

Collins

easy learning

French

STAGE 1

ROSI McNAB

SERIES EDITOR · ROSI McNAB

Collins Easy Learning French Stage 1

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INTRODUCTION

Track 1

Easy Learning French is a course specifically designed to help you to ask for the things you're most likely to need when visiting France and to give you the skills to cope with situations you might find yourself in. This course is different from other courses in that you also learn to understand the likely replies to your questions. You hear key words and phrases used in dialogues between native speakers, so you learn not only how to say them but also how they are used in conversation. To help you remember what you learn, the course makes use of all the latest techniques in memory building, backed up by regular revision. Unlike some other courses, *Easy Learning French* is not just a collection of useful phrases to learn by rote; it allows you to practise them, gives you listening tips to help you to recognize what you hear, and tells you what to say when you don't understand and need help.

Your course consists of audio files and this accompanying booklet. There are 12 units, each divided into two parts. In the first part, *The basics*, you are given just a handful of key words or phrases to learn. You can listen to them and repeat them as many times as you like. We will suggest connections and references that might help you to remember them. Next, you hear these words and phrases in short conversations, to help you to recognize them when you hear them. Finally, you are given the chance to say the words and phrases yourself. By learning just a few new words or phrases at a time you can quickly build up a store of essential language that you can draw on when you need it.

If you already know some of the language in *The basics*, you can carry straight on to the second part of the unit, *Taking it further*; otherwise, you can come back to this part later. *Taking it further* is optional and provides more listening and speaking practice. You hear the new language in one or more longer conversations, with further explanations and cultural tips related to the situation presented in the

unit. First you hear each conversation straight through. Then you hear it again line by line, with explanations of new words and phrases. After that, you listen to the whole dialogue again before going on to take the part of one of the speakers. This step-by-step approach is designed to build up your confidence in understanding and speaking.

Revision of the key words and phrases is built into the course, so you don't have to keep going back if you have forgotten something. There is a quick review before the second part of each unit. Then an *Encore* section gives you the chance to revise and test your knowledge of the key words and phrases from the previous four units and to practise the main dialogues again. If you find you have forgotten something, you can always go back and repeat the appropriate track.

In this booklet you will find extracts from each unit, including the key phrases and dialogues, set out in print, with translations and learning tips, for easy reference. *Language lab* boxes give simple explanations of how French works.

It has been found that the optimum learning time for new material is about 8 to 10 minutes, although you can manage longer sessions if some of the material is already familiar to you. In each unit, *The basics* is about 6 to 8 minutes long, so if the material is new to you, take a break before going on to *Taking it further*. This lasts about 8 to 10 minutes. Don't try to tackle too much at a time, and remember to take frequent breaks.

UNIT 1

Hello · Bonjour

Track 2

Tip**Emphasis**

In French you emphasize each part of a word equally. If you have heard a French person talking about English football clubs, you will know that they tend to say *Man-shess-tair* and *Lee-vair-pool*. Try to pronounce each part of a French word with equal emphasis.

Key phrases

The first things you need to be able to say in any language are *hello* or *good day*, *good morning* and *good afternoon*. You'll also need to say *goodbye*. So your first words and phrases are:

- Bonjour** Hello
Bonjour, monsieur Hello (when speaking to a man)
Bonjour, madame Hello (when speaking to a woman)
Bonsoir Good evening
Bonne nuit Good night
Au revoir Goodbye

Track 4

Tip**Communication**

Did you know that the actual words you use convey only about 30 to 40 per cent of your message? The situation you are in and the tone of voice you use convey about another 40 per cent and the rest of the message is made up of facial expression, body language and gestures. Listen and watch carefully for non-verbal clues.

Dialogue 1

Bonjour, monsieur.

Hello.

Bonjour, madame.

Hello.

Ça va?

How are you?

Ça va bien, merci.

Fine, thanks. (Literally, "It goes well, thank you.")

Et vous?

And you?

Ben, ça va, ça va.

I'm OK.

Au revoir, monsieur.

Goodbye.

Au revoir, madame.

Goodbye.

Track 5

Dialogue 2

Bonsoir, Monsieur Bertrand.

Good evening, Mr Bertrand.

Bonsoir, Madame Gilbert.

Good evening, Mrs Gilbert.

Ça va?

Are you well?

Oui, merci, ça va très bien.

Yes, thank you, I'm very well.

Et vous?

And you?

Oui, ça va, ça va.

Yes, I'm OK.

Au revoir, madame.

Goodbye.

Au revoir, monsieur.

Goodbye.



LANGUAGE LAB

You may have wondered why there are two ways of pronouncing the word for *good*: **bon** and **bonne**, as in **bonjour** and **bonne journée**. This is because in French all nouns (such as **jour** and **journée**) are either masculine or feminine. You use **bon** with masculine nouns and **bonne** with feminine nouns.

UNIT 2

Excuse me · Excusez-moi

Track 6

Key phrases

You will need to be able to say and understand these words and phrases when you arrive in France.

- Excusez-moi** Excuse me
Parlez-vous anglais? Do you speak English?
Désolé(e*) No, sorry
Je ne comprends pas I don't understand
Merci Thank you
Oui Yes
Non No

* The **e** is added if the speaker is female. It doesn't make any difference to the pronunciation.

Track 8

Dialogue 1

Tip

office de tourisme
 tourist office

A lot of French words are like English words but pronounced differently: **office** *office*, **tourisme** *tourism*. But the French often put words in a different order: **office de tourisme** "office of tourism" for *tourist office*, **place du marché** "place of the market" and **tour Eiffel** "Tower Eiffel".

Remember: don't try to understand every word – just pick out the key words and phrases.

Excusez-moi, monsieur.

Excuse me.

Parlez-vous anglais?

Do you speak English?

Non, désolé.

No, I'm sorry.

Je ne peux rien faire pour vous.

I can't help you. (Literally, "I can't do anything for you.")

Je ne comprends pas.

I don't understand.

Il y a l'office de tourisme là-bas.

The tourist office is over there.

Merci.

Thank you.

Au revoir, monsieur.

Goodbye.

Track 9

Dialogue 2

Excusez-moi, madame. Parlez-vous anglais?

Excuse me. Do you speak English?

Non, désolée.

No, I'm sorry.

Mais vous pourriez vous adresser à l'office de tourisme, là-bas.

But you could ask at the tourist office, over there.

Je ne comprends pas.

I don't understand.

À l'office de tourisme, là-bas.

At the tourist office, over there.

Merci, madame.

Thank you.

**LANGUAGE LAB**

Je is the word for *I* and **vous** is the word for *you*.

UNIT 3

Where's the bar? · Où est le bar?

When you are visiting a country, one of the first things you are likely to want to do is to ask the way. This unit is about asking where something is.

Track 10

Key phrases

Où? Where?

Où est l'office de tourisme? Where is the tourist office?

Où est l'hôtel? Where is the hotel?

Où est ma chambre? Where is my room?

Où est l'ascenseur? Where is the lift?

Où est le restaurant? Where is the restaurant?

Où est le bar? Where is the bar?

s'il vous plaît please

Track 11

Listening and speaking

Excusez-moi, monsieur. Où est l'office de tourisme, s'il vous plaît?

Excuse me. Where is the tourist office, please?

Désolé. Je ne sais pas.

I'm sorry. I don't know.

Excusez-moi, madame. Où est l'hôtel, s'il vous plaît?

Excuse me. Where is the hotel, please?

Je regrette. Je ne sais pas.

I'm sorry. I don't know.

Madame, excusez-moi. Où est ma chambre, s'il vous plaît?

Excuse me. Where is my room, please?

Je ne sais pas.

I don't know.

Monsieur, pardon. Où est l'ascenseur, s'il vous plaît?

Excuse me. Where is the lift, please?

Le voilà.

It's over there.

Bonsoir, monsieur. Où est le restaurant, s'il vous plaît?

Excuse me. Where is the restaurant, please?

Désolé. Je ne sais pas.*I'm sorry. I don't know.***Excusez-moi, madame. Où est le bar, s'il vous plaît?**

Excuse me. Where is the bar, please?

Track 12

Tip**s'il vous plaît**
please

S'il vous plaît literally means *if it pleases you*. It is often written **s v p**, especially in text messages. When we put RSVP at the bottom of an invitation, it means **répondez, s'il vous plaît**, which is the French for *reply, please*.

Dialogue 1

Excusez-moi, monsieur. Où est l'Hôtel Bellevue, s'il vous plaît?

Excuse me. Where is the Bellevue Hotel?

Pardon?*Pardon? / Sorry?***Où est l'Hôtel Bellevue, s'il vous plaît?**

Where is the Bellevue Hotel?

Désolé. Je ne sais pas.*Sorry, I don't know.***Merci, monsieur. Au revoir.**

Thank you. Goodbye.

Track 13

Tip**Spelling**

A lot of words are spelt more or less the same in English and French. For instance, *cinema* is **cinéma**, *theatre* is **théâtre** and *airport* is **aéroport**. Of course, the French words sound different, as you can hear on the audio files.

Dialogue 2

Pardon, madame. Où est l'ascenseur, s'il vous plaît?

Excuse me. Where is the lift, please?

Pardon?*I beg your pardon?***Où est l'ascenseur, s'il vous plaît?**

Where is the lift, please?

Il n'y a pas d'ascenseur.*There isn't a lift.***L'escalier est là-bas.***The stairs are over there.***Excusez-moi, je ne comprends pas.**

Excuse me, I don't understand.

Parlez-vous anglais?

Do you speak English?

Non, je suis désolée.

No, I'm sorry.

L'escalier est là-bas ...

The stairs are over there ...

... juste derrière les plantes vertes.

... just behind the green plants.

Ah, oui. Merci, madame.

Oh, yes. Thank you.

Je vous en prie, monsieur.

Don't mention it.



LANGUAGE LAB

You might have noticed that some words have **le** in front of them (**le bureau, le restaurant, le bar**), some words have **la** in front of them (**la chambre, la réception**) and others have **les** in front of them (**les plantes**). **Le, la** and **les** all mean *the*.

In French the word for *the* changes according to whether the noun is masculine, feminine or plural, but it always begins with **l**. So if you don't know what it should be, just make a sound starting with an **l**, somewhere between **le, la** and **les**, in front of the word: **l... réception, l... bar**. Don't worry; you will still be understood.

masculine	feminine	plural
le bar	la réception	les plantes

Words which begin with a vowel or **h** just have **l'** in front of them in the singular: **l'ascenseur, l'escalier, l'hôpital, l'hôtel**.



LANGUAGE LAB

You use **Où est ...?** with singular words –

Où est la sortie? *Where is the exit?*

and **Où sont ...?** with plural words –

Où sont les taxis? *Where are the taxis?*

UNIT 4

Over there · Là-bas

This unit is about understanding the answers to the questions you were asking in Unit 3, so the emphasis is on listening and understanding.

Track 14

Tip

You can add **juste**, *just*, to most of the key words and phrases:

juste devant

just in front of

juste derrière

just behind

juste ici just here

juste à gauche

just on the left

juste à droite

just on the right

juste après just after

Key phrases

là there

ici here

à droite on the right

à gauche on the left

en face de opposite or facing

devant in front of

derrière behind

après after

au premier étage on the first floor

Track 15

Listening practice

Excusez-moi, monsieur. Où est l'ascenseur, s'il vous plaît?

Excuse me. Where is the lift, please?

L'ascenseur? Là, à gauche.

The lift? There, on the left.

Excusez-moi, madame. Où est le restaurant, s'il vous plaît?

Excuse me. Where is the restaurant, please?

Le restaurant? Attendez ... Je crois qu'il est là-bas, à droite.

The restaurant? Wait ... I think it's over there, on the right.

Pardon, je ne comprends pas.

Excuse me, I don't understand.

Là-bas, à droite.

Over there, on the right.

Ah, merci bien, madame.

Ah, thank you.

Excusez-moi, madame. Où est le bar, s'il vous plaît?

Excuse me. Where is the bar, please?

Le bar? Là-bas, juste en face de la réception.*The bar? Over there, just opposite reception.***Merci, madame.**

Thank you.

Mais de rien.*You're very welcome.***Pardon, madame. Où est la réception, s'il vous plaît?**

Excuse me. Where is reception, please?

Ici, juste derrière vous.*Here, just behind you.***Merci, madame.**

Thank you.

Je vous en prie.*Don't mention it.***Excusez-moi, madame. Où est l'office de tourisme, s'il vous plaît?**

Excuse me. Where is the tourist office, please?

L'office de tourisme? Là-bas, à gauche, juste après le fleuriste.*The tourist office? Over there, on the left, just after the florist's.***Merci, madame.**

Thank you.

Je vous en prie.*Don't mention it.*

LANGUAGE LAB

Here are the numbers from zero to five.

0	zéro		
1	un/une	1st	premier/première
2	deux	2nd	deuxième
3	trois	3rd	troisième
4	quatre	4th	quatrième
5	cinq	5th	cinquième

Track 16

Tip

Il n'y a pas de quoi is another way of saying *you're welcome* or *don't mention it*. The other two ways that you have come across are **je vous en prie**, which is more formal and very polite, and **de rien**, which is rather informal.

Track 17

Tip

Au rez-de-chaussée means *on the ground floor* or, literally, "on the level of the street". **Une chaussée** is a *path*, **chaussures** are *shoes*, **chaussettes** are *socks*. You will often see **RC** or **RDC** for **rez-de-chaussée** on the lift button for the ground floor.

Dialogue 1

Pardon, madame. Où est ma chambre, s'il vous plaît?

Excuse me. Where is my room, please?

Votre chambre est au premier étage.

Your room is on the first floor.

Prenez l'ascenseur.

Take the lift.

Où est l'ascenseur, s'il vous plaît?

Where is the lift, please?

Là-bas, à gauche ...

Over there, on the left ...

... en face de la réception.

... opposite reception.

Merci.

Thank you.

Il n'y a pas de quoi.

You're welcome.

Dialogue 2

Excusez-moi, madame. Où est le bar, s'il vous plaît?

Excuse me. Where is the bar, please?

Le bar est au rez-de-chaussée.

The bar is on the ground floor.

Pardon, je ne comprends pas.

Sorry, I don't understand.

Parlez-vous anglais?

Do you speak English?

Non, je suis désolée.

No, I'm sorry.

Le bar est au rez-de-chaussée ...

The bar is on the ground floor ...

... après la réception ...

... beyond reception ...

... à gauche.

... on the left.

Où est le distributeur, s'il vous plaît?

Where is the cash machine, please?

Je ne sais pas ...

I don't know ...

... mais il y a un bureau de change à la sortie.

... but there's a bureau de change by the exit.

Merci, madame.

Thank you.

Je vous en prie.

Don't mention it.



LANGUAGE LAB

Je comprends means *I understand*. To say you don't understand, you put a **ne pas** sandwich around the verb: **je ne comprends pas** *I ne understand pas*.

Je sais is *I know*. To say *I don't know* you put the **ne pas** sandwich around the verb: **je ne sais pas** *I ne know pas*.

When you hear **ne** and **pas** you know it is a negative statement.

UNIT 5

What would you like? · Vous désirez?

This unit is about how to ask for a drink.

Track 27

Tip

eau minérale
mineral water

The word for *water* is **eau**. You know that in French the words are often the other way round, so *a mineral water* is **une eau minérale**. The same applies to colours, so *red wine* is “wine red”, **vin rouge**, and *white wine* is **vin blanc**.

Key phrases

Je voudrais I'd like

Je voudrais un café I'd like a coffee

Je voudrais un thé I'd like a tea

Je voudrais une eau minérale I'd like a mineral water

Je voudrais une bière I'd like a beer

Je voudrais un verre de vin I'd like a glass of wine

Track 29

Tip

Vous désirez?

literally means *What do you desire?*, and it is what waiters and shop assistants will usually ask you.

Dialogue 1

Remember: don't try to understand every word; you don't need to.

Bonjour, monsieur. Vous désirez?

Good morning. What would you like?

Je voudrais un verre de vin rouge, s'il vous plaît.

I'd like a glass of red wine, please.

J'ai du bordeaux ou du gamay.

I have some Bordeaux or some Gamay.

Bordeaux, s'il vous plaît.

Bordeaux, please.

Voilà monsieur, un verre de bordeaux.

There you are, a glass of Bordeaux.

Merci.

Thank you.

Track 30

Dialogue 2

Tip

Coffee & tea

If you ask for **un café**, you will get a small, black coffee. A coffee with milk is **un café au lait** or **un crème** – literally, *a cream*. **Un express**, like **un café**, is a small, black coffee. **Un déca** – short for **un café décaféiné** – is a decaffeinated coffee. Tea is normally served without milk; a tea with milk is **un thé au lait**.

Messieurs dames, bonjour. Vous désirez?

Hello. What would you like?

Un express, un crème et un déca, s'il vous plaît.*A black coffee, a white coffee and a decaffeinated coffee, please.*

Un express, un crème et un déca.

A black coffee, a white coffee and a decaffeinated coffee.

Et avec ça?

Anything else?

C'est tout, merci.*That's all, thank you.*

LANGUAGE LAB

Un and **une** both mean *a*: **un verre** *a glass*; **une bouteille** *a bottle*.

In French all nouns are either masculine or feminine. You have already met **le** (masculine) and **la** (feminine) meaning *the*. Remember: both the words for *a* and for *the* change according to whether a noun is masculine or feminine.

	masculine	feminine
a	un	une
the	le	la

If you look up a word in a dictionary, you can tell whether it is masculine or feminine because it will have M or F after it.

UNIT 6

Have you got any ...? · Avez-vous du ...?

Track 31

Key phrases

Tip

jus d'orange
orange juice

This is another case where French has the words the other way round: **jus d'orange** juice of orange, **jus de pomme** juice of apple.

Avez-vous du ...? Have you got any ...?

Avez-vous du pain? Have you got any bread?

Avez-vous du beurre? Have you got any butter?

Avez-vous du jus d'orange? Have you got any orange juice?

Avez-vous du chocolat chaud? Have you got any hot chocolate?

Avez-vous du sucre? Have you got any sugar?

Avez-vous du sel? Have you got any salt?

Track 32

Listening and speaking

Excusez-moi, avez-vous du pain?

Excuse me, have you got any bread?

Oui, monsieur. Le pain est là-bas.

Yes. The bread is over there.

Pardon, monsieur. Avez-vous du jus d'orange?

Excuse me. Have you got any orange juice?

Euh ... oui. Le voilà, sur votre gauche.

Er ... yes. It's there, on your left.

Excusez-moi, madame. Avez-vous du beurre?

Excuse me. Have you got any butter?

Oui, monsieur. Le beurre est là, sur votre droite.

Yes. The butter is there, on your right.

Track 33

Dialogue 1

Pardon, madame. Avez-vous encore du pain, s'il vous plaît?

Excuse me, have you got some more bread, please?

Du pain? Bien sûr, monsieur.

More bread? Of course.

Tout de suite.

Straight away.

Tip

merci
thank you

If someone asks you if you want something and you just say **merci**, they will think you mean *no, thank you*. So if you want something, you must say **oui, s'il vous plaît** *yes, please* or **oui, merci** *yes, thank you*.

Track 34

Tip

Du pain grillé means *some toast* – literally, “some bread grilled”. By now you will be getting used to listening out for words the wrong way round: **pain grillé** *grilled bread*, **jus de tomates** *tomato juice*, **gâteau au chocolat** *chocolate cake*.

Et ... avez-vous encore du lait?

And ... have you got some more milk?

Oui, tout de suite.

Yes, straight away.

Et ... avez-vous encore du jus d'orange?

And ... is there some more orange juice?

Ah, non. Désolée. Voulez-vous du jus de pomme?

No, sorry. Would you like some apple juice?

Merci.

No, thank you.

Dialogue 2

Excusez-moi, où sont les céréales?

Excuse me, where are the cereals?

Là-bas sur la table ...*Over there on the table ...***... sur votre gauche.***... on your left.***Voulez-vous du pain grillé?***Do you want some toast?***Merci.**

No, thank you.

Avez-vous encore du lait, s'il vous plaît?

Have you got some more milk, please?

Oui, tout de suite.

Yes, straight away.

Et ... euh ... avez-vous des sucettes, s'il vous plaît?

And ... er ... have you got any sweeteners, please?

Oui, je vais vous en chercher.*Yes, I'll go and get some for you.***Merci.**

Thank you.

UNIT 7

Can you help me? · Pouvez-vous m'aider?

This unit is about asking the way.

Track 35

Tip

Pouvez-vous m'aider?

Can you help me?

Aider means *aid* or *help*; **pouvez-vous m'aider** means *can you help me*, but in French you put the *me* in front of the *help* and say *can you me help?* The international distress call, May Day, originally came from the French **m'aider** *help me*.

Track 36

Tip

C'est loin?

Is it far?

Yes, it's a long way is **oui, c'est loin**. If you want to say *no, it's not far*, remember to put the **ne pas** sandwich around **est**: **non, ce n'est pas loin**.

Key phrases

Pouvez-vous m'aider? Can you help me?

Je veux aller à ... I want to go to ...

C'est loin? Is it far?

Prenez le métro. Take the underground.

Pouvez-vous répéter, s'il vous plaît?

Can you say that again, please?

Listening and speaking

Excusez-moi, monsieur. Pouvez-vous m'aider? Je veux aller à la tour Eiffel. C'est loin?

Excuse me. Can you help me? I want to go to the Eiffel Tower. Is it far?

Oui, c'est loin: prenez le métro.

Yes, it's a long way. I suggest you take the underground.

Pouvez-vous répéter, s'il vous plaît?

Can you say that again, please?

C'est loin: prenez le métro.

It's a long way. I suggest you take the underground.

Ah. Merci, monsieur.

Oh. Thank you.

Tip

Prenez *take* is a very useful word.

prenez le métro

take the underground

prenez le train

take the train

prenez le bus

take the bus

prenez un taxi

take a taxi

prenez le Roissybus

take the Roissybus
(the airport bus)

prenez le RER

take the RER (short
for **Réseau express**

régional *Regional
Express Network*)

This is a fast
suburban train
which stops at
some underground
stations.

Track 37

Excusez-moi, madame. Pouvez-vous m'aider? Je veux aller au musée du Louvre. C'est loin?

Excuse me. Can you help me? I want to go to the Louvre. Is it far?

Non, ce n'est pas loin. C'est à deux minutes d'ici.
No, it's not far. It's two minutes from here.

Excusez-moi, monsieur. Pouvez-vous m'aider? Je veux aller à l'aéroport Charles-de-Gaulle. C'est loin?

Excuse me. Can you help me? I want to go to Charles de Gaulle airport. Is it far?

Roissy? Euh ... oui, c'est assez loin. Prenez le Roissybus, ou le RER. Le RER, c'est plus rapide.
Roissy? Er ... yes, it's quite a long way. I suggest you take the Roissybus or the RER. The RER is quicker.

Merci bien, monsieur.

Thank you very much.

Pardon, messieurs. Pouvez-vous m'aider? Je voudrais aller aux Champs-Élysées.

Excuse me. Can you help me? I want to go to the Champs Élysées.

C'est loin, vous savez. Prenez un taxi.
It's a long way, you know. I suggest you take a taxi.

Merci, messieurs.

Thank you.

Dialogue 1

Excusez-moi, monsieur. Pouvez-vous m'aider?

Excuse me. Can you help me?

Oui?
Yes?

Je veux aller à la gare du Nord.

I want to go to the Gare du Nord.

C'est assez loin: prenez le métro.
It's quite a long way: take the underground.

Où est la station de métro?

Where is the underground station?

Alors, vous avez une station à deux minutes d'ici.
Well, there's a station two minutes from here.
En sortant de l'hôtel, elle est juste sur votre gauche.
When leaving the hotel, it's just on your left.

Euh ... Pouvez-vous répéter, s'il vous plaît?

Er ... Can you say that again, please?

Bien sûr.*Of course.***En sortant de l'hôtel, tournez à gauche.***On leaving the hotel, turn left.***La station de métro est juste là.***The underground station is just there.***Merci, monsieur.**

Thank you.

Il n'y a pas de quoi. Bon après-midi, madame.*Don't mention it. Have a good afternoon.*

Track 38

Tip**à pied**
on foot

To say *you can walk there* the French usually say *you can go there on foot*: **vous pouvez y aller à pied**. **Vous pouvez** *you can* **y** *there* **aller** *go* **à pied** *on foot*.

Tip

Fermé *shut or closed* and **ouvert** *open* are the signs you will see on shop doors or at ticket counters.

Dialogue 2**Excusez-moi, madame. Pouvez-vous m'aider?**

Excuse me. Can you help me?

Oui?*Yes?***Je veux aller au musée du Louvre.**

I want to go to the Louvre.

C'est loin?

Is it far?

Non, ce n'est pas loin du tout.*No, it's not far at all.***Vous pouvez y aller à pied.***You can walk.***Mais c'est fermé aujourd'hui.***But it's shut today.***Nous sommes mardi.***Today is Tuesday.***Pardon, je ne comprends pas.**

Sorry, I don't understand.

Pouvez-vous répéter, s'il vous plaît?

Can you say it again, please?

Le Louvre est fermé aujourd'hui.*The Louvre is shut today.***Il est fermé le mardi.***It's shut on Tuesdays.***Allez au musée d'Orsay.***Go to the Musée d'Orsay.*

Il est ouvert le mardi.

It's open on Tuesdays.

Le musée ...?

Which museum?

Le musée d'Orsay. Et ce n'est pas loin non plus.

The Musée d'Orsay. And it isn't far either.

Merci, madame.

Thank you.

Mais je vous en prie.

You're welcome.

Some places to visit in Paris:

la tour Eiffel the Eiffel Tower

l'Arc de Triomphe the Arc de Triomphe

les Champs-Élysées the Champs Élysées

(la cathédrale de) Notre-Dame Notre Dame cathedral

le musée du Louvre the Louvre museum

le musée d'Orsay the Musée d'Orsay

le stade de France the national stadium

la gare du Nord the Gare du Nord (the Eurostar terminal)

l'aéroport Charles-de-Gaulle/Roissy Charles de Gaulle
airport at Roissy

UNIT 8

I want to go to ... · Je veux aller à ...

This unit is about asking the way wherever you are ... and understanding the answers.

Track 39

Key phrases

Je veux aller à ... I want to go to ...

The words for these places look and sound like the English words.

- ... **à la poste** ... to the post office
- ... **à la banque** ... to the bank
- ... **à la pharmacie** ... to the chemist's
- ... **au centre commercial** ... to the shopping centre
- ... **au marché** ... to the market
- ... **au camping** ... to the camp site
- ... **au parking** ... to the car park
- ... **à l'hôpital** ... to the hospital
- ... **au cinéma** ... to the cinema

These are less like English:

- ... **à la gare** ... to the station
- ... **à la plage** ... to the beach
- ... **à la piscine** ... to the swimming pool
- ... **au château** ... to the castle



LANGUAGE LAB

You may wonder why some words have **à la** in front of them and others have **à l'** or **au**. The word for *to* is **à**, so *to the station* is **à la gare**. But the French don't like the sound of **à le**, so they change it to **au** (pronounced "O", like **eau** water): so *to the cinema* is **au cinéma**. Before a word starting with a vowel or **h**, both **à la** and **à le** become **à l'**, so *to the hospital* is **à l'hôpital**.

Many irregularities in French grammar are to do with making things easier to pronounce.

Track 40

Listening and speaking

Je veux aller au marché.

I want to go to the market.

Où est la banque, s'il vous plaît?

Where is the bank, please?

Pour aller à la poste, s'il vous plaît?

How do I get to the post office, please?

Je veux aller à la pharmacie.

I want to go to the chemist's.

À la gare, s'il vous plaît, le plus vite possible.

To the station, please, as quickly as possible.

Nous voulons aller à la plage cet après-midi.

We want to go to the beach this afternoon.

Les enfants veulent aller à la piscine.

The children want to go to the swimming pool.

Nous voulons aller au château.

We want to go to the castle.

Vite, dépêchez-vous. Il faut que j'aille à l'hôpital.

Quickly, hurry up. I must get to the hospital.

Je veux aller au cinéma.

I want to go to the cinema.

Track 41

Tip

un plan de la ville
a street map

A street map is **un plan**; **ville** is the word for *town*. A road map is **une carte**, which is also the word for a *menu*.

Tip

Faire les magasins literally means *to do the shops*. **Faire** means *to do* or *to make*, and **magasin** is the word for *shop*. However, a lot of young people say **faire du shopping**, which you might find easier to remember.

Dialogue

Excusez-moi, monsieur. Avez-vous un plan de la ville?

Excuse me, have you got a map of the town?

Ah, bonjour Madame Smith.

Ah, good morning Mrs Smith.

Non, je regrette.

No, sorry.

Je n'ai pas de plan.

I haven't got a map.

Où est-ce que vous voulez aller?

Where do you want to go?

Je voudrais faire les magasins.

I'd like to do some shopping.

Alors, allez au centre commercial.

Then I suggest you go to the shopping centre.

Où est le centre commercial, s'il vous plaît?

Where is the shopping centre, please?

Allez jusqu'aux feux ...

Go to the traffic lights ...

... et puis tournez à gauche.

... and then turn left.

C'est tout droit.

It's straight ahead.

C'est loin?

Is it far?

Oui, c'est assez loin.

Yes it's quite a long way.

Vous n'êtes pas en voiture?

You're not driving?

Non.

No.

Alors, prenez le bus.

Then I suggest you take the bus.

Euh ... voyons ...

Er ... let me see ...

... mon horaire de bus ...

... my bus timetable ...

Voilà.

Here we are.

Prenez le dix, devant l'hôtel.

Take the number ten, in front of the hotel.

Il passe toutes les vingt minutes.

It goes every twenty minutes.

Il s'arrête juste en face du centre commercial.

It stops just opposite the shopping centre.

Merci, monsieur.

Thank you.

Je vous en prie. Bonne journée.

You're welcome. Have a good day.



LANGUAGE LAB

Here are the numbers 6 to 10. (If you need to revise 1 to 5, refer to Unit 4.)

6	six
7	sept
8	huit
9	neuf
10	dix



LANGUAGE LAB

Did you notice that, when someone is giving instructions, the verb usually ends in an “ay” sound? It is written **-ez**.

prenez	take
tournez	turn
allez	go
continuez	continue

If you hear the “ay” sound at the end of a verb, you are probably being told to do something: **écoutez** *listen*, **arrêtez** *stop*, **attendez** *wait*.

You have heard the same ending in questions with **vous**:

Parlez-vous anglais?	Do you speak English?
Voulez-vous ...?	Do you want ...?
Avez-vous ...?	Have you got ...?
Pouvez-vous ...?	Can you ...?

If you hear the “ay” sound at the end of a verb followed by **vous**, you are probably being asked a question.

UNIT 9

Have you got a room? · Avez-vous une chambre?

Track 51

Key phrases

une chambre a room
pour une personne for one person
pour deux personnes for two people
pour une nuit for one night
pour deux nuits for two nights
pour une semaine for a week
pour le week-end for the weekend
fumeur smoking
non-fumeur non-smoking

Track 52

Listening practice

Avez-vous une chambre pour une personne pour une nuit, s'il vous plaît?

Have you got a single room for one night, please?

Tip

Three ways of asking for a room:

Avez-vous une chambre?

Have you got a room?

Je voudrais une chambre.

I'd like a room.

Je cherche une chambre.

I'm looking for a room.

Je voudrais une chambre pour deux personnes pour une semaine, s'il vous plaît.

I'd like a double room for a week, please.

Je voudrais une chambre non-fumeur pour une personne pour deux nuits, s'il vous plaît.

I'd like a non-smoking single room for two nights, please.

Avez-vous une chambre pour deux personnes pour ce week-end, s'il vous plaît?

Do you have a double room for the coming weekend, please?

Track 54

Dialogue

Bonjour, madame. Je peux vous aider?

Good afternoon. Can I help you?

Oui, bonjour, monsieur. Je voudrais une chambre pour une personne pour deux nuits, s'il vous plaît.*Yes, good afternoon. I'd like a single room for two nights, please.***Voyons ... oui ... fumeur ou non-fumeur?**

Let's see ... yes ... smoking or non-smoking?

Non-fumeur, s'il vous plaît.*Non-smoking, please.***Voilà. Chambre cent dix ...**

Here you are. Room one hundred and ten ...

... au premier étage.

... on the first floor.

Est-ce qu'il y a un ascenseur?*Is there a lift?***Je regrette.**

I'm sorry.

L'ascenseur est en panne.

The lift is out of order.

L'escalier est là-bas, sur votre droite.

The stairs are over there, on your right.

Merci bien, monsieur.*Many thanks.***Je vous en prie. Bonne soirée, madame.**

You're welcome. Have a good evening.



LANGUAGE LAB

Here are some larger numbers, alongside the numbers 1 to 5, which you have already met:

1	un/une	10	dix	100	cent
2	deux	20	vingt	200	deux cents
3	trois	30	trente	300	trois cents
4	quatre	40	quarante	400	quatre cents
5	cinq	50	cinquante	500	cinq cents

If you can remember the numbers 0 to 10, you can say any larger number one digit at a time, whether it is a room number, a telephone number, a post code or a price.

UNIT 10

It hurts · J'ai mal

Talking about what is wrong with you physically, what hurts ...

Track 55

Key phrases

J'ai mal à la tête. I've got a headache.

J'ai mal à la gorge. I've got a sore throat.

J'ai mal au ventre. I've got a tummy ache.

J'ai mal aux dents. I've got a toothache.

J'ai mal au dos. I've got back ache.

J'ai de la fièvre. I've got a temperature/a fever.

Je suis fatigué(e*). I'm tired.

* A man would write **je suis fatigué** and a woman would write **je suis fatiguée**, but they both sound the same.

Track 56

Listening practice

Bonjour, Monsieur Gilbert. Ça va?

Hello, Mr Gilbert. Are you well?

Bonjour, Madame Brunot. Non, ça ne va pas.

J'ai mal au dos.

Hello, Mrs Brunot. No, I'm not. I've got back ache.

Aaaah, Monsieur Gilbert. Je suis désolée.

Oh, I'm very sorry, Mr Gilbert.

Bonjour, Jacqueline. Ça va?

Hello, Jacqueline. Are you well?

Oh non, pas du tout. J'ai mal à la tête, je suis sûre que j'ai de la fièvre. Bon, je vais au lit.

No, not at all. I've got a headache; I'm sure I've got a temperature. I think I'll go to bed.

Bonne idée. À bientôt.

Good idea. See you soon.

Tip

la pharmacie
the chemist's

In France you can buy medicines only at a chemist's. You can't even get throat pastilles or aspirin in a supermarket. But for most minor ailments you don't need a prescription and the chemist will be able to help you. The sign for a chemist's is a green cross. Some are made of neon tubing, and if the chemist's is open, the sign will be flashing. If it isn't open, there will be a sign on the door telling you where the nearest duty chemist's is.

Bonjour, Christian. Ça va?

Hello, Christian. Are you well?

Bof ... j'ai mal à la gorge, je n'arrête pas de tousser.

Oh ... I've got a sore throat; I can't stop coughing.

Il faut aller voir le médecin.

You should see the doctor.

Oui, tu as raison.

Yes, you're right.

Remets-toi vite.

Get well soon.

Merci.

Thanks.

Hé, ça va, Théo?

Hey, are you well, Théo?

Non. J'ai hyper-mal aux dents.

No. I've got raging toothache.

Il faut aller voir le dentiste.

You'll have to see the dentist.

Bonjour, Madame Givrey. Vous avez l'air fatigué.

Hello, Mrs Givrey. You look tired.

Ah oui. J'ai la grippe. Le médecin m'a donné une ordonnance. Je vais à la pharmacie.

Yes. I've got the flu. The doctor has given me a prescription.

I'm on my way to the chemist's.

Remettez-vous vite.

Get well soon.

Merci. À bientôt.

Thank you. See you soon.

Track 57

Dialogue**Bonjour, Céline.**

Hello, Céline.

Bonjour, John. Ça va?

Are you well?

Non, ça ne va pas du tout.

No, I'm not at all well.

Qu'est-ce que vous avez?*What's wrong?***Je suis malade.***I'm ill.***J'ai mal à la tête ...***I've got a headache ...***... j'ai de la fièvre ...***... I've got a temperature ...***Il faut aller voir le médecin.***You must go and see the doctor.***Où est le cabinet médical?***Where is the surgery?***À deux cents mètres, juste sur votre gauche.***Two hundred metres away, just on your left.***Mais il ferme à midi.***But it closes at noon.***Dépêchez-vous!***You'd better hurry!***À bientôt.***See you soon.***Au revoir, John. Remettez-vous vite.***Goodbye, John. Get well soon.***LANGUAGE LAB**

Il faut means *it is necessary to* or *you have to* or *you need to* or *you must*:

il faut aller voir le médecin you must go and see the doctor

il faut se dépêcher you'll have to hurry

il faut aller jusqu'aux feux you need to go as far as the lights

il faut aller à l'aéroport you'll have to go to the airport

It is a very useful way of telling someone what they should do.

UNIT 11

I want to make an appointment · Je veux prendre rendez-vous

If you are going to make appointments to see a doctor or dentist, or anyone else, you need to be able to understand the answers to the question **Quand ...?** *When ...?*

Track 58

Tip

Prochain (prochaine) in the feminine), meaning *next*, is a useful word. Like *next*, it can be used to refer to place as well as time, as in **prenez la prochaine rue à droite** *take the next road on the right* and **le prochain train** *the next train*.

Key phrases

Je veux prendre rendez-vous I want to make an appointment

quand? when?

aujourd'hui today

demain tomorrow

lundi prochain next Monday

vendredi prochain next Friday

la semaine prochaine next week

Pouvez-vous me le noter, s'il vous plaît? Can you write it down for me, please?

Track 59

Tip

Some people you might want to make an appointment with are:

le médecin

the doctor

le dentiste

the dentist

l'infirmier

the nurse

le kiné

the physio

le vétérinaire

the vet

Listening practice

Je veux prendre rendez-vous avec le médecin, s'il vous plaît.

I'd like to make an appointment with the doctor, please.

Vous pouvez voir le docteur Pétrus aujourd'hui à dix heures.

You can see Doctor Pétrus today at ten o'clock.

Pouvez-vous me le noter, s'il vous plaît?

Could you write that down for me, please?

Bonjour, madame. Je veux prendre rendez-vous avec le dentiste, s'il vous plaît.

Hello. I'd like to make an appointment with the dentist, please.

Vous pouvez voir le dentiste lundi prochain à quatorze heures.

You can see the dentist next Monday at two o'clock.

Pouvez-vous répéter, s'il vous plaît?

Could you say that again, please?

Oui: lundi prochain à quatorze heures.

Yes: next Monday at two o'clock.

J'ai rendez-vous avec l'infirmier à quelle heure, s'il vous plaît?

What time is my appointment with the nurse, please?

Vous avez rendez-vous avec l'infirmier vendredi prochain à onze heures et demie. Vous voulez que je le note?

Your appointment with the nurse is next Friday at half past eleven. Would you like me to write it down for you?

Oui, s'il vous plaît.

Yes, please.

Vous avez rendez-vous avec Monsieur Martin demain à treize heures.

You have an appointment with Mr Martin tomorrow at one o'clock.

Pouvez-vous me le noter, s'il vous plaît?

Could you write it down for me, please?

Il faut prendre rendez-vous avec le kiné la semaine prochaine.

You need to make an appointment with the physiotherapist next week.

On va au match de foot lundi prochain. Le match commence à vingt heures.

We're going to a football match next Monday. It starts at eight p.m.



LANGUAGE LAB

The twenty-four hour clock is used a lot in France, so you will need the numbers 1 to 24 to understand the time. You have already met a lot of them.

1	un/une	11	onze	21	vingt et un
2	deux	12	douze	22	vingt-deux
3	trois	13	treize	23	vingt-trois
4	quatre	14	quatorze	24	vingt-quatre
5	cinq	15	quinze		
6	six	16	seize		
7	sept	17	dix-sept		
8	huit	18	dix-huit		
9	neuf	19	dix-neuf		
10	dix	20	vingt		

à **une heure** at one o'clock

à **onze heures et demie** at half past eleven

à **treize heures** at one p.m. (literally, thirteen hours)

Track 61

Dialogue

Tip

Allô is how you say *hello* when you answer the telephone, but when you are making the call, you say **bonjour**.

Allô, le cabinet médical. J'écoute.

Hello, doctor's surgery.

Oui, bonjour, madame. Je veux prendre rendez-vous avec le docteur Pétrus, s'il vous plaît.

Yes, hello. I'd like to make an appointment with Dr Pétrus, please.

Quand est-ce que vous voulez venir?

When do you want to come?

Aujourd'hui?

Today?

Non, aujourd'hui ce n'est pas possible.

No, today isn't possible.

Mais vous pouvez voir le docteur Pétrus ...

But you can see Doctor Pétrus ...

... demain matin à ... euh ... onze heures.

... tomorrow morning at ... er ... eleven o'clock.

Tip**The days of the week**

lundi Monday
mardi Tuesday
mercredi Wednesday
jeudi Thursday
vendredi Friday
samedi Saturday
dimanche Sunday

The days of the week don't have a capital letter in French.

Excusez-moi, pouvez-vous répéter, s'il vous plaît?

Sorry, can you say that again, please?

Demain matin, onze heures.

Tomorrow morning, eleven o'clock.

C'est à quel nom?

What's the name?

Monsieur Smith.

Mr Smith.

Monsieur Smith. Parfait. C'est noté.

Mr Smith. Good. That's confirmed.

Merci. Au revoir, madame.

Thank you. Goodbye.

Au revoir, monsieur.

Goodbye.

UNIT 12 What's it like? · C'est comment?

This unit is about saying whether you like things or not and why.

Track 62

Key phrases

- J'aime bien** I like
- Je n'aime pas** I don't like
- Je préfère** I prefer
- C'est super** it's great
- C'est bon** it's good
- C'est délicieux** it's delicious
- C'est trop sec** it's too dry
- C'est trop sucré** it's too sweet

Track 63

Listening practice

Si on dînait au restaurant, ce soir?

How about eating at a restaurant tonight?

Non, merci. Je préfère une pizza à emporter.

No, thanks. I'd rather have a take-away pizza.

Si on dînait au restaurant, ce soir?

How about eating at a restaurant tonight?

D'accord, c'est une bonne idée. J'aime bien dîner au restaurant.

OK, that's a good idea. I like eating out.

Si on dînait au restaurant, ce soir?

How about eating at a restaurant tonight?

Merci pour l'invitation. J'aime bien dîner au restaurant.

Thank you for the invitation. I like eating out.

Si on dînait au restaurant, ce soir?

How about eating at a restaurant tonight?

Merci, mais non. Je n'aime pas dîner au restaurant. Je préfère aller au MacDo.

Thanks, but no. I don't like eating in restaurants. I'd rather go to McDonald's.

Track 65

Tip

Listen to what people say. They will often include words and expressions you can use in your replies or use again at a later date.

Dialogue

Imagine you would like to buy some wine, so you have gone to a place where they offer **dégustation de vin**.

Dégustation means *tasting*.

Bonjour, madame. Je peux vous aider?

Hello, can I help you?

Bonjour, monsieur. Je voudrais acheter du vin, s'il vous plaît.

Hello. I'd like to buy some wine, please.

Qu'est-ce que vous préférez: vin blanc ou vin rouge?

Which do you prefer: white wine or red wine?

Je préfère le vin blanc.

I prefer white wine.

Goûtez ce vin blanc.

Taste this white wine.

C'est trop sec pour moi.

It's too dry for me.



LANGUAGE LAB

When talking about **le vin** (masculine), you use **celui-ci** for *this one* and **celui-là** for *that one*. If you are talking about **la bouteille** (feminine), you use **celle-ci** and **celle-là**.

	masculine	feminine
ici - here	celui-ci	celle-ci - this one here
là - there	celui-là	celle-là - that one there

Tip**Speaking & understanding**

It is the simple things that will make you sound French, like remembering to add **monsieur** and **madame** when saying **bonjour** and to say **s'il vous plaît**, and using little words and phrases like **alors**, **d'accord** and **de rien**. But don't expect to understand everything everyone says to you: there are probably lots of times when you have to say "pardon" or "what?" in the course of a normal day – and that is in English!

Essayez celui-ci.

Try this one.

Mmm ... celui-ci est trop sucré.

Mmm ... this one's too sweet.

Et celui-là?

And that one?

Ah. Celui-là est délicieux. Je prends celui-là.

Ah, that one's delicious. I'll take that one.

Je vous mets combien de bouteilles, madame?

How many bottles would you like?

Combien coûte la bouteille?

How much does it cost per bottle?

Dix euros la bouteille ...

Ten euros per bottle ...

... mais cent euros les douze bouteilles.

... but a hundred euros for twelve bottles.

D'accord. Je prends douze bouteilles.

OK. I'll take twelve bottles.

Très bien.

Very good.

Je vais vous chercher un carton.

I'll fetch a box.

Prenez-vous les cartes de crédit?

Do you take credit cards?

Bien sûr ...

Of course ...

Saisissez votre code, s'il vous plaît, madame.

Enter your PIN, please.

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INTRODUCTION

Track 1

Easy Learning French Stage 2 is an audio course for people who already know some French and want to take it a step further. You might have already done Stage 1 or you might have learned some French through other courses or have some half-remembered French from school. Whatever you have done, this course will help you to become more fluent and to acquire a good basis of useful vocabulary on which you can build. Most language courses teach you a phrase once and expect you to remember it. The emphasis in this course is on helping you to learn rather than teaching. There is in-built revision of new material that will help you log the phrases in your long-term memory. We have taken into account all the latest techniques in memory building to help you learn the language in a way that makes it easier to remember and use. Listening is a very important part of language learning and there is lots of listening practice built in to the course.

Your course consists of audio files with an accompanying booklet. There are 12 units, each divided into two parts. In the first part, *The basics*, you are given just a handful of key words or phrases to learn. You can listen to them and repeat them as many times as you like. We will suggest connections and references to help you remember them. Next, you hear these words and phrases in short conversations, to help you recognize them when you hear them. Finally, you are given the chance to say the words and phrases yourself. By learning just a few new words or phrases at a time you can quickly build up a store of essential language that you can draw on when you need it.

If you already know some of the language in *The basics*, you can carry straight on to the second part of the unit, *Taking it further*; otherwise, you can come back to this part later. *Taking it further* is optional and provides more listening and

speaking practice. You hear the new language in one or more longer conversations, with further explanations and cultural tips. First you hear each conversation straight through. Then you hear it again line by line, with explanations of new words and phrases. After that, you listen to the whole conversation again, before going on to take the part of one of the speakers. This step-by-step approach is designed to build up your confidence in understanding and speaking.

Revision of the key words and phrases is built into the course, so you don't have to keep going back if you have forgotten something. There is a quick review before the second part of each unit. Then an *Encore* section gives you the chance to revise and test your knowledge of the key words and phrases from the previous four units and to practise the main dialogues again. If you find you have forgotten something, you can always go back and repeat the appropriate track.

In this booklet you will find extracts from each unit, including the key phrases and dialogues, set out in print, with translations and learning tips, for easy reference. *Language lab* boxes give simple explanations of how French works.

It has been found that the optimum learning time for new material is about 8 to 10 minutes, although you can manage longer sessions if some of the material is already familiar to you. In each unit, *The basics* is about 6 to 8 minutes long, so if the material is new to you, take a break before going on to *Taking it further*. This lasts about 8 to 10 minutes. Don't try to tackle too much at a time, and remember to take frequent breaks.

UNIT 1

At the reception desk · A la réception

Track 2

You will need to be able to understand the questions you will be asked when you arrive in France and check in to your hotel – and learn how to answer them.

Tip

How to remember the question word quel/quelle?

Think of a very inquisitive girl called Kelly who is always asking questions.

quelle est la date?

what date is it?

quelle heure est-il?

what time is it?

quel temps fait-il?

what is the weather like?

quel est...? quelle est...?

Kelly...

Track 3

Key phrases

J'ai réservé une chambre. I have booked a room.

Quel est...? What is...?

Quel est votre nom? What is your name?

Quelle est votre adresse? What is your address?

Quel est votre code postal? What is your post code?

Quelle est votre nationalité? What is your nationality?

Listening and speaking

Quelle est votre adresse?

Where do you live (literally “What is your address?”)

25 rue des Chênes, Lyon.

Quelle est votre nationalité?

What nationality are you?

Excusez-moi, je ne comprends pas.

Excuse me, I don't understand.

Tip

.....

Accents

é e with an acute accent sounds ay. In French this accent is called an 'accent aigu'.

Think of the acute accent as a sign that tells you to open up the sound of the letter e to make ay.

è e with a grave accent shuts down the sound of the e and it becomes *eh* as in *egg*.

Track 4

Tip

.....

Saying what nationality you are**Je suis...** I am...*(male/female)***anglais(e)** *English***américain(aïne)***American***australien(ienne)***Australian***canadien(ienne)***Canadian***écossais(aise)***Scottish***espagnol(e)** *Spanish***français(e)** *French***gallois(e)** *Welsh***irlandais(e)** *Irish***italien(ne)** *Italian***Nationalité?**

Nationality?

Je suis italienne.*I am Italian.***Quel est votre code postal?**

What is your post code?

69005**Dialogue****Bonsoir, monsieur. Je peux vous aider?**

Hello. Can I help you? (literally "I can help you?")

J'ai réservé une chambre.*I've booked a room.***A quel nom, s'il vous plaît?**

What name, please?

Williams.**Quelle est votre adresse?**

What is your address?

25 Main Street, Manchester.**Quelle est votre nationalité?**

What nationality are you?

Excusez-moi. Pouvez-vous répéter, s'il vous plaît?*Sorry. Could you repeat that please?*

Tip

à plus is short for à plus tard until later and is often written just as A +

Nationalité? Anglais?

Nationality? English?

Oui, anglais.

Yes, English.

Bon. Chambre 25.

Good. Room 25.

Merci.

Thank you.

Merci à vous.

Thank you.

**LANGUAGE LAB****The French alphabet and how to say it**

a (ah), b (beh), c (se), d (de), e (euh), f (ef), g (zjheh), h (ahsh), i (ee), j (zjee), k (kah), l (elle), m (em), n (en), o (oh), p (peh), q (ku), r (err), s (ess), t (teh) u (oo), v (veh), w (doobluh-veh), x (eeks), y (ee-grek), z (zehd).

Letters to watch out for: a (ah), e (euh), i (ee), g (zjheh), j (zjee), w (doobluh-veh) *literally "double v"* and Y (ee-grek) *literally "Greek letter i"*.

The vowels are sometimes written with an accent.

acute (*accent aigu*): as in **été** summer

grave (*accent grave*) as in **crème** cream

cedilla (*la cédille*) as in **français** French; **garçon** boy

circumflex (*accent circonflexe*): as in **peut-être** perhaps

UNIT 2

Hiring a car · Louer une voiture

In this unit you will learn how to say some numbers in French so that you can give your phone number and take down someone else's number. Numbers will also be useful for telling the time and understanding prices.

Track 6

Key phrases

Je veux louer une voiture. I want to hire a car
Mon numéro de téléphone est... My telephone number is...
Mon numéro de portable est... My mobile number is...
Pouvez-vous me le noter, s'il vous plaît? Can you write it down for me, please?

Track 8

Listening and speaking

In French, phone numbers are given in pairs.

Tip

un portable
mobile phone

How are you going to remember the word for a mobile? In French, a mobile doesn't go around on its own - you have to *carry* it. Carry is **porter**. Think of a porter (someone who carries your luggage) and transport (carrying things from place to place). A portable is a phone you can carry about.

Quel est votre numéro de portable?

What's your mobile phone number?

08 22 47 38 17

zéro huit 08

vingt-deux 22

quarante-sept 47

trente-huit 38

dix-sept 17

Learn your own phone numbers off by heart so you can say them easily. If you need your country code [l'indicatif] it starts with **zéro zéro** **quarante-quatre** 00 44 for the UK.

Higher numbers you will hear most often are **soixante-quinze** 75 and **quatre-vingt-dix-neuf** 99. Remember you can always

ask someone to repeat a number: **Pouvez-vous répéter cela?**
Could you repeat that? or write it down: **Pouvez-vous me le noter, s'il vous plaît?** *Please could you write that down for me?*

Track 9

Dialogue

Allô? Bonjour!

Hello? (Allô is how you answer the phone in French.)

Bonjour, madame.

Hello (when speaking to a woman).

J'écoute.

I am listening.

Je veux louer une voiture.

I want to hire a car.

A quel nom?

What name? (literally "At what name?")

Smith.

Comment ça s'écrit?

How do you spell that? (literally "How do you write it?")

S, M, I, T, H

Quel est votre numéro de portable?

What is your mobile number?

08 22 47 38 17

C'est noté. Votre numéro de réservation est le B 23.

Got that. (literally "It is noted.") Your reservation number is B 23.

Pouvez-vous répéter, s'il vous plaît?

Can you repeat that, please?

Oui, bien sûr. B 23.

Yes, of course. B 23.

Merci. Au revoir, madame.

Thank you. Goodbye.

Merci. Au revoir, monsieur.

Thank you. Goodbye.

Track 10 Extras Numbers to 100

soixante-dix	70
soixante-quinze	75
quatre-vingts	80
quatre-vingt-dix	90
quatre-vingt-dix-neuf	99
cent	100

**LANGUAGE LAB**

0 zéro	18 dix-huit	80 quatre-vingts
1 un	19 dix neuf	81 quatre-vingt-un
2 deux	20 vingt	82 quatre-vingt-deux
3 trois	30 trente	...
4 quatre	40 quarante	88 quatre-vingt-huit
5 cinq	50 cinquante	89 quatre-vingt-neuf
6 six	60 soixante	90 quatre-vingt-dix
7 sept	61 soixante et un	91 quatre-vingt-onze
8 huit	62 soixante-deux	92 quatre-vingt-douze
9 neuf
10 dix	68 soixante-huit	98 quatre-vingt-dix-huit
11 onze	69 soixante-neuf	99 quatre-vingt-dix-neuf
12 douze	70 soixante-dix	100 cent
13 treize	71 soixante-et-onze	
14 quatorze	72 soixante-douze	
15 quinze	...	
16 seize	78 soixante-dix-huit	
17 dix-sept	79 soixante-dix-neuf	

Pick out the numbers you need for your own personal details (phone, mobile, address and post code) and try to memorize them.

UNIT 3

Where are you from? · Vous venez d'où?

This unit introduces you to questions you can use to start a conversation with someone you have just met.

Track 11

Key phrases

Vous venez d'où? Where are you from?

Vous êtes en vacances? Are you on holiday?

Vous voulez boire quelque chose? Would you like a drink?

Moi aussi Me too

Track 12

Listening and speaking

Tip

Je suis ici pour affaires

This might sound as if you're ready for a romantic rendez-vous but **affaires** is a sort of false friend. It does not mean a romantic affair: it just means *I am here on business*.

Bonsoir.

Good evening.

Bonsoir. Vous venez d'où?

Good evening. Where do you come from?

Je viens de Paris. Je suis parisienne. Et vous?

I'm from Paris. I'm a Parisian. And you?

Vous êtes en vacances?

Are you on holiday?

Non, je ne suis pas en vacances. Je suis ici pour affaires.

No, I'm not on holiday. I'm here on business.

Vous voulez boire quelque chose?

Would you like a drink?

Volontiers.

With pleasure.



LANGUAGE LAB

Answering questions

question**vous venez?** you come?**vous êtes?** you are?**vous voulez?** you want?**vous pouvez?** you can?answer**je viens** I come**je suis** I am**je veux** I want**je peux** I canverb being used**venir** to come**être** to be**vouloir** to want**pouvoir** to be able

Tip

Je suis en vacances

I am on holiday

The French like a lot of holidays so they use the plural and say **les vacances** *holidays*.

Vous êtes ici en vacances?

Are you here on holiday?

Je vais toujours aux Etats-Unis en vacances

I always go on holiday to the United States.

Track 13

Dialogue

Bonsoir.

Hello.

Bonsoir. Vous voulez boire quelque chose?*Good evening. Would you like a drink?***Je veux bien. Un verre de vin blanc, s'il vous plaît.**

Yes, please. A glass of white wine, please.

Vous êtes en vacances?*Are you on holiday?*

Non, je suis ici pour affaires. Et vous?

No, I am here on business, and you?

Moi aussi. Je suis ici pour affaires. Vous venez d'où?

Me too. I am here on business. Where are you from?

Tip

Santé!

Santé is one way you can say *Cheers* in French. You can also say **chin** – or say nothing and raise your glass with a smile.

J'habite à Paris, et vous? Vous venez d'Angleterre?

I live in Paris, and you? You come from England?

Oui, de Manchester, en Angleterre.

Yes, Manchester, England.

Voilà, monsieur. Deux verres de sauvignon blanc.

Here you are. Two glasses of Sauvignon blanc.

Santé!

Cheers!

**LANGUAGE LAB**

J'habite means *I live*.

habiter is the verb *to live*. It is spelt with an **h** that you cannot hear and it is like our word *inhabit*.

J'habite à Londres I live in London

J'habite à Paris I live in Paris

J'habite en Angleterre I live in England

J'habite en France I live in France

J'habite aux Etats-Unis I live in America

UNIT 4

What do you do? · Vous faites quoi dans la vie?

Track 14

Talking about what jobs you and other people do.

Key phrases

Vous faites quoi dans la vie?	What do you do?
Je suis consultant	I'm a consultant
c'est intéressant	it's interesting
c'est ennuyeux	it's boring
c'est stressant	it's stressful

Track 15

Listening and speaking

What do they do and what do they think of their job?

Tip

.....
What if you do something else?
Je travaille à mon compte
I am self-employed (literally "I work on my own account").
Je suis au chômage
 I am out of work.
chômage
 unemployment
le taux de chômage
 the unemployment rate

Vous faites quoi dans la vie?

What do you do?

Je suis agent de police.*I'm a police officer.*

C'est intéressant?

Is it interesting?

C'est passionnant!*It's really exciting!*

Et vous faites quoi dans la vie?

What do you do?

Je suis institutrice. Je travaille dans une école primaire.*I'm a teacher. I work in a primary school.*

C'est intéressant?

Is it interesting?

Ah, oui, mais c'est stressant aussi!*Yes! But it's stressful, too.*

Vous faites quoi dans la vie?

What do you do?

Je suis vendeuse. Je travaille dans une boutique.*I'm a saleswoman. I work in a shop.***C'est comment?**

How do you like it?

C'est ennuyeux.*It's boring.***LANGUAGE LAB**

Remember you can make statements negative by using the **ne pas** sandwich around the verb.

Je ne suis pas consultant	I'm not a consultant
Ce n'est pas intéressant	it isn't interesting
Ce n'est pas ennuyeux	it isn't boring
Ce n'est pas stressant	it isn't stressful

You can vary your statements by using:

trop	too
Ce n'est pas trop stressant	it's not too stressful
assez	quite
C'est assez ennuyeux	it's quite boring
très	very
C'est très intéressant	it's very interesting
Ce n'est pas très intéressant	It's not very interesting



LANGUAGE LAB

Some jobs have different forms (masculine and feminine) depending whether they are done by a man or by a woman.

acteur, actrice	actor
directeur, directrice	head teacher
coiffeur, coiffeuse	hairdresser

Some words are very like the words we use in English.

pilote d'avion	pilot
journaliste	journalist
photographe	photographer
garagiste	garagist
dentiste	dentist

Other words are not so easy.

infirmier	male nurse
infirmière	female nurse
(you can remember these by thinking of someone who works in an infirmary)	
menuisier	joiner
plombier	plumber
maçon	builder
charpentier	carpenter

Some words are false friends.

A false friend is a word which looks like an English word but has a different meaning.

conducteur	driver
instituteur	male primary school teacher
institutrice	female primary school teacher
formateur	male trainer
formatrice	female trainer
(someone who trains other people for a job, not a sports trainer)	

Dialogue

Vous faites quoi, dans la vie?

What do you do?

(literally “you do what in life?”)

Je suis informaticienne.

I'm a (female) computer specialist.

C'est intéressant?

Is it interesting?

C'est ennuyeux. Et vous? Vous faites quoi?

It's boring. And you? What do you do?

Je suis consultant.

I'm a consultant.

C'est passionnant?

Is it exciting?

C'est stressant. Vous faites quoi, ce soir?

It's stressful. What are you doing this evening?

Rien de particulier.

Nothing special.

On pourrait dîner ensemble?

Could we have dinner together?

Volontiers!

Sure! (literally “voluntarily!”)

**LANGUAGE LAB**

Passion in French has a slightly different meaning from *passion* in English.

Ma passion est le ski

my thing (passion) is skiing

Je me passionne pour le foot

I'm mad about football

C'est un passionné de sport

he's enthusiastic about sport

C'est pas passionnant

it's not exciting

passionnant comes from **passion** *passion* or *excitement*

pas passionnant means *not exciting*

UNIT 5

How are you? · Comment ça va?

Track 26

When we meet someone and start a conversation, we usually ask, “How are you?” The French do the same. This unit tells you how to ask and answer the question *Comment ça va?*

Key phrases

Comment ça va?	How are you?
Vous avez faim?	Are you hungry?
Vous avez soif?	Are you thirsty?
Vous avez froid?	Are you cold?
Vous avez trop chaud?	Are you too hot?
Vous êtes fatigué(e)*?	Are you tired?

*The **-e** is added if you are talking to a woman. It doesn't make any difference to the pronunciation.



LANGUAGE LAB

In English we say *I'm hungry*. The French say **j'ai faim** *I have hunger*. The French sometimes talk about 'having' something (the verb **avoir** *to have*) where the English talk about 'being' something.

Vous avez faim?	Are you hungry? (literally 'have you hunger?')
J'ai faim/je n'ai pas faim	I'm hungry/not hungry
Vous avez soif?	Are you thirsty? (literally 'have you thirst?')
J'ai soif/je n'ai pas soif	I'm thirsty/not thirsty
Vous avez froid?	Are you cold? (literally 'have you cold?')
J'ai froid/je n'ai pas froid	I'm cold/not cold
Vous avez chaud?	Are you hot? (literally 'have you heat?')
J'ai chaud/je n'ai pas chaud	I'm hot/not hot



LANGUAGE LAB (continued)

The French also use **avoir** when talking about age.

Vous avez quel âge?

How old are you (literally 'You have what age?')

J'ai vingt-neuf ans

I am 29 (literally 'I have twenty-nine years')

Did you notice **Vous êtes fatigué(e)?** **Vous êtes** means *you are* (the verb **être** to be).

Vous êtes fatigué(e)?*

Are you tired?

Je suis fatigué(e)?*/

I'm tired/not tired

je ne suis pas fatigué(e)?*

Track 27

Listening and speaking

Vous avez faim?

Are you hungry?

Non, je n'ai pas faim. Je viens de diner.

No, I'm not hungry. I have just eaten.

Vous avez sûrement soif après le voyage?

You must be thirsty after the journey?

Oh oui! J'ai très soif. Je boirais bien une bière.

Yes, I am very thirsty. I would love a beer.

Tip

un peu

This useful expression can be used in many contexts.

un peu de vin

a little wine

écoutez un peu!

just listen!

j'ai un peu faim

I'm a bit hungry

restez un peu

stay a bit longer

encore un peu

a bit more

Vous avez froid?

Are you cold?

Oui. Pourriez-vous monter le chauffage?

Yes. Could you put the heating up?

J'ai trop chaud. Pouvez-vous mettre la climatisation?

I'm too hot. Could you put the air conditioning on?

Je suis désolé(e), nous n'avons pas de climatisation. Vous devrez ouvrir les fenêtres.

I'm sorry, we don't have air conditioning. You will have to open the windows.

Vous devez être fatigué après votre long voyage.

You must be tired after your long journey.

Oui, un peu.

Yes a bit.



LANGUAGE LAB

avoir *to have* and **être** *to be* are both irregular verbs.

j'ai	I have
je suis	I am
vous avez	you have
vous êtes	you are

Remember the **ne pas** sandwich to make them negative.

je n'ai pas	I haven't
je ne suis pas	I'm not
vous n'avez pas	you haven't
vous n'êtes pas	you're not

Track 28

Dialogue

Bonjour. Comment ca va? Vous êtes sûrement fatigué après le long voyage?

Hello. How are you? You must be tired after that long journey?

Oui, un peu.

Yes, a bit.

Vous avez faim?

Are you hungry?

Non, je n'ai pas faim.

No, I'm not hungry.

Vous avez froid?

Are you cold?

Oui, j'ai un peu froid.

Yes, a bit.

Vous voulez aller boire quelque chose?

Would you like to get a drink?

Ah, oui! J'ai soif.

Ah, yes! I'm thirsty.

Qu'est-ce que vous voulez boire?

What would you like to drink?

Je boirais bien une bière.

I'd love a beer.

Alors, allons au Bar des Voyageurs?

Shall we go to the Bar des Voyageurs, then?

Volontiers.

With pleasure.

**LANGUAGE LAB**

The word **bien** can be used to reinforce an expression.

Je boirais bien un verre de vin blanc I'd love a glass of white wine

Je boirais bien un thé I'd love a cup of tea

Vous voulez aller au bar ce soir? Would you like to go to the bar this evening?

Je veux bien Very much (*literally 'I want well'*)

**LANGUAGE LAB**

Volontiers literally means *voluntarily* and you can use it to show that you agree with what someone is suggesting and want to go along with it. It is an expression that can be used in many situations.

Alors, allons au Bar des Voyageurs? Shall we go to the Bar des Voyageurs, then?

Volontiers. *With pleasure.*

Vous voulez manger quelque chose? Would you like something to eat?

Volontiers! *Great!*

Vous voulez aller voir un film? Would you like to see a film?

Volontiers. *Fine.*

UNIT 6

Do you want to go out this evening? ·

Tu veux sortir ce soir?

In French, there are two ways of saying you. One form is used when you speak to someone older, to someone you don't know well, to more than one person or generally to show respect. The other is more informal and used for people you know well, people younger than yourself and children.

If you use the wrong form, the person you are talking to might think you are being rude and take offence. So far you have only been using the polite form, so you are quite safe. But now you are ready to get more friendly, so it is time to learn about the different ways of saying you.

Track 29

Key phrases

Tu veux sortir ce soir? Do you want to go out this evening?

Tu veux aller boire un coup? Would you like to go for a drink?

Tu veux aller dîner au restaurant? Would you like to go to a restaurant?

Tu veux aller au club? Would you like to go to the club?

Tu préfères rester à l'hôtel? Would you prefer to stay in the hotel?

Track 30

Listening and speaking

Voulez-vous aller au club ce soir?

Tu veux sortir ce soir?

Vous voulez aller dîner au restaurant ce soir?

Préférez-vous dîner à l'hôtel?

Tu veux m'accompagner?

As-tu soif?

Tu veux aller boire un coup?



LANGUAGE LAB

tu and **vous**

You use **tu**:

- with children and people who are close to you
- with people who use your first name
- with people who ask you to **tutoyer**, which is an invitation to call each other **tu**.

tu sounds like the number 2. Remember when there are just two of you (and you are getting friendly) you use **tu**!

You use **vous**:

- with someone you don't know
- with someone older than you
- with work colleagues
- to show respect
- when speaking to more than one person, including children.



LANGUAGE LAB

Younger people use **tu** more frequently but using **tu** assumes a familiarity that is not always acceptable from a non-native speaker – just as you might feel uncomfortable if a foreigner started calling you 'mate'.

Listen to hear what someone is using when they speak to you: if they say **tu** or **vous** it is easy – just do the same. If you are not sure, listen for the -ez *ay* sound (**parlez-vous** *do you speak*, **avez-vous** *have you*, **pouvez-vous** *can you*, **excusez moi** *excuse me*, **voulez-vous** *would you like*, etc.). If someone is saying this, they are using the formal **vous** form.

When in doubt use **vous**.

Don't worry if you slip out of the **tu** form and start using **vous** when you first start using **tu**. Most people do, nobody will mind, and it is better that way round!



LANGUAGE LAB

More about verbs

The **tu** form sounds just like the **je** form in regular verbs.

All new words that are adopted from English or American are -er verbs

micro-manager to micromanage

recycler to recycle

faxer to send a fax

texter to send a text

But *e-mail* is usually **envoyer un mèl** *send a mail*. The French are very proud of their linguistic heritage and usually introduce new French words to replace foreign imports.

The bad news is that the verbs you use most – *to be, to want, to have, to go, and to do* – are irregular. The good news is that you hear them so often you probably know most of them already without realizing that they are irregular verbs.

<u>infinitive</u>		<u>je</u>	<u>tu</u>	<u>vous</u>
aller	to go	je vais	tu vas	vous allez
avoir	to have	j'ai	tu as	vous avez
faire	to do	je fais	tu fais	vous faites
vouloir	to want	je veux	tu veux	vous voulez
pouvoir	to be able to	je peux	tu peux	vous pouvez
être	to be	je suis	tu es	vous êtes

Remember you do not pronounce -s or -x at the end of a word.

Dialogue

Bonsoir, Philippe, tu es fatigué?

Good evening, Philippe, are you tired?

Non, j'ai dormi dans le train.

No, I slept on the train.

Tu veux sortir ce soir?

Would you like to go out this evening?

Ah, oui, je veux bien.

Yes, I would.

Tu veux aller dîner au restaurant?

Would you like to eat out?

Oui, mais je n'ai pas encore faim.

Yes, but I'm not hungry yet.

T'as soif?

Are you thirsty?

Ah oui, je boirais bien une bière!

Yes, I'd love a beer!

Tu veux aller au club ce soir?

Would you like to go to a club tonight?

Bonne idée!

Good idea!

UNIT 7

What could we do? ·

Qu'est-ce qu'on pourrait faire?

Track 32

In this unit you learn how to make suggestions: what could we do?

Tip

un barbecue is often referred to as '**un barbec**'.

Key phrases

On pourrait ...

we could

On pourrait faire un barbec(ue)

we could have a

barbecue

On pourrait faire une randonnée

we could go for a hike

On pourrait faire une balade en vélo

we could go for a bike

ride

On pourrait visiter un musée

we could visit a

museum

On pourrait regarder un DVD

we could watch a DVD



LANGUAGE LAB

The verb **pouvoir** means *to be able* or *to have the power* to do something. **Le pouvoir** means *power*.

In English we say *I can* or *am able to*.

je peux

I can

je pourrais

I could

pouvez-vous?

can you?

on pourrait

we could

Faire means *to do* or *to make* but it is also used where we say *to have* or *to go* in English.

faire du ski/du canoe/du surf

go skiing/canoeing/surfing

faire un pique-nique/barbecue

have a picnic/barbecue

Track 33

Tip

on

The French often use **on** (literally one) to mean we.

on pourrait aller voir un film

we could go and see a film

on va chez Robert

we're going to Robert's (house)

on boit du vin

we're drinking wine

Listening and speaking

On pourrait faire un barbecue ce soir.

We could have a barbecue this evening.

Bonne idée. Je vais apporter des saucisses.

Good idea. I'll bring some sausages.

On pourrait faire une balade en vélo demain.

We could go for a bike ride tomorrow.

Je n'ai pas de vélo.

I haven't got a bike.

Je vais t'en prêter un.

I'll lend you one.

On pourrait visiter le château de Versailles.

We could visit the Palace of Versailles.

Merci, j'y suis déjà allé(e).

No, thanks, I've already been.

On pourrait faire une randonnée.

We could go for a hike.

Oui, on pourrait apporter un pique-nique.

Yes, we'll have to take a picnic.

On pourrait regarder un DVD.

We could watch a DVD.

Un film de science fiction?

A science-fiction film?

Non, c'est un nouveau polar*.

No, it's a new detective film.

*Detective or police films are often referred to as **polars**, (remember you do not pronounce -s at the end of a word).

Track 34

Dialogue

Demain matin on pourrait visiter le musée.

Tomorrow morning we could visit the museum.

Ah, oui, je veux bien. J'aime visiter les monuments historiques.

Yes, I would like to. I like visiting historic buildings.

Tip

visiter

Visiter is a false friend. You use **visiter** when you talk about visiting a castle or a museum, or somewhere where you are shown around, but not when you talk about visiting somebody. You say **aller chez mamie** (literally *go to the home of grandma*) or **rendre visite à mes parents** (literally *make a visit to my parents*).

Et le soir on pourrait faire un barbecue.

And in the evening we could have a barbecue.

Super. Je vais apporter du vin. Et dimanche, qu'est-ce qu'on fait?

Great, I'll bring some wine. And Sunday – what are we doing?

On pourrait faire une balade en vélo.

We could go for a bike ride.

Je n'aime pas faire du vélo.

I don't like bike riding.

On pourrait faire une randonnée.

We could go for a long walk.

Je vais apporter mon nouvel appareil photo numérique.

I'll bring my new digital camera.

On pourrait faire un pique-nique.

We could have a picnic.

Super. A demain.

Great. See you tomorrow.



LANGUAGE LAB

Most sports are masculine, for example **le ski, le surf**, so you say **je fais du ski** *I go skiing*, **je fais du surf** *I go surfing*. But words that end in **-ion** are feminine, so you say **je fais de la natation** *I go swimming*, **je fais de la musculation** *I do weight training*.

Je fais du tennis	I do tennis
Je fais du gym	I go to the gym
Je fais de l'équitation	I go horse riding
Je fais de la planche à voile	I go windsurfing

If you say you don't do something you just use **de**

Je ne fais pas de ski	I don't ski
Je ne fais pas de natation	I don't go swimming

UNIT 8

What do you do at the weekend? ·

Que faites-vous le weekend?

In Unit 8 you will practise talking about what you do at the weekend.

Track 35

Key phrases

Je fais la grasse matinée

I have a lie in

Je fais les courses

I do the shopping

Je fais du jogging

I go jogging

Je retrouve des amis

I meet friends

Je regarde un match de foot

I watch a football match

Track 36

Listening and speaking

Que fais-tu le weekend?

What do you do at the weekend?

Le samedi je fais les courses et je retrouve des amis en ville.

On Saturday I go shopping and meet friends in town.

Et le dimanche?

And on Sunday?

Je fais la grasse matinée et puis je fais du jogging, ou on fait une randonnée en famille.

I have a lie-in and then I go jogging or go for a long walk with my family.

Que faites-vous le weekend?

What do you do at the weekend?

D'habitude le samedi je travaille mais le soir on fait souvent un barbecue.

I usually work on Saturday but in the evening we often have a barbecue.

D'habitude le dimanche on fait du sport. Mon mari fait du cyclisme et je joue au tennis avec mes amis.

On Sunday we usually do sport. My husband goes cycling and I play tennis with friends.



LANGUAGE LAB

There is another word meaning to meet – **rencontrer**. You might find this easy to remember because it is like our word *encounter*. If you meet your friends by chance (encounter them), you can use **rencontrer** but when you talk about meeting your friends (regularly or by arrangement) you say **je retrouve des amis**.



LANGUAGE LAB

More weekend activities

bricoler is to do DIY or make things with your hands and tools.
Monsieur Bricolage is a French chain of large DIY stores, like B&Q.

Je fais du bricolage	I do DIY
Je tonds le gazon	I cut the grass
Je travaille dans le jardin	I do the gardening
Je fais le ménage	I do the housework

tondre means *to cut (grass)* and **une tondeuse** is a *lawn mower*.

Track 37

Dialogue

Bon, d'habitude tu travailles le samedi?

Do you usually work on Saturday?

Non, d'habitude je fais les courses, et toi?

No, I usually do the shopping, and you?

What do you do at the weekend?

Je travaille le matin et puis je fais du jogging. Que fais-tu après les courses?

I work in the morning and then I go jogging. What do you do after shopping?

Je retrouve des amis.

I meet friends.

Tu fais du sport?

You do sport?

Euh, non. On boit un coup. Et toi?

Er, no. We go for a drink. And you?

Moi, je retrouve des amis et on joue au tennis.

Me, I meet my friends and we play tennis.

Et le soir?

And in the evening?

Je regarde un DVD, et toi?

I watch a DVD, and you?

Moi, ça dépend du temps mais d'habitude on fait un barbecue.

It depends on the weather but usually I have a barbecue.

Que fais-tu le dimanche?

What do you do on Sunday?

Je fais la grasse matinée. Et toi?

I have a lie in. And you?

Ça dépend du temps. S'il fait beau je fais une randonnée. Et s'il pleut je vais à la gym. Et toi?

It depends on the weather. If it's nice I go for a hike and if it rains I go to the gym. And you?

Je regarde un match de foot à la télé.

I watch a football match on the telly.

C'est tout?

Is that all?

Oui, c'est tout!

Yes, that's it!

UNIT 9

A holiday in France · Un séjour en France

Track 47

Key phrases

The first thing you have to do when you are going on holiday in France is decide where you want to stay.

Je cherche un appartement à louer	I am looking for an apartment to rent
Est-ce qu'il y a une piscine?	Is there a pool?
Il y a une piscine	There is a pool
Il n'y a pas de piscine	There isn't a pool
Ça coûte combien?	How much is it?
C'est trop cher	It's too expensive

Track 48

Listening and speaking

Tip

Holiday accommodation

Chambres d'hôtes are the nearest thing the French have to bed and breakfast. They are bedrooms in private houses that you can rent quite cheaply, although prices and standards of rooms vary a lot. A **gîte** is self-catering accommodation, usually a house or chalet or part of a house. Sometimes the owners live in part of the premises or nearby. Or you might prefer to **mettre une tente sur un camping** *put up a tent on a campsite*.

Je cherche un appartement au bord de la mer.

I am looking for an apartment by the sea.

Combien de chambres?

How many bedrooms?

Deux.

Two.

Est-ce qu'il y a une piscine?

Is there a swimming pool?

Non, il n'y a pas de piscine.

No, there isn't.

Est-ce qu'il y a la climatisation?

Is there air conditioning?

Ah, oui, il y a la clim.

Yes, there is.

Ça coûte combien?

How much is it?

Deux mille euros la semaine au mois d'août.

€2000 a week in August.

C'est trop cher.

It's too expensive.

Track 49

Tip

la clim

air conditioning
(abbreviation)

The French shorten some words, just as we do, and they may sound odd when you first hear them. **La muscu**, is short for **la musculation** *weight training*, **sympa** is short for **sympathique**, which doesn't mean *sympathetic* in the English sense, it just means *nice* or *kind*.

Some other everyday abbreviations you might hear are **un appart'** *an apartment*, **le p'tit déj** *breakfast*, **le frigo** *fridge*, **un imper** *raincoat* (short for **imperméable**), **à plus** *see you later* (short for **à plus tard**), **d'acc** (short for **d'accord** *okay*) **un barbec** *barbecue* and **au resto** *in or to a restaurant*.

Dialogue

Un appartement au bord de la mer ...

A flat at the seaside ...

Ça coûte combien?

How much is it?

C'est deux mille euros la semaine au mois d'août.

It's two thousand euros a week in August.

C'est trop cher!

It's too expensive!

Il y a un appartement dans une résidence de grand standing à cinq minutes de la mer.

There's a luxury apartment five minutes from the beach.

Est-ce qu'il y a une piscine?

Is there a swimming pool?

Il y a une piscine partagée.

There's a shared pool.

Est-ce qu'il y a la climatisation?

Is there air conditioning?

Oui, il y a le chauffage central et la climatisation.

Yes, there's central heating and air conditioning.

Ça coûte combien?

How much is it?

Au mois d'août... euh... mille cinq cents euros la semaine. Il y a aussi un bar.

In August it's, er, one thousand five hundred euros a week.

There's a bar, too.

C'est parfait!

Perfect!

UNIT 10

What are we doing tomorrow? · Qu'est-ce qu'on fait demain?

This unit is about asking when you are going to do something and telling the time.

Track 50

Key phrases

Qu'est-ce qu'on fait demain?	What are we doing tomorrow?
le matin	in the morning
l'après-midi	in the afternoon
le soir	in the evening
à quelle heure?	at what time?
à neuf heures	at nine o'clock

Track 51

Listening and speaking

Groupe A: vous allez à Versailles demain matin à neuf heures.

Group A: you are going to Versailles tomorrow morning at 9 a.m.

Groupe B: vous allez à Versailles demain matin à onze heures.

Group B: you are going to Versailles tomorrow morning at 11 a.m.

Groupe C: vous allez à Versailles demain après-midi à quatorze heures.

Group C: you are going to Versailles tomorrow afternoon at 14 hours or 2 p.m.

Groupe D: vous allez à Versailles demain après-midi à seize heures.

Group D: you are going to Versailles tomorrow afternoon at 16 hours or 4 p.m.

Groupe E: vous allez à Versailles demain soir à dix-huit heures

Group E: you are going to Versailles tomorrow evening at 18 hours or 6 p.m.

Tip

Versailles is in the suburbs southwest of Paris. It's now a wealthy town where a lot of legal and administrative centres are based. Its main attraction is the **Château de Versailles**, which is a palace rather than a castle. The palace was originally a hunting lodge but Louis XIV did not like living in Paris and moved his court to Versailles. The palace was completed in the 17th century and was the home of the French court until the Revolution in 1789.

Dialogue

Qu'est-ce qu'on fait demain?

What are we doing tomorrow?

Demain... euh... le matin, on va à la Tour Eiffel.

Tomorrow... er... in the morning, we're going to the Eiffel Tower.

A quelle heure?

At what time?

Je viendrai vous chercher à dix heures.

I'll come and get you at 10 o'clock.

Et l'après-midi?

And in the afternoon?

L'après-midi, on va au musée du Louvre!

In the afternoon we're going to the Louvre!

Et le soir?

And in the evening?

Le soir... attends... euh, on va aux Folies Bergères.

In the evening... hold on... er, we're going to the Folies Bergères.

C'est loin?

Is it far?

Oui, c'est assez loin. Je viendrai vous chercher en taxi.

Yes, it is quite far. I'll pick you up in a taxi.

A quelle heure?

At what time?

A dix-huit heures.

At six p.m.

Merci, au revoir

Thanks, 'bye.

Au revoir, à demain.

Bye, till tomorrow.



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To say minutes past the hour, you say the hour and then how many minutes.

huit heures cinq	five past eight
dix heures dix	ten past ten
midi vingt	twenty past twelve (midday)
quatre heures vingt-cinq	twenty-five past four

To say minutes to the hour, you say the hour minus the number of minutes.

une heure moins vingt-cinq	twenty-five to one
trois heures moins vingt	twenty to three
sept heures moins cinq	five to seven

moins means *less* or *minus*.

Quarter past and half past are the same.

onze heures et quart	quarter past eleven
neuf heures et demie	half past nine

Quarter to changes slightly.

midi moins le quart	quarter to twelve (midday)
deux heures moins le quart	quarter to two

quart is easy to remember as it looks very like *quarter* although it sounds like *car*.

Remember that travel times and other official times use the 24-hour clock – but the principles are the same and you do not need **quart**, **demie**, **moins** or **moins le quart**.

Le train part à 13h12 (say treize heures douze) et arrive à 16h35 (say seize heures trente-cinq)

The train leaves at twelve minutes past one and arrives at twenty-five to five

La réunion commence à 15h (say quinze heures) mais il faut être dans la salle à 14h45 (say quatorze heures quarante-cinq) au plus tard

The meeting begins at three o'clock but you must be in the room by two forty-five at the latest

UNIT 11

What is the weather going to be like? ·

Il va faire quel temps?

This unit is about the weather. What's the weather going to be like this afternoon, tomorrow, later in the week?

Track 53

Key phrases

Il va faire quel temps?	What's the weather going to be like?
Il va faire beau	It's going to be fine
Il va faire froid	It's going to be cold
Il va faire chaud	It's going to be hot
Il va pleuvoir	It's going to rain
Il va neiger	It's going to snow
Il va y avoir des orages	There are going to be storms

Track 54

Listening and speaking

Tip

le mauvais temps
bad weather

The weather can be as bad in France as anywhere else – even in the south. We hope you won't have to rush out and buy wet-weather gear but just in case...

un parapluie
umbrella

un imperméable
(**un imper**)

raincoat

une cagoule
roll-up waterproof

des bottes en caoutchouc

wellington boots

une combinaison
(**de plongée**)

wetsuit

Il va faire quel temps?

What's the weather going to be like?

Ce matin il va pleuvoir, il faut prendre un parapluie.

This morning it's going to rain, so you will need to take an umbrella.

Cet après-midi, il va faire beau et chaud. Et ça serait une bonne idée de mettre de la crème solaire.

This afternoon's going to be fine and hot, and it would be a good idea to put on some sun cream.

Ce soir il va faire un orages, il vaut mieux rester à l'hôtel.

There's going to be a storm this evening, so it would be better to stay in the hotel.

Demain matin, il faut faire attention sur l'autoroute: il va faire du brouillard.

Tomorrow morning you must take care on the motorway as it will be foggy.

L'après-midi il va faire chaud avec possibilité d'orages vers le soir.

Tomorrow afternoon it will be hot with storms possible towards the evening.

Track 55

The days of the week: lundi, mardi, mercredi, jeudi, vendredi, samedi, dimanche



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va means *goes* or *is going to*. It comes from the verb **aller** *to go* and you use it to talk about the near future, just as we do in English.

Il va pleuvoir

It's going to rain

Je vais manger au restaurant

I'm going to eat out

Je vais aller au cinéma

I'm going to go to the cinema

On va faire un pique-nique

We're going to have a picnic

Vous allez manger chez nous?

Are you going to eat at our house?

If you want to know more about verbs, *Collins Easy Learning French Verbs* will give you all the information you need about conjugating and using verbs in all the main tenses.



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The origins of the names of most of the days of the week are similar to ours, only the French use the names of Greek and Roman gods rather than our Anglo-Saxon ones!

Lundi *Monday* is called after the moon, **mardi** *Tuesday* after the god Mars, **mercredi** *Wednesday* after Mercury, **jeudi** *Thursday* after Jupiter (Jove), **vendredi** *Friday* after Venus and **samedi** *Saturday* after Saturn.

Dimanche *Sunday* comes from the Latin *dies Dominicus* or day of the Lord.

Remember that the French do not use capital letters for days of the week or months of the year.

Dialogue

Quel jour voulez-vous aller à la plage?

What day would you like to go to the beach?

Ça dépend du temps. Il va faire quel temps?

It depends on the weather. What is the weather going to be like?

Euh, lundi il va pleuvoir.

Um, Monday it's going to rain.

Pas terrible pour la plage, alors. Et mardi?

Not great for the beach, then. And Tuesday?

Il va faire du vent.

It's going to be windy.

Pas terrible non plus! Mercredi?

Not a great day either! Wednesday?

Il va faire froid.

It's going to be cold.

Non plus! Jeudi?

Not Wednesday either! Thursday?

Il va faire chaud avec risque d'orages le soir.

It is going to be hot with the risk of storms in the evening.

Possible. Vendredi?

So Thursday might be possible. Friday?

Il va faire beau et chaud.

It is going to be fine and hot.

Alors on va à la plage vendredi!

So we'll go to the beach on Friday!

D'accord.

Agreed.



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la météo

the weather forecast

You can see the weather forecast after the eight o'clock news every evening on all the main television channels. The symbols used will be easy to understand but you might miss some of the finer details because the forecasters speak so fast! Here are some handy phrases that you could learn to recognize.

précipitation	rainfall
de belles éclaircies	bright spells
risque de brumes matinales	risk of early morning mist
nuage	cloud
nuageux	cloudy
pluie	rain
pluvieux	rainy
un temps pluvieux dans le sud	rainy weather in the south
averses sporadiques	scattered showers
forte averse	downpour

You can always ask someone to look up the weather forecast for you.

Pouvez-vous me télécharger le bulletin météo?

Can you download the weather forecast for me?

Or if you want to find out what the weather is like in France before you set off on your trip, you can go to the Météo France site and find out the information for yourself – in pictures! www.meteofrance.com

UNIT 12 On the phone · Au téléphone

Track 57

Key phrases

Allô? Bonjour. Hello (when answering phone)

Est-ce que je peux parler à ...? May I speak to ...?

Pouvez-vous me passer ... Can you put me through to ...

C'est de la part de qui? Who's speaking?

Est-ce qu'il peut me rappeler? Can he call me back?

Je voudrais repousser notre rendez-vous I would like to reschedule our appointment

Pouvez-vous m'envoyer un texto ou un mèle? Can you send me a text or e-mail?

Track 58

Listening and speaking

Tip

un mèle
an e-mail

The French use many terms to mean email. You may see or hear **e-mail, mail, mèle, mèle, mel** or **courriel**. French e-mail providers often use **courriel**.

par courrier électronique or **par messagerie électronique** is by e-mail.

A text is **un texto** but you might also hear **un SMS**.

il m'a envoyé des centaines de textos he sent me hundreds of texts
envoie-moi un SMS send me a text

Allô? Bonjour. Est-ce que je peux parler à Mr Smith, s'il vous plaît?

Hello. Good morning. Please can I speak to Mr Smith?

John Smith à l'appareil. C'est de la part de qui?

John Smith speaking. Who's calling?

Pouvez-vous me passer le plombier?

Can you put me through to the plumber?

Ne quittez pas...

Please hold (literally 'don't quit')

Pouvez-vous rappeler dans une heure?

Can you call back in an hour?

Le dentiste doit repousser votre rendez-vous à la semaine prochaine.

The dentist needs to reschedule your appointment to the following week.

Est-ce que Mrs Smith peut me rappeler?

Can Mrs Smith call me back?

Pouvez-vous m'envoyer un texto ou un mèle?

Can you send me a text or an e-mail?



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rappeler to call back

You may have seen the sign **Rappel** on roads or motorways and wondered what it means. It is connected to the verb **rappeler**, to recall but in the sense to remember. It is actually a reminder to take care and usually linked to an earlier warning sign (about a speed limit, slippery road surface, falling rocks, and so on).

Track 59

Dialogue

This dialogue is about dealing with problems on the phone, including when you can't get hold of somebody and have to ask them to call you back. The good news is that you can get the gist of what is being said without having to understand every word – and it's easier than you think.

Tip

je parle texto

Texting in French may be something you'd like to put off for a while – but that might not stop your French friends sending you **textos!** Here are some typical texting words.

bjr	bonjour	hello
bsr	bonsoir	good evening
a2m1	à demain	see you tomorrow
MDR	mort de rire	LOL
TLM	tout le monde	everyone
c5pa	c'est sympa	that's nice
mr6	merci	thank you
A +	à plus	till later

Allô? Société Carbonna, bonjour!

Hello. Good morning. Société Carbonna.

Est-ce que je peux parler à M Gilbert, s'il vous plaît?

Can I speak to M Gilbert, please?

Je regrette, M Gilbert est absent.

I'm sorry, M Gilbert is not in.

Pouvez-vous me passer Mme Dubarry, alors?

Can you put me through to Mme Dubarry, then?

C'est de la part de qui?

Who's speaking?

C'est de la part de John Smith.

This is John Smith calling.

Mr Smith? Mme Dubarry à l'appareil, bonjour.

Qu'est-ce que je peux faire pour vous?

Mr Smith? Mme Dubarry speaking. Good morning. What can I do for you?

Je voudrais repousser mon rendez-vous avec M Gilbert.

I would like to reschedule my meeting with M Gilbert.

Il n'est pas là pour l'instant. Est-ce qu'il peut vous rappeler?

He isn't here at the moment. Can he call you back?

Pouvez vous m'envoyer un texto ou un mèl?

Can you send me a text or an e-mail?

Bien sûr. Quand est-ce que vous voulez venir?

Of course. When do you want to come?

Mardi prochain.

Next Tuesday.

Mardi à dix heures, ça vous convient?

Does Tuesday at ten suit you?

Oui - mardi à dix heures, c'est parfait.

Yes, Tuesday at ten is perfect.

Je vais vérifier avec M Gilbert, et je vous enverrai un mèl.

I'll confirm that with M Gilbert and I will send you an e-mail.

Merci. Au revoir, madame.

Thank you. Goodbye.

Au revoir, monsieur.

Goodbye.

Track list

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The basics

Taking it further

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Unit 2 Hiring a car · *Louer une voiture*

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Unit 3 Where are you from? · *Vous venez d'où?*

The basics

Taking it further

- | | |
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| 11 Key phrases | 13 Dialogue |
| 12 Listening and speaking | |

Unit 4 What do you do? · *Vous faites quoi dans la vie?*

The basics

Taking it further

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| 14 Key phrases | 16 Dialogue |
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Encore

Unit 1

Unit 3

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 17 Key phrases | 21 Key phrases |
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| | <i>Unit 4</i> |
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| 20 Dialogue | 24 Dialogue |

25 Introduction**Unit 5 How are you? · Comment ça va?**

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27	Listening and speaking	

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	<i>The basics</i>	<i>Taking it further</i>
29	Key phrases	31 Dialogue
30	Listening and speaking	

Unit 7 What could we do? · Qu'est-ce qu'on pourrait faire?

	<i>The basics</i>	<i>Taking it further</i>
32	Key phrases	34 Dialogue
33	Listening and speaking	

Unit 8 What do you do at the weekend? · Que faites-vous le weekend?

	<i>The basics</i>	<i>Taking it further</i>
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36	Listening and speaking	

Encore

	<i>Unit 5</i>	<i>Unit 7</i>
38	Key phrases	42 Key phrases
39	Dialogue	43 Dialogue
	<i>Unit 6</i>	<i>Unit 8</i>
40	Key phrases	44 Key phrases
41	Dialogue	45 Dialogue

46 Introduction**Unit 9 A holiday in France · Un séjour en France**

	<i>The basics</i>	<i>Taking it further</i>
47	Key phrases	49 Dialogue
48	Listening practice	

**Unit 10 What are we doing tomorrow? ·
Qu'est-ce qu'on fait demain?**

	<i>The basics</i>		<i>Taking it further</i>
50	Key phrases	52	Dialogue
51	Listening and speaking		

**Unit 11 What is the weather going to be like? ·
Il va faire quel temps?**

	<i>The basics</i>		<i>Taking it further</i>
53	Key phrases	56	Dialogue
54	Listening and speaking		
55	Extra - days of the week		

Unit 12 On the phone · Au téléphone

	<i>The basics</i>	58	Listening and speaking
57	Key phrases	59	Dialogue

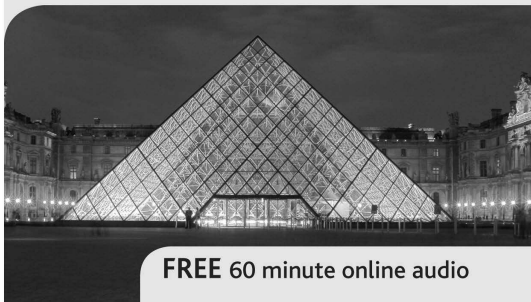
Encore

	<i>Unit 9</i>		<i>Unit 11</i>
60	Key phrases	64	Key phrases
61	Dialogue	65	Dialogue
	<i>Unit 10</i>		<i>Unit 12</i>
62	Key phrases	66	Key phrases
63	Dialogue	67	Dialogue

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English-French Dictionary
French Translation of "holiday"
Your search found: **holiday** / [View examples](#) / [Translations](#)
holiday ('holɪdeɪ 4))
► **Translations**
noun
1. (British) (vacation) vacances *feminine plural* ⇒ I need a holiday. J'ai besoin de vacances. ⇒ have a good holiday? Tu as passé de bonnes vacances? ⇒ our holidays in France ⇒ nos vacances en France
to go on holiday partir en vacances
to be on holiday être en vacances ⇒ We are on holiday. Nous sommes en vacances.

German-English Dictionary
English Translation of "Ferien"
Your search found: **Ferien** / [View examples](#) / [Translations](#)
Ferien ('fe:riən 4))
► **Translations**
plural noun
1. (British) (vacation) *singular (US, university)*
2. holiday *singular (especially British), vacation singular (US)*
3. (ironic) (law) recess *singular*
4. (British) (the summer holidays) *especially British, the long vacation (US, university)*

Spanish-English Dictionary
English Translation of "vacación"
Your search found: **vacación** / [View examples](#) / [Translations](#)
VACACIÓN 4) *feminine noun* OR **VACACIONES** 4) *plural feminine noun
► **Translations**
holiday(s), vacation *singular (US)* ⇒ estar de vacaciones to be (away) on holiday ⇒ irse o marcharse vacaciones to go (away) on holiday, go off on holiday ⇒ hacer vacaciones to take a day off
See [vacaciones escolares](#)
See [vacaciones pagadas](#)
„Holiday“ o “holidays” En inglés británico, vacaciones se puede traducir tanto por holiday como por holidays cuando hablamos de un periodo de tiempo sin colegio o trabajo: ⇒ ¿Dónde pasaste las vacaciones? Where did you spend your holiday(s)? ⇒ Larry fue a Londres un par de días durante las vacaciones Larry went to London for a couple of days during the holiday(s)/vacaciones se traduce por holiday cuando se habla de un viaje en particular: ⇒ El año pasado pasamos unas vacaciones maravillosas en Mallorca We had a lovely holiday in Mallorca last year ⇒ ¿Te lo has pasado bien en las vacaciones? Did you have a good holiday? Aquí holiday funciona como un sustantivo contable normal, añade una "s" cuando se trata de más de un viaje. Estar de vacaciones se traduce por to be on holiday este caso holiday no acepta el plural: ⇒ Estaré de vacaciones dos semanas I'll be on holiday for a fortnight*

Italian-English Dictionary
English Translation of "vacanza"
Your search found: **vacanza** / [View examples](#) / [Translations](#)
vacanza (va'kantsa)
► **Translations**
feminine noun
1. a. (giorno, ferie) holiday(s) *plural (British), vacation (US)*
b. (giorno di permesso) day off
essere/andare in vacanza to be/go on holiday (or it) vacation
dove andrai in vacanza quest'anno? where are you going on holiday this year?
prenderi una vacanza to take a holiday (or it) vacation
un giorno/mese di vacanza a day's/month's holiday (or it) vacation
far vacanza to have a holiday (or it) vacation
ho fatto una lunga vacanza I had a long holiday
trascorriamo sempre le vacanze al mare we always spend our holidays at the seaside
vacanze plural feminine noun (periodo di ferie) holidays, vacation *singular*
le vacanze di Pasqua the Easter holidays
le vacanze scolastiche the school holidays
See [vacanze estive](#)
2. (l'essere vacante, di lavoro, cattedra ecc) vacancy

- Audio pronunciations
- Usage examples
- Alternative meanings and synonyms