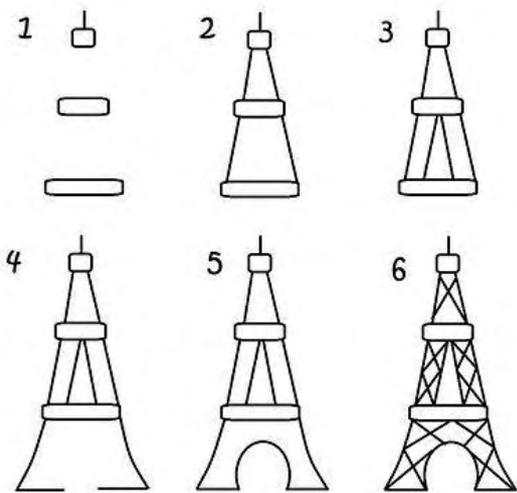


S1

GRAMMAR

BOOKLET



A) Grammatical terms:

Verb: verbs are what you sometimes call “doing word” as they often express

- An action: e.g. to eat, to run, to make, to go, to leave, to play etc...

However, verbs can also express

- A feeling process: to feel, to like, to dislike, to love, to hate, to hurt, to suffer etc...
- States of mind: to think, to dream, to wish, to hope etc...
- Possessions: to have, to own, to belong, to get, to obtain etc...
- States of being: to be, to live, to die, to appear etc...

Noun: Nouns are what you sometimes call “naming words”. They can be a person, object, animal, colour etc...

You can normally put “the” or “a/an” or “one” or “some” in front of a noun: e.g. the man, a vase, an elephant, the school, a house, the sky, the planet etc...

Other words you can find in front of a noun: my, your, his, her, its, our, their, this, that, these, those, every.

Often, there is no word in front of it.

E.g. children, people, animals, things etc...

Sometimes it is being described by an adjective which goes in front of it (in English).

Exercise: Circle the **verbs** in the following sentences.

1. I do my homework every night.
2. We love going to town with our friends.
3. My neighbours bought a new car.
4. It is beautiful!
5. My brother says that I am rubbish at Maths. That’s not true!
6. Are you happy to see them?
7. These girls think they are so clever!
8. The birds are singing in the trees.
9. I yearn to be a poet.
10. Do you know my parents?

Exercise: Circle the **nouns** in the following sentences.

1. I do my homework every night.
2. We love going to town with our friends.
3. My neighbours bought a new car.
4. It is beautiful!
5. My brother says that I am rubbish at Maths. That’s not true!
6. Are you happy to see them?
7. These girls think they are so clever!
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Tense: tenses give you an indication to **which period in time** the action is taking place in your sentence: e.g. PAST, PRESENT or FUTURE.



There are **several tenses** within the past, present and future though. You will learn these later.

Present: I **go** to the cinema every week.

I **am going** to the cinema.

Past: I **went** to the cinema.

I **have gone** to the cinema.

I **have been going** to the cinema.

I **had gone** to the cinema.

I **had been going** to the cinema.

Future: I **will go** to the cinema.

I **will be going** to the cinema.

I **will have gone** to the cinema.

I **will have been going** to the cinema.

In French, there is only ONE present tense, although there are 2 in English.

e.g.

I go → Je **vais**

I am going → Je **vais**

He plays → Il **joue**

He is playing → Il **joue**

We do → On **fait**

We are doing → On **fait**

Exercise: Write whether the sentences have been written at the **Past, Present** or **Future**.

1. We went on holiday to the French Riviera.

2. She'll know what I mean.

3. Have you finished your work?

4. They will be visiting the castle.

5. My sister is a great footballer.

6. Their friends lost their dog.

7. Where have you been?

8. I'm enjoying school.

9. Your house is always clean and tidy!

10. The children will have a good time.

Adjective: Adjectives are what you sometimes call “describing words”. They are used to describe a noun

e.g. tall, kind, blue, tiring, funny etc...

Subject: The subject of a sentence is the person or thing controlling the verb. It is usually found at the beginning of a phrase.

e.g. I like you.

She knows it.

It is difficult.

My Dad is tall.

The neighbours are loud.

Are **you** hungry?

Does **he** eat meat?

Very often the subject of the sentence is a

Personal pronoun:

- Je- I
- Tu – You (singular)
- Il/elle- He/She
- On- one/we (familiar)
- Nous- We
- Vous You (plural or polite)
- Ils/elles- They (m/F)

Exercise: Circle the **adjectives** in the following sentences.

1. My homework is always difficult.
2. We have very funny friends.
3. My neighbours bought a new car.
4. It is beautiful!
5. He says that I am rubbish at ICT.
6. Are you happy to see them?
7. These girls think they are so clever!
8. The colourful birds are beautiful.
9. I love chocolate mousse and mint ice-cream.
10. I have three big brothers.

Exercise: Circle the **subject(s)** in the following sentences.

1. My homework is always difficult.
2. We have very funny friends.
3. My neighbours bought a new car.
4. It is beautiful!
5. He says that I am rubbish at ICT.
6. Are they happy to see us?
7. These girls think they are so clever!
8. The colourful birds are beautiful.
9. I love chocolate mousse and mint ice-cream.
10. I have three big brothers.

Exercise: Match the French to its meaning.

Elle est grande.	We are kind.
Je suis intelligent.	Do you have a car?
Nous sommes gentils.	They have a cat.
Tu aimes le café?	She is tall.
Ils ont un chat.	Do you like coffee?
Vous avez une voiture?	I am clever.

Definite article: THE.

There are 4 ways of saying “the” in French; this depends on the **gender** (masculine/feminine) and **number** (singular/plural) of the noun.

LE= masculine singular

e.g. **le** garçon (the boy), **le** crayon (the pencil), **le** chien (the dog)

LA= feminine singular

e.g. **la** fille (the girl), **la** gomme (the rubber), **la** souris (the mouse)

L’= masculine OR feminine SINGULAR starting with a VOWEL or silent H.

e.g. l’**é**cole (the school), l’**E**spagne (Spain), l’**e**nfant (the child), l’**h**ôtel, l’**h**ôpital

LES= masculine OR feminine PLURAL

e.g. les couleurs (colours), les pays (countries), les animaux (animals)

Indefinite article: A/AN/ONE.

There 2 ways of saying “a/an” in French; this depends on the **gender** (m/fem) and **number** (singular/plural) of the noun.

UN= masculine singular

e.g. **un** garçon (a boy), **un** crayon (a pencil), **un** chien (a dog)

UNE= feminine singular

e.g. **une** fille (a girl), **une** gomme (a rubber), **une** souris (a mouse)

Exercise: Fill in the blank with either **le** (m/sg), **la** (f/sg), **l’** (sg + vowel or H) or **les** (pl).

1. _____ enfants (pl.) jouent avec _____ chien (m/sg).
2. _____ fille (f/sg) aime _____ chocolat(m/sg).
3. _____ arbre (m/sg) est en fleurs.
4. _____ fleurs (pl.) sont jolies.
5. _____ rugby (m/sg) est un sport.
6. J’adore _____ badminton (m/sg)!
7. _____ école primaire (f/sg) est petite.
8. _____ collège (m/sg) est grand.
9. _____ animaux (pl) sont beaux.
10. _____ souris (f/sg) est blanche.

Exercise: Fill in the blank with either **un** (m) or **une** (f).

1. J’ai _____ soeur (f) et _____ frère(m).
2. Ma copine a _____ tortue (f).
3. Nos amis ont _____ maison (f).
4. Il a _____ chien (m) et _____ chat (m).
5. Tu as _____ moto (f)?

Possessive adjectives: this particular type of adjectives is not for describing. They are used to say what belongs to whom:

My, your, his, her, its, our, their.

In French there are several ways of saying each possessive adjective. This depends on **what** is being possessed.

	m.sg.	f.sg.	Pl.
MY	mon	ma	mes
YOUR (sg)	ton	ta	tes
HIS/HER/ITS	son	sa	ses
OUR	notre	notre	nos
YOUR (pl.)	votre	votre	vos
THEIR (m/f)	leur	leur	leurs

Place of adjectives:

As we have seen before, an adjective is a “describing word”.

In French, most adjectives go **after** the noun they describe.

- e.g. un crayon bleu (a blue pencil),
- une maison neuve (a new house)
- un garçon français (a French boy)

Exercise: using the grid to help you choose the correct **possessive adjective** in the following sentences.

1. **My** homework is always difficult.
_____ devoirs (pl.) sont difficiles.
2. **Our** friends are very funny.
_____ amis (pl.) sont très drôles.
3. **His** mum has a car.
_____ mère (f.) a une voiture.
4. **Your** (sg) dog is cute.
_____ chien (m.) est mignon
5. **Their** house is huge!
_____ maison (f.) est énorme!
6. **Your** (pl.) brother is annoying!
_____ frère (m.) est agaçant!
7. **Its** tail is white.
_____ queue (f.) est blanche.
8. **Her** parents are nice.
_____ parents (pl.) sont gentils.
9. **My** friend is shy.
_____ copain (m.) est timide.
10. Do you know **their** sister?
Vous connaissez _____ soeur (f.)?

Exercise: Put the French words in the correct order to make a phrase:

1. jaune, canari, un

2. une, violette, fleur

3. gentil, un, garçon

4. arbre, vert, un

5. marron, un, cheval
