronounced as an English "er" without the "r"

Ex: feu /fö/ ('fire')

ille

is usually pronounced as y

Ex: bille /bee/ ('marble'), caille /kigh/ ('quail')

i

is pronounced between a short "i" and a long "e"

oi and oix

are pronounced as "wah"

ou and où

are pronounced between as a long "u" or "oo"

u

is pronounced as an English long "e" said with pursed lips

ui

is pronounced as /ooi/

Ex: lui /'looï/ ('him')

y

as a word is pronounced "ee"

Nasal Vowels

Nasal vowels are distinguished by being followed by a single n or m which is not followed by another vowel. There are four nasal vowel sounds in French: /ã/, /i~/, /õ/, /u~/, and a nasal diphthong /wi~/.
(Because of limitations of the character set, there is no way to put the tildes on i or u.)

an, am, en, em

/ã/

in, im, ain, aim, ein, eim

/i~/

on, om

/õ/

un, um

/u~/

oin, oim

/wi~/

Pronouncing nasal vowels can be a little tricky for Americans since they don't really have any analogous sounds in any English words. However, we do occasionally use nasal vowel sounds. Most commonly, this can be seen in the colloquially response to something not understood:

Speaker 1: [mumble, mumble]

Speaker 2: "Huh?"

The sound of the "u" in "huh" is usually nasalized by American speakers of English and corresponds to the French /u~/ sound. Variations on this colloquial sound: "Hanh?" "Heh?" resemble the French /ã/ and /i~/ sounds.

The diphthong /wi~/ sounds a bit like the nasalized proverbial whining sound waa (which is not the same sound as the wa of "watt").

Others have suggested that the French nasals resemble English vowels followed by n or ng. This is somewhat true for /ã/ which sounds a bit like the ong in "long" (though not among speakers who say "lawng"); /õ/ which sounds like the o of "loan"; and /u~/ which sounds like the o in "among" or "tongue".

The /i~/ sound is similar to the a of "can't", but not among speakers who extend the vowel out to "caint" or who pronounce it to rhyme with "font".

Obviously, these sounds are best modelled by a native speaker. But the French will forgive you, they are nice for that...

CONSONANTS

b, d, f, k, l, m, n, p, t, v, y, and z are pronounced generally as in English.

c

is pronounced as **s** before e, i, y (**ç** too)

is pronounced as **k** before a, o, u

Ex: cette /sɛt/ ('this'/'that'), café /ka fe/ ('coffee')

ch

is pronounced as sh

Ex: chaud /sho/ ('hot'), riche /reesh/ ('rich')

g

is pronounced as the s in "vision" before e, i, y

is pronounced as a hard g like "garter" before a, o, u

Ex: gendarme /zhã darm/, gaulois /go lwa/ ('Gaul'/'Gallic')

j

is pronounced as the s in "vision"

h

is never pronounced.

Ex: joli /zho lee/ ('nice'/'beautiful'), janvier /zhã vee ay/ ('january')

ph

is pronounced as f

Ex: téléphone /tay lay fohn/, phare /far/ ('headlight')

qu

is pronounced as k

Ex: quart /kar/ ('quarter'), pique /peek/ ('pike' / 'spade')

r

is pronounced on the uvula (the narrow flap which hangs down in the back of your mouth). The French will forgive you if you use a weakly rolled "r" instead. Remember not to blend your "r" with other consonants (e.g. "tr" is never pronounced as the "tr" in "truck"); you may care to add a schwa (unaccented syllable) before the "r" to avoid blending them. (but the French will forgive you again if you use a "tr" as "truck":)

s

between vowels is pronounced as "z"

at the end of words is usually silent.

Ex: bise /beez/ ('kiss'), très /tray/ ('very')

ss

is pronounced as s

th

is pronounced as t

w

is usually pronounced w

x

before most consonants is pronounced as ks

before most vowels is pronounced as gz

(The French will forgive you...)

Examples

My white **cat** is borned in a medieval castle (!)
Mon **chat** blanc est né dans un château médiéval (!)

What a cat! It is wonderful!
Quel chat! Il est merveilleux!

Ah! Ah! In America, "Floppy" is a name **for** a rabbit !
 Ha ! Ha ! En Amerique, "Floppy" est un nom **pour** un lapin !

It's so interesting!
 C'est si intéressant!

So, that is the **main idea**.
 Donc, c'est l'**idée principale**.

Now I **have to** read **your** big French lesson. **Maintenant** je **dois** lire **ta grande leçon** de Français.

You are **so much farther ahead** of me **in** understanding my language.
 Tu es **tellement plus loin devant** moi **dans** la compréhension de mon langage.
 ('in the understanding of my language')

Here, "pomade" is **stuff** you put **in your hair to smooth it out!** hee!
 Ici, la "pomade" est **un truc que** tu mets **dans tes cheveux pour les lisser!** hihi!
 (~trick)

I have **lots of** theories **about** the rulers **of the** different countries.
 J'ai **beaucoup de** théories **sur** les dirigeants **des** différents pays.

Hi fella!
 Salut mec!

Maybe, **because** Englishmen were number 1 in the world for **a long time**.
 Peut-être, **parce que** les Anglais étaient numéro 1 dans le monde depuis **longtemps**.

Here is **what** Americans think **about** everyone in Europe.
 Ici c'est **ce que** les Américains **pensent** **au sujet de** chacun en Europe.
 ça!

Hee! I **like** that!
 Hihi! J'**aime bien**

(or 'sur')

We can **go** into more details if you want!
 Nous pouvons **aller** dans plus de détails si tu veux!

One of my **favorite singers** in the world: Jonathan Richman (from Boston **but now** lives in California)
has a song called...
 Un de **mes chanteurs favoris** dans le monde: J.R. (de Boston **mais maintenant** vit en Californie) **a**
une chanson appelée...

"Give Paris One More Chance"
 "Donne à Paris Une Chance de Plus" (**à=to**)

Now it's time for you to **tell me what** the French REALLY think of Americans **too**.
 Maintenant il est temps pour toi **aussi de me dire ce que** les Français RÉELLEMENT pensent des Américains.

But I won't kiss the girls- Just the boys!
 Mais je ne veux pas embrasser les filles - Juste les garçons!

HEY! What about ME????
 Hé! Quoi pour moi????

I'll give the girls a hug for you, **though!**
Cependant, je donnerai aux filles une accolade pour toi!

I have a moment at work!!
 handsome chevalier!
 J'ai un moment au travail!!
 beau chevalier!

No! I was serious! You are clever, my
 Non! J'étais sérieux! Tu es intelligent, mon

Don't shoot me!
 Ne tirez pas **sur** moi! (**=on**)

Well that was a great email!
 Bien, c'était un super **email!** (or **courriel**)

Okay, but I don't understand **how** you use this specific term.
 D'accord, mais je ne comprends pas **comment** tu utilises ce terme spécifique.

What **kind of** power does the Prime Minister actually **have**?
 Quelle **sorte de** pouvoir **a** le Premier Ministre réellement?

Thank you for your time, Monsieur. I'll see **you** at the assembly!
Merci pour votre temps, Monsieur. Je **te** verrai à l'assemblée!

I know **a lot of** Italians. She's got a lot of free time. **There are** a lot of French restaurants in London.
 Je connais **beaucoup d'**Italiens. Elle a beaucoup de temps libre. **Il y a** beaucoup de restaurants français dans Londres.

It's cute. Sounds American. There's also an old American movie called...
 C'est mignon. Ça sonne Américain. Il y a aussi un vieux film Américain appelé...

I am a slave to a constant flow of my own opinions!
 reply.

A quick

Je suis un esclave d'un flot constant de mes propres opinions!
 rapide.

Une réponse

Ciao and un bacio per te della Francia. (*Italian*)
 Ciao et une bise pour toi de la France.
 Ciao and a kiss for you from France.