

GRAMMAR TERMS

What are nouns?

The name of a person or place, or any word you can put 'the', 'a/an' in front of.

What are the definite and indefinite article?

'The' is the definite article and 'a' or 'an' is the indefinite article.

What do nouns have genders?

They just do and it is important to learn them. All words in French are either masculine or plural.

What are adjectives?

Words which describe nouns.

What are pronouns?

Words which replace nouns, such as 'he', 'she' or 'it'.

What are verbs?

Verbs are often called 'action words', although they are not all very active! For example, 'to be' is a verb, so is 'to think' and so is 'to feel'. Verbs have a *subject*, which is the person or thing doing the verb: *Tom feels happy*: Tom is the subject and feels is the verb. All sentences need at least one verb!

Why are verbs regular or irregular?

They just are and it is important to learn them. There is normally a pattern to help you learn. Some verbs in English are irregular, too: the verb 'to be' for example – I am /you are / he is and – in the past – I was / you were. Very irregular!

What are adverbs?

Words which describe how a verb is done: *slowly, intelligently, fast, lovingly, amusingly, beautifully* etc

Gender and Plural

	MASCULINE	FEMININE	PLURAL	
THE	LE (L')	LA (L')	LES	} Definite article
A / AN (SOME)	UN	UNE	DES	
MY	MON	MA	MES	} Possessive adjective
YOUR	TON	TA	TES	
HIS / HER	SON	SA	SES	
OUR	NOTRE	NOTRE	NOS	
YOUR	VOTRE	VOTRE	VOS	
THEIR	LEUR	LEUR	LEURS	} Demonstrative adjective
THIS / THESE	CE (CET)	CETTE	CES	

The present tense of regular verbs:

-ER VERBS

Jouer - to play

Je joue

Tu joues

Il joue

Elle joue

Nous jouons

Vous jouez

Ils jouent

Elles jouent

-IR VERBS

Finir - to finish

Je finis

Tu finis

Il finit

Elle finit

Nous finissons

Vous finissez

Ils finissent

Elles finissent

-RE VERBS

Vendre - to sell

Je vends

tu vends

Il vend

Elle vend

Nous vendons

Vous vendez

Ils vendent

Elles vendent

The present tense of modal verbs:

VOULOIR – TO WANT

Je veux

Tu veux

Il veut

Elle veut

Nous voulons

Vous voulez

Ils veulent

Elles veulent

POUVOIR – TO BE ABLE / CAN

Je peux

Tu peux

Il peut

Elle peut

Nous pouvons

Vous pouvez

Ils peuvent

Elles peuvent

DEVOIR – TO HAVE TO / MUST

Je dois

Tu dois

Il doit

Elle doit

Nous devons

Vous devez

Ils doivent

Elles doivent

MODAL VERBS ARE FOLLOWED BY THE INFINITIVE OF ANOTHER VERB!

The present tense of AVOIR and ÊTRE:

AVOIR - TO HAVE

J'ai	I have
Tu as	You have
Il a	He has
Elle a	She has
Nous avons	We have
Vous avez	You have
Ils ont	They have
Elles ont	They have

ÊTRE - TO BE

Je suis	I am
Tu es	You are
Il est	He is
Elle est	She is
Nous sommes	We are
Vous êtes	You are
Ils sont	They are
Elles sont	They are

The present tense of ALLER and FAIRE:

ALLER - TO GO

Je vais	I go
Tu vas	You go
Il va	He goes
Elle va	She goes

Nous allons	We go
Vous allez	You go
Ils vont	They go
Elles vont	They go

FAIRE - TO DO / TO MAKE

Je fais	I do/make
Tu fais	You do/make
Il fait	[He /she does / makes
Elle fait	

Nous faisons	We do/make
Vous faites	You do/make
Ils font	[They do / make
Elles font	

LE PASSÉ COMPOSÉ - the perfect tense

This is a **PAST TENSE**: it describes what has
ALREADY HAPPENED!

You use it to describe events which happened **ONCE**,
often **SUDDENLY OR** things which happened over
a **DEFINED** period of **TIME**.

There are **3 PARTS** to the **PASSÉ COMPOSÉ**:

1. A **subject** – *the person(s) or thing(s) who did the verb!*
2. An **auxiliary verb** – *the correct part of the present tense of either **avoir** or **être**.*
3. The **past participle**: what has been **done**.

Le PASSÉ COMPOSÉ des verbes réguliers

the perfect tense of regular verbs

- Most verbs have ***avoir*** (*to have*) as their **auxiliary verb**.

verb.

1 : Who did the verb? This is the **subject** of the verb!

2 : Choose the right part of ***avoir*** to match the subject

The **subject** could be the name of a person, place or thing!

J'ai
Tu as
Il a
Elle a

Nous avons
Vous avez
Ils ont
Elles ont

3: Follow this with the **past participle** of the verb you want to use.
Regular verbs follow this pattern:

Start with the infinitive of the verb! That's the bit you find in the dictionary and it always ends in -er, -ir or -re!

-ER VERBS:

REMOVE THE FINAL -ER
AND ADD -É

-IR VERBS:

REMOVE THE FINAL -IR AND
ADD -I

-RE VERBS:

REMOVE THE FINAL -RE
AND ADD -U



LE PASSÉ COMPOSÉ AVEC AVOIR: VERBES RÉGULIERS

- The **subject** (1) and **auxiliary** (2) can change.
- The **subject** and **auxiliary** must match each other – they are linked!
- The **past participle** (3) stays the same, regardless of who did it!

(1)	(2)	(3)	En anglais!
j'	ai	joué	I (have) played
tu	as	visité	You (have) visited
il	a	aimé	He (has) liked
elle	a	mangé	She (has) eaten
on	a	parlé	We (have) spoken
nous	avons	écouté	We (have) listened
vous	avez	fini	You (have) finished
ils	ont	réussi	They (have) succeeded
elles	ont	répondu	They (have) replied



Never forget the auxiliary! We can miss out the 'have' or 'has' in English, but it cannot be missed out in French!

Irregular past participles of common irregular verbs (avoir)

Infinitif	Participe passé	Infinitif	Participe passé
Avoir – to have	J'ai eu	Offrir – to offer	J'ai offert
Boire – to drink	J'ai bu	Ouvrir – to open	J'ai ouvert
Connaître – to know	J'ai connu	Pouvoir – to be able	J'ai pu
Courir- to run	J'ai couru	Prendre – to take	J'ai pris
Craindre – to fear	J'ai craint	Recevoir– to receive	J'ai reçu
Croire – to believe	J'ai cru	Rire – to laugh	J'ai ri
Devoir – to have to	J'ai dû	Savoir – to know	J'ai su
Dire – to say	J'ai dit	Suivre – to follow	J'ai suivi
Écrire – to write	J'ai écrit	Vivre – to live	J'ai vécu
Être – to be	J'ai été	Voir – to see	J'ai vu
Faire – to do	J'ai fait	Vouloir – to want	J'ai voulu
Mettre – to put	J'ai mis	<i>The subject and the part of 'avoir' may change, but the past participle will remain the same!</i>	

LE PASSÉ COMPOSÉ AVEC AVOIR: VERBES IRRÉGULIERS

- The **subject** (1) and the **auxiliary** (2) can change, but are linked.
- The **past participle** (3) stays the same!
- Irregular past participles must be learnt by heart!



	(1)	(2)	(3)	Infinitif	En anglais!
 <p>Use a verb table to check whether new verbs are regular or irregular. Learn them, so that you are able to use them correctly from memory!</p>	j'	ai	eu	avoir	I (have) had
	tu	as	bu	boire	You drank / have drunk
	il	a	dû	devoir	He (has) had to
	elle	a	dit	dire	She (has) said
	on	a	été	être	We have been / were
	nous	avons	fait	faire	We (have) listened
	vous	avez	mis	mettre	You (have) put (on)
	Ils	ont	pu	pouvoir	They could / have been able
	elles	ont	vu	voir	They saw / have seen

LE PASSÉ COMPOSÉ AVEC ÊTRE:

These verbs use the verb **ÊTRE** as their auxiliary and **NOT** the verb avoir!

You can learn them as pairs of opposites, with one left over! They must be learnt by heart!



Add an -e to the past participle when the subject is feminine. Add an -s when the subject is plural!

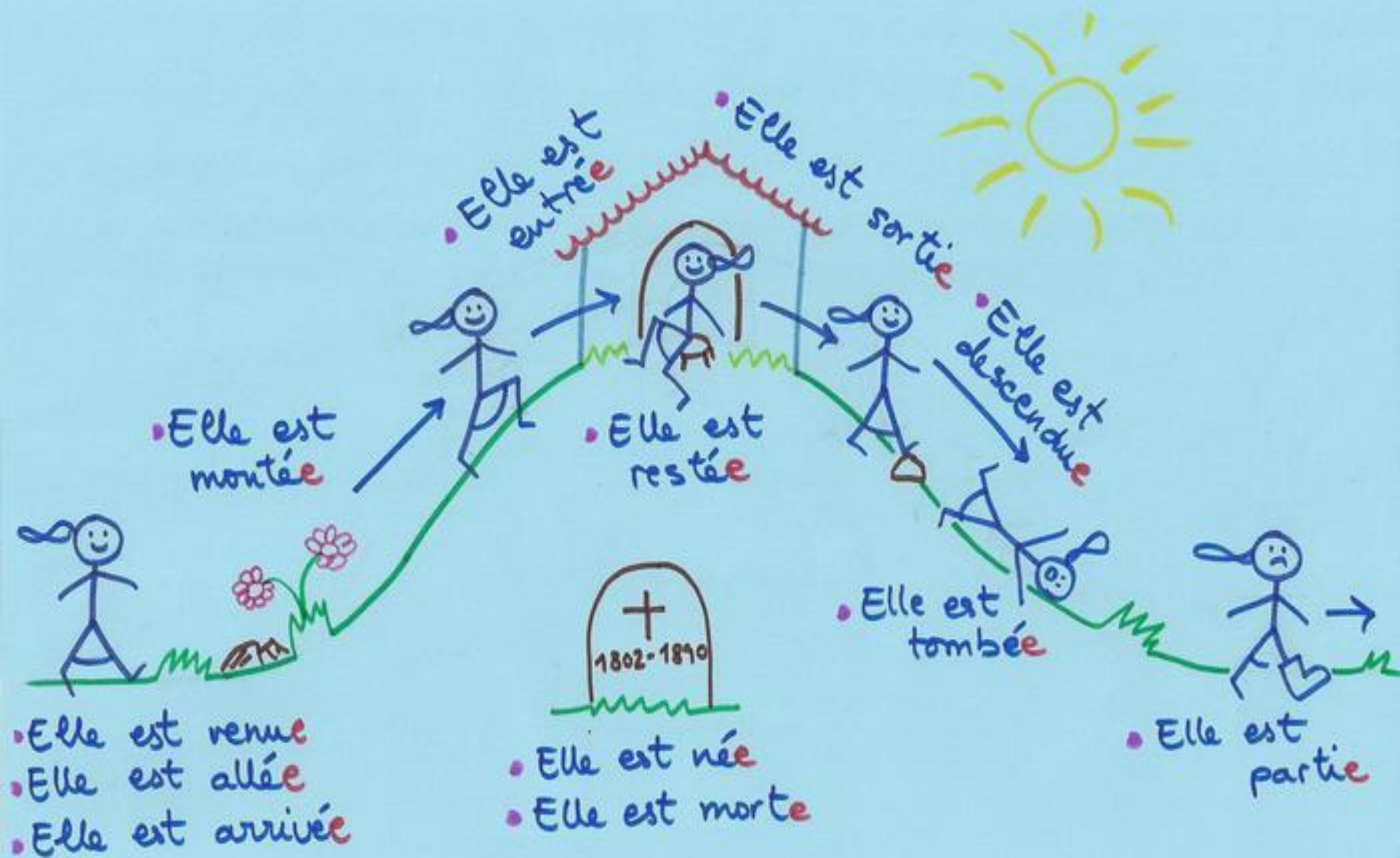
- The subject (1) and the auxiliary (2) can change.
- The **past participle (3)** may change for verbs with être! (See blue box)
- There are 3 **irregular past participles*** which must be learnt by heart! ❤️

(1)	(2)
je	suis
tu	es
il	est
elle	est
on	est
nous	sommes
vous	êtes
ils	sont
elles	sont



aller (to go)	allé	venir (to come)	*venu
arriver (to arrive)	arrivé	partir (to leave)	parti
entrer (to go in/enter)	entré	sortir (to go out)	sorti
monter (to go up, climb)	monté	descendre (to go down)	descendu
rester (to stay)	resté	retourner (to return)	retourné
naître (to be born)	*né	mourir (to die)	*mort
	tomber (to fall)	tombé	

LE FÉMININ DU PASSÉ COMPOSÉ AVEC ÊTRE :



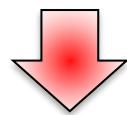
Reflexive verbs les verbes pronominaux

- Mostly, reflexive verbs describe actions you do to yourself: *je me lave* – *I get washed / I wash myself*.
- All reflexive verbs have a **reflexive pronoun** which changes according to the **subject** of the verb.
- In the infinitive, all reflexive verbs start with **se**
- In the **passé composé**, the **auxiliary** is être and the past participle agrees in number and gender.

Des exemples:

Se laver – to get washed
Se lever – to get up
Se réveiller – to wake up
Se promener - to go for a walk
Se raser – to have a shave
Se maquiller – to put on make up
Se doucher – to shower / take a shower
Se brosser les dents / les cheveux – to brush your teeth/hair
Se relaxer – to relax
Se déshabiller – to get undressed
Se fâcher – to get angry
Se tromper – to be wrong

S'amuser – to enjoy yourself
S'appeler – to be called
S'ennuyer – to get bored
S'habiller – to get dressed
S'imaginer – to imagine



Je m'...

Le présent

Je **me** lave

Tu **te** laves

Il **se** lave

Elle **se** lave

On **se** lave

Nous **nous** lavons

Vous **vous** lavez

Ils **se** lavent

Elles **se** lavent

Le passé composé

Je **me suis** lavé(e)

Tu **t'es** lavé(e)

Il **s'est** lavé

Elle **s'est** lavé(e)

On **s'est** lavé(e)s

Nous **nous sommes** lavé(e)s

Vous **vous êtes** lavé(e)(s)

Ils **se sont** lavés

Elles **se sont** lavées

Le futur proche – the near future tense

- The **near future tense** talks about things which are **going** to happen; they have not happened yet!
- It is formed exactly as in English: use the present tense of **aller – to go**, plus the **infinitive** of another verb!
- *Je vais nager – I'm going to swim*

Je vais
Tu vas
Il va
Elle va

Nous allons
Vous allez
Ils vont
Elles vont

aller - - to go
visiter - - to visit
acheter - - to buy
faire - - to do
jouer - - to play
voir - - to see
regarder - - to watch
essayer - - to try
être - - to be
avoir - - to have
prendre - - to take
boire - - to drink
manger - - to eat

Qu'est-ce que tu vas faire?

Je vais aller ...

Je vais visiter ...

Tu vas voir ...

Vas-tu faire?

Il va acheter...

Elle va demander...

On va partir...

Nous allons jouer...

Nous allons pouvoir (+ infinitive)...

Vous allez réussir...

Allez-vous être...?

Ils vont savoir...

Elles vont avoir...

I'm going to go...

I'm going to visit...

You are going to see...

Are you going to do...?

He is going to buy...

She is going to ask...

We're going to leave...

We're going to play...

We're going to be able to...

You are going to succeed...

Are you going to be...?

They are going to know...

They are going to have...

Le futur simple

- Le futur proche – the near future tense – refers to things which ARE GOING to happen.
- Le futur simple – the future tense – refers to things which WILL happen.
- We have these two different ways of expressing the future in English.
- This may be the easiest tense to learn in French.

Regular verbs:

- The **stem** of regular **-er** and **-ir** verbs is **the infinitive**.

Exemple:

JOUER- MANGER- PARLER-

- The **stem** of regular **-re** verbs is **the infinitive**

MINUS THE FINAL -E!

Exemple:

**~~VENDRE~~ ~~PRENDRE~~
~~ATTENDRE~~**

FUTURE TENSE ENDINGS:

Add the following endings to the stem:

Je **-ai**

Tu **-as**

Il **-a**

Elle **-a**

On **-a**

Nous **-ons**

Vous **-ez**

Ils **-ont**

Elles **-ont**

Des exemples:

J'attendrai – I will wait

Tu travailleras – you will work

Il finira – he will finish

Elle rougira – she will blush

On partira – we will leave

Nous suivrons – we will follow

Vous introduirez – you will introduce

Ils mangeront – they will eat

Elles joueront – they will play

Le futur simple - Irregular verbs:

A few common verbs have an irregular stem which must be learnt by heart!

The endings remain the same, even if the stem is irregular. ❤️

INFINITIVE:	IRREGULAR STEM:	FUTURE TENSE ENDINGS:	DES EXEMPLES:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Aller -to go 2. Avoir -to have 3. Courir -to run 4. Devoir -to have to 5. Devenir – to become 6. Envoyer -to send 7. Être -to be 8. Faire -to do, make 9. Mourir -to die 10. Pouvoir -to be able 11. Recevoir - to receive 12. Savoir – to know 13. Venir – to come 14. Voir – to see 15. Vouloir – to want 	<p style="color: red; margin: 0;">ir-</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">aur-</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">courr-</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">devr-</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">deviendr-</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">enverr-</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">ser-</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">fer-</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">mourr-</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">pourr-</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">recevr-</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">saur-</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">viendr-</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">verr-</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">voudr-</p>	<p style="color: blue; margin: 0;"><i>Add the following endings to the stem:</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">Je -ai</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Tu -as</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Il -a</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Elle -a</p> <p style="margin: 0;">On -a</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Nous -ons</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Vous -ez</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Ils -ont</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Elles -ont</p>	<p style="margin: 0;">Je pourrai_ - I will be able to</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Je ferai_ – I will do / I will make</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Tu auras_ – you will have</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Tu sauras_ - you will know</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Il mourra_ – he will die</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Il devra_ – he will have to</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Elle courra_ – she will run</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Elle enverra_ – she will send</p> <p style="margin: 0;">On verra_ – we will see</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Nous recevrons_ – we will receive</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Nous serons_ – we will be</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Vous aurez_ – you will have</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Vous voudrez_ – you will want</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Ils viendront_ – they will come</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Elles deviendront_ – they will become</p>

Le Conditionnel

What **would** you do?

Easy Peasy Lemon Squeezy



The conditional tense talks about what **would** happen, what you **would** do etc

It is easy peasy, lemon squeezy!

1. You need the **stem** of the *futur simple* – **both regular and irregular stems are exactly the same!**
2. You need the following endings:

Je	-ais	Nous	-ions
Tu	-ais	Vous	-iez
Il	-ait	Ils	-aient
Elle	-ait	Elles	-aient
On	-ait		

Des Exemples:

Je voudrais

I would like

Nous finirions

We would finish

Je mangerrais

I would eat

Nous pourrions

We'd be able to/ **could**

Tu irais

You would go

Vous viendriez

You would come

Tu ferrais

You would do / make

Vous devriez

You would have to / **should**

Il aimerait

He would like

Ils comprendraient

They would understand

Elle jouerait

She would play

Elles arriverraient

They would arrive

On saurrait

We would know

Elles seraient

They would be

Les adjectifs

Adjectives describe **nouns**. In French, there are 2 main things that you need to know about adjectives and how to use them:

1. Most **adjectives** follow the **noun**. That means they come after it, not before it.
2. Most **adjectives** show the gender and the number of the noun they are describing.
That means they show whether a noun is masculine, feminine or plural.



- When an adjective is describing a masculine, singular noun, there is no change to its spelling.
- When an adjective is describing a feminine, singular noun, you usually **add an -e** (unless it already ends in -e)
- When an adjective is describing a masculine, plural noun, you usually **add an -s**
- When an adjective is describing a feminine, plural noun, you **add -es**



un
chat
noir

une
souris
noire



deux chats
noirs



deux souris
noires

Les adjectifs – what you need to know!

1. If the adjective already ends in –e, you don't add another one for the feminine!

EXEMPLE: facile (*easy*) riche (*rich*) jeune (*young*)) jaune (*yellow*) pratique (*practical*)

2. Some adjectives don't change in the feminine or in the plural. Here are some examples:

Shortened adjectives	sympa (short for sympathique)
Adjectives coming from another language	cool, top (great, best), jazzy, solo, vidéo, pop, soul, punk, tango (bright orange), snob (snobby, snobbish)
Adjectives derived from nouns	marron (brown –un marron = a chestnut) or (gold) argent (silver) émeraude (emerald green) cerise (cherry red) orange, turquoise
Compound colour adjectives	bleu clair (light blue) vert foncé (dark green) bleu marine (navy blue) rouge tomate (tomato red) bleu vert (bluey green)

Chic (stylish)

doesn't agree either...



Rose (pink) DOES

agree, even though it's also a noun!

Some adjectives go in front of the noun they are describing.

These adjectives go in the **BAGS** and they are connected with:

BEAUTY

JOLI - PRETTY
BEAU -
HANDSOME /
BEAUTIFUL

AGE

JEUNE - YOUNG
VIEUX - OLD

GOOD /BAD

BON - GOOD
MAUVAIS - BAD
VILAIN - NASTY
MEILLEUR - BETTER
PIRE - WORSE
EXCELLENT -
EXCELLENT

SIZE

PETIT - SMALL
GRAND - BIG
/GREAT
COURT - SHORT
LONG - LONG
GROS - BIG/
LARGE

