Bonjour, Comment tu t'appelles?
Max, et toi?
Je m'appelle Monique.
Quel âge as-tu?
J'ai douze ans.

Tu parles français?
Oui, un peu.
Tu parles français, Fifi?
Oui, je parle français et un petit peu anglais.

Heinz parle allemand, anglais et français.
Internet links

Throughout this book we have recommended useful websites for learning French and finding out more about France. You can find links to all the websites, plus downloadable puzzles to print out, at the Usborne Quicklinks Website.

1. Go to www.usborne-quicklinks.com
2. Type the keywords for this book: french for beginners
3. Type the page number of the link you want to visit.
4. Click on the links to go to the recommended sites.

Here are some of the things you can do on the websites recommended in this book:
• Listen to French phrases and conversations
• Watch video clips of everyday situations
• Carry out interactive lessons and exercises
• Solve word searches and play matching games

Site availability
The links in Usborne Quicklinks are regularly reviewed and updated, but occasionally you may get a message that a site is unavailable. This might be temporary, so try again later, or even the next day. Websites do occasionally close down and when this happens, we will replace them with new links in Usborne Quicklinks. Sometimes we add extra links too, if we think they are useful. So when you visit Usborne Quicklinks, the links may be slightly different to those described in your book.

What you need
To visit the websites you need a computer with an internet connection and a web browser (the software that lets you look at information from the internet). Many language websites have recordings and pronunciation guides that you can listen to. To hear these recordings you need a media player such as Windows Media® Player or RealPlayer®. You probably already have one of these, but if not, you can download them for free from the internet.

For more information about media players, and other free programs called ‘plug-ins’ that enable your browser to display video clips and animations, go to the Net Help area on the Usborne Quicklinks Website.

Safety on the internet
Ask your parent’s or guardian’s permission before you connect to the internet and make sure you follow these simple rules:

• Never give out information about yourself, such as your real name, address, phone number or the name of your school.
• If a site asks you to log in or register by typing your name or email address, ask permission from an adult first.

Note for parents and guardians
The websites described in this book are regularly reviewed, but the content of a website may change at any time and Usborne Publishing is not responsible for the content on any website other than its own.

We recommend that children are supervised while on the internet, that they do not use internet chat rooms, and that you use internet filtering software to block unsuitable material. Please ensure that your children read and follow the safety guidelines printed above. For more information, see the Net Help area on the Usborne Quicklinks Website.

COMPUTER NOT ESSENTIAL
This book is a fun and informative language book on its own.

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FRENCH FOR BEGINNERS
Angela Wilkes
Illustrated by John Shackell
Designed by Roger Priddy
Language consultant: Françoise Holmes

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4 Saying hello
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8 Naming things
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14 Your family
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18 Looking for things
20 What do you like eating?
22 Table talk
24 Your hobbies
26 Telling the time
28 Arranging things
30 Asking where places are
32 Finding your way around
34 Going shopping
36 Shopping and going to a café
38 The months and seasons
40 Colours and numbers
41 Pronunciation guide
42 Grammar
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46 Glossary

Handlettering by Jack Potter
About this book

Going abroad is much more fun if you can speak a little of the language. This book shows you that learning another language is a lot easier than you might think. It teaches you the French you will find useful in everyday situations.

You can find out how to . . .

talk about yourself, and your home, count and tell the time, say what you like, find your way around and ask for what you want in shops.

How you learn

Salut!  
Bonjour!  
C'est Pierre.

Picture strips like this show you what to say in each situation. Read the speech bubbles and see how much you can understand by yourself, then look up any words you do not know. Words and phrases are repeated again and again, to help you remember them.

The book starts with really easy things to say and gets more difficult towards the end.
New words
All the new words you come across are listed on each double page, so you can look them up as you go along. If you forget any words you can look them up in the glossary on pages 46-48. *If you see an asterisk by a word, it means that there is a note about it at the bottom of the page.

Grammar
Boxes like this around words show where new grammar is explained. You will find French easier if you learn some of its grammar, or rules, but don’t worry if you don’t understand it all straightaway. You can look up any of the grammar used in the book on pages 42-43.

Internet links*
At the top of each double page you will find descriptions of useful websites for learning French. For links to these sites, go to www.usborne-quicklinks.com and enter the keywords french for beginners.

Puzzles
Throughout this book there are puzzles and quizzes to solve (see answers on pages 44-45). You can also find picture puzzles to print out on the Usborne Quicklinks Website at www.usborne-quicklinks.com

Practising your French
Write all the new words you learn in a notebook and try to learn a few every day. Keep going over them and you will soon remember them.

Ask a friend to keep testing you on your French. Even better, ask someone to learn French with you so that you can practise on each other.

Try to go to France for your holidays, and speak as much French as you can. Don’t be afraid of making mistakes. No one will mind.

* For more information on using the Internet, see inside the front cover.
Saying hello

Here you can find out the different French greetings for different times of the day.

**salut**  hi, hello, bye  
**bonjour** hello, good morning  
**au revoir** goodbye  
**bonsoir** good evening  
**bonne nuit** goodnight  
**à bientôt** see you soon

When you greet someone in French, it is polite to add one of these words: **monsieur** (Sir, Mr.), **madame** (Madam, Mrs.) or **mademoiselle** (Miss).

Saying hello

![Image of people saying hello]

**Salut, Paul!**

This is how you say "hello" to your friends.

**Bonjour, Madame.**

This is how you greet someone you don’t know well.

**Bonjour, Monsieur.**

This is how you say "good evening" to someone.

**Bonsoir!**

Saying goodbye

![Image of people saying goodbye]

**Salut!**

**Salut!**

Salut can mean "bye" as well as "hello" or "hi".

**Au revoir!**

**A bientôt.**

Au revoir means "goodbye" and à bientôt means "see you soon".

Saying goodnight

![Image of people saying goodnight]

**Bonne nuit.**

You only say bonne nuit last thing at night.
How are you?

Ça va?

This is how you ask someone how they are.

Salut, ça va?
Ça va bien, merci.

The person on the right is saying: "I'm fine, thank you"...

Bonjour, ça va?
Pas très bien!

...but this person is saying that he is not very well.

Ça va? (How are you?)

This list gives you the French words you need to talk about how people are.

ça va?    how are you?
ça va bien I'm fine
merci      thank you
très bien very well
bien       well
assez bien quite well
pas très bien not very well

Which two of the people on the right are saying ça va bien?*

*Remember, answers to puzzles are on pages 44-45.
What is your name?

Here you can find out how to ask someone their name and tell them yours, and how to introduce your friends. Read the picture strip and see how much you can understand. Then try doing the puzzles on the page opposite.

New words

je      I
tu      you
il      he
elle    she
ils     they (male)
elles   they (female)
comment what are
        tu t'appelles? you called?
comment il/elle what is he/she called?
s'appelle?        /she called?
comment ils what are they called?
s'appellent?      
je m'appelle I am called
il s'appelle he is called
elle s'appelle she is called
ils/elles they are called
s'appellent      
qui c'est? who is that?
c'est    that is
mon ami  my friend
         (male)
mon amie my friend
          (female)
et toi? and you?
oui      yes
non      no

Ils and elles

There are two words for “they” in French: ils and elles. When you are talking about boys or men, you say ils and when you are talking about girls or women, you say elles.

If you are talking about boys and girls together, you say ils.
**What are they called?**

Can you answer these questions in French?

- Comment elle s'appelle, mon amie?
- Comment il s'appelle?
- Comment ils s'appellent?
- Comment tu t'appelles?

**Who is who?**

Can you answer the questions below the picture?

- Salut, ça va?
- Ça va bien, merci.
- Au revoir, Nicolas.
- C'est Anne?
- Oui, c'est Anne.
- Au revoir.
- Qui c'est?
- C'est Jean.
- Non, je m'appelle Michel.
- Comment tu t'appelles?
- Pascale, et toi?
- Tu t'appelles Max?

Who is talking to Jean? Who is talking to Pascale? Who is called Michel? Who is talking to him? Who is called Anne? Who is going home?

---

**Can you remember?**

How would you ask someone their name? How would you tell them your name?

You have a friend called Pascale. How would you introduce her to someone? How would you tell someone your friend is called Daniel?
Finding out what things are called.

Everything on this picture has its name on it. See if you can learn the names for everything, then try the memory test at the bottom of the opposite page. You can find out what le, la and l’ mean at the bottom of the page.

La cheminée
le toit
l’oiseau
l’arbre
la fenêtre
la fleur
la maison
la porte
la barrière
la voiture
le garage
le soleil
le nid

Ça, c’est ma maison.

Le and la words

All French nouns are either masculine or feminine. The word you use for “the” shows what gender the noun is. The word for “the” is le before masculine (m) nouns, la before feminine (f) ones and l’ before those which start with a vowel. It is best to learn which word to use with each noun. “A” or “an” is un before le words and une before la words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>le soleil</td>
<td>sun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l’arbre(m)</td>
<td>tree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le toit</td>
<td>roof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le chat</td>
<td>cat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le chien</td>
<td>dog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le nid</td>
<td>nest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l’oiseau(m)</td>
<td>bird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le garage</td>
<td>garage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la maison</td>
<td>house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la chemiée</td>
<td>chimney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la fenêtre</td>
<td>window</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la porte</td>
<td>door</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la fleur</td>
<td>flower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la voiture</td>
<td>car</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la barrière</td>
<td>fence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Asking what things are called

Don’t worry if you don’t know what something is called in French. To find out what it is, just ask someone **qu’est-ce que c’est?** Look at the list of useful phrases below, then read the picture strip to see how to use them.

| qu’est-ce que | what is that? |
| c’est         | that is . . . |
| aussi        | also         |
| en français  | in French    |
| en anglais   | in English   |

**Qu’est-ce que c’est en français?**

**C’est une porte.**

**Et qu’est-ce que c’est?**

**Qu’est-ce que c’est en anglais?**

**A dog!**

**C’est un chien.**

Can you remember?

Cover up the opposite page and see if you can name all of these things in French. Don’t forget to say whether they are **le** or **la** words.
Where do you come from?

Here you can find out how to ask people where they come from. You can also find out how to ask if they speak French.

**New words**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>tu viens d'où?</td>
<td>where do you come from?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>je viens de*</td>
<td>I come from</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tu habites où?</td>
<td>where do you live?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j'habite</td>
<td>I live in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tu parles ?</td>
<td>do you speak ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>je parle</td>
<td>I speak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>un petit peu</td>
<td>a little</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>français</td>
<td>French</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>anglais</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>allemand</td>
<td>German</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>voici</td>
<td>this is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nous</td>
<td>we</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vous</td>
<td>you (plural)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Countries**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>l'Afrique(f)</td>
<td>Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l'Allemagne(f)</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l'Angleterre(f)</td>
<td>England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la France</td>
<td>France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l'Inde(f)</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l'Écosse(f)</td>
<td>Scotland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l'Autriche(f)</td>
<td>Austria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l'Espagne</td>
<td>Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la Hongrie</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Do you speak French?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tu parles français?</td>
<td>Yes, a little French.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Oui, un petit peu.| Yes, a little French.

**Heinz parle allemand, anglais et français.**
Who comes from where?

These are the contestants for an international dancing competition. They have come from all over the world. The compère does not speak any French and does not understand where anyone comes from. Read about the contestants then see if you can tell him what he wants to know. His questions are beneath the picture.

Angus vient d'Écosse.

Voici Marie et Pierre. Ils viennent de France.

Hari et Indira viennent d'Inde.

Yuri vient de Hongrie. Il habite Budapest.

Franz vient d'Autriche.

Voici Lolita. Elle vient d'Espagne.

Where does Franz come from?
What are the French contestants called?
Is Lolita Italian or Spanish?
Is there a Scottish contestant?
Where do Marie and Pierre come from?
Who lives in Budapest? Where is Budapest?

Verbs (action words)

French verbs change according to who is doing the action. Verbs ending in *er* follow the same pattern and have the same endings as *parler*. You will have to learn *venir* by itself.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>parler</th>
<th>to speak</th>
<th>venir</th>
<th>to come</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>je parle</td>
<td>I speak</td>
<td>je viens</td>
<td>I come</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tu parlez</td>
<td>you speak</td>
<td>tu viens</td>
<td>you come</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>il/elle parle</td>
<td>he/she speaks</td>
<td>il/elle vient</td>
<td>he/she comes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nous parlons</td>
<td>we speak</td>
<td>nous venons</td>
<td>we come</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vous parlez</td>
<td>you speak</td>
<td>vous venez</td>
<td>you come</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ils/elles parlement</td>
<td>they speak</td>
<td>ils/elles viennent</td>
<td>they come</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Can you remember?

How would you ask someone where they come from?
Can you say where you come from?
How do you say that you speak French?
How would you ask someone if they can?

*You can find out more about verbs on page 43.
More about you

Here you can find out how to count up to 20, say how old you are and say how many brothers and sisters you have.

To say how old you are in French, you say how many years you have. So if you are ten, you say *J'ai dix ans* (I have ten years).

**New words**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>quel âge as-tu?</td>
<td>how old are you?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j'ai cinq ans</td>
<td>I am five years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>as-tu...?</td>
<td>have you...?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j'ai</td>
<td>I have</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>je n'ai pas de</td>
<td>I have no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>des frères</td>
<td>some, any brother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>et des sœurs?</td>
<td>sister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>presque</td>
<td>almost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ni</td>
<td>nor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mais</td>
<td>but</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Plural words**

Most French nouns add an "s" in the plural (when you are talking about more than one person or thing), but you don't pronounce it. There are some exceptions which you can see in the glossary. The word for "the" is *les* before all plural nouns.

**Numbers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 un</td>
<td>one</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 deux</td>
<td>two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 trois</td>
<td>three</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 quatre</td>
<td>four</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 cinq</td>
<td>five</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 six</td>
<td>six</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 sept</td>
<td>seven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 huit</td>
<td>eight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 neuf</td>
<td>nine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 dix</td>
<td>ten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 onze</td>
<td>eleven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 douze</td>
<td>twelve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 treize</td>
<td>thirteen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 quatorze</td>
<td>fourteen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 quinze</td>
<td>fifteen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 seize</td>
<td>sixteen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 dix-sept</td>
<td>seventeen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 dix-huit</td>
<td>eighteen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 dix-neuf</td>
<td>nineteen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*You will find a complete list of numbers on page 40.
How old are they?
Read what these children are saying, then see if you can say how old they all are.

Guy a douze ans.
Nous avons quinze ans.
Odile a onze ans.
Michel a presque quatorze ans.
J'ai cinq ans.
Il a neuf ans.

Michel  Diane et Sylvie  Guy  Odile  Luc  Colette

How many brothers and sisters?
Below you can read how many brothers and sisters the children have. Can you work out who has which brothers and sisters?

Diane et Sylvie ont un frère et deux soeurs.
Odile a trois soeurs et deux frères.
Michel a cinq soeurs, mais pas de frères.
Luc a un frère, mais pas de soeurs.
Guy n'a pas de frères ni de soeurs, mais il a un chien.

Useful verbs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>avoir</th>
<th>to have</th>
<th>être*</th>
<th>to be</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>j'ai</td>
<td>I have</td>
<td>je suis</td>
<td>I am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tu as</td>
<td>you have</td>
<td>tu es</td>
<td>you are</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>il/elle a</td>
<td>he/she/it has</td>
<td>il/elle est</td>
<td>he/she/it is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nous avons</td>
<td>we have</td>
<td>nous sommes</td>
<td>we are</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vous avez</td>
<td>you have</td>
<td>vous êtes</td>
<td>you are</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ils/elles ont</td>
<td>they have</td>
<td>ils/elles sont</td>
<td>they are</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Être is used on the next page, so it may help you to learn it now.
Talking about your family

On these two pages you will learn lots of words which will help you to talk about your family. You will also find out how to say "my" and "your" and describe people.

Who's who?

C'est ton frère ?  Oui, c'est mon frère.
Et ça, c'est ta soeur ?  Oui, elle s'appelle Nathalie.
Ce sont tes parents ?  Non ! Ce sont mes grands-parents !

New words

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>la famille</td>
<td>family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le grand-père</td>
<td>grandfather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la grand-mère</td>
<td>grandmother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le père</td>
<td>father</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la mère</td>
<td>mother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l'oncle(m)</td>
<td>uncle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la tante</td>
<td>aunt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>les grands-parents</td>
<td>grandparents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>les parents</td>
<td>parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grand/e</td>
<td>tall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>petit/e</td>
<td>small</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gros/se</td>
<td>fat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mince</td>
<td>thin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vieux*</td>
<td>old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jeune</td>
<td>young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>blond/e</td>
<td>blonde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brun/e</td>
<td>dark-haired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>affectueux/se</td>
<td>friendly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How to say "my" and "your"

The word you use for "my" or "your" depends on whether you are talking about a le, la or plural word.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>le words</th>
<th>la words</th>
<th>plurals</th>
<th>my</th>
<th>your</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mon</td>
<td>ton</td>
<td>ta</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ma</td>
<td>mes</td>
<td>tes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*You use mon or ton before words beginning with a vowel. You can find out more about this on pages 42-43.
Describing your family

Mon père est grand et ma mère est petite.

Ma mère est grande et mon père est petit.

Mon oncle est gros et ma tante est mince.

Mon grand-père est très vieux.*
Je suis jeune.

Ma soeur est blonde. Mon frère est brun.

Mon chien est affectueux.

Describing words

French adjectives change their endings depending on whether they are describing a le or la word. In the word list the masculine form is shown, along with the letters you add to make it feminine. The “x” on the end of affectueux changes to “se”.*

Can you describe each of these people in French, starting Il est . . . or Elle est . . . ?

*You can find out more about adjectives on pages 42-43. The feminine of vieux is vieille.
Your home

Here you can find out how to say what sort of home you live in and whereabouts it is. You can also learn what all the rooms are called.

New words

ou
la maison
l'appartement(m)
le château
en ville
à la campagne
au bord de la mer
papa
maman
pépé
mémé
le fantôme
où êtes-vous?

or
house
flat
castle
in the town
in the country
by the sea
Dad
Mum
Grandad
Granny
ghost
where are you?

la salle de bains
la salle à manger
la chambre
le salon
la cuisine
le vestibule
en haut

bathroom
dining room
bedroom
living room
kitchen
hall
upstairs

Town or country?

J'habite en ville.

J'habite une maison.

J'habite un appartement.

J'habite à la campagne.

J'habite au bord de la mer.

Where do you live?

Tu habites une maison ou un appartement?

J'habite une maison.
Where is everyone?

Papa comes home and wants to know where everyone is. Look at the pictures and see if you can tell him where everyone is, e.g. Mémé est dans le salon. Then see if you can answer the questions below the little pictures.

Maman  Papa  Pépé

Mémé  Pierre  Isabelle

Simon  le fantôme

Je suis en haut!
Je suis dans la chambre d’Isabelle.

Je suis dans la salle de bains

Je suis dans le salon.

Je suis dans la chambre.

Je suis dans la cuisine

Où êtes-vous?

Où est mémé?
Où est le fantôme?
Où est le chien?
Où est Pierre?
Où est papa? (Look at the word list)

Can you remember?

How do you ask someone where they live? Can you remember how to say “in the country”?

How do you ask whether they live in a house or a flat? Can you remember how to say “in the town”?

How would you tell someone you were upstairs? How would you tell them you were in the kitchen?
Looking for things

Here you can find out how to ask someone what they are looking for and tell them where things are. You can also learn lots of words for things around the house.

New words

chercher  to look for
quelque chose  something
le hamster  hamster
trouver  to find
le  him/it
sur  on
sous  under
derrière  behind
devant  in front of
entre  between
à côté de  next to
le placard  cupboard
l'armoire(f)  wardrobe
le fauteuil  armchair
le rideau  curtain
la plante  plant
le rayon  shelf
la table  table
le tapis  carpet
le canapé  sofa
la télévision  television
le téléphone  telephone
le vase  vase
le voilà!  there it is!

Il or elle?

There isn’t a special word for “it” in French. You use il or elle (“he” or “she”) depending on whether the word you are replacing is masculine or feminine. You use il to replace masculine words and elle to replace feminine ones.

Où est le hamster?
Il est sur la table.

Où est la tortue?
Elle est sur la table.

The missing hamster

Tu cherches quelque chose?
Je cherche mon hamster. Je ne le trouve pas!

Il n’est pas sur l’armoire.
Il n’est pas sous le canapé.

Il est derrière le rideau?
Non.

Le voilà! Entre les plantes!
In, on or under?

Try to learn these words by heart. A côté de changes to à côté du when you put it before a le word, e.g. à côté du fauteuil (next to the armchair.)

dans  derrière  devant  à côté de  sous  sur

Where are they hiding?

Monsieur Hulot’s six pets are hiding somewhere in the room, but he cannot find them. Can you tell him where they are in French, using the words above?

le hamster  le petit chat  le petit chien  la perruche  le serpent  la tortue

le rayon  le placard  la télévision  le fauteuil  le tapis  le canapé

le vase  le téléphone  la table
What do you like eating?

Here you can find out how to say what you like and don't like.

New words

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>aimer</td>
<td>to like</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tu aimes?</td>
<td>do you like?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j'aime</td>
<td>I like</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>je n'aime pas*</td>
<td>I don't like</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qu'est-ce que ..</td>
<td>what .. ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>adorer</td>
<td>to like a lot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pas du tout</td>
<td>not at all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alors</td>
<td>then</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beaucoup</td>
<td>very much</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le plus</td>
<td>the most</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>préférer</td>
<td>to prefer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>surtout</td>
<td>best of all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la salade</td>
<td>salad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le poisson</td>
<td>fish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>les pommes</td>
<td>chips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>frites</td>
<td>cake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le gâteau</td>
<td>sausage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la saucisse</td>
<td>steak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le bifteck</td>
<td>spaghetti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>les spaghetti (m pl)</td>
<td>to eat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>manger</td>
<td>pizza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la pizza</td>
<td>hamburger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le hamburger</td>
<td>rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le riz</td>
<td>bread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le pain</td>
<td>cheese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le fromage</td>
<td>me too</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What do you like best?

Qu'est-ce que tu aimes le plus?

J'aime beaucoup les saucisses.

...Mais je préfère le bifteck.

.. Et j'aime surtout les spaghetti!

*You can read more about negatives on pages 42-43.*
What are they eating?

What likes what?

Who likes cheese? Who doesn't like ham? Who prefers grapes to bananas?

Can you say in French which things you like and which you don't like?

Du, de la, de l' and des

These mean "some" and are often used when there is nothing in English, e.g. il mange du pain (he is eating bread). You use du before le words, de la before la words, de l' before words beginning with a vowel and des before plural words.
Table talk

Here you can learn all sorts of useful things to say if you are having a meal with French friends or eating out in a French restaurant.

New words

à table s’il te plaît
j’ai faim
moi aussi
sers-toi
servez-vous
bon appétit
tu peux me passer...
l’eau
le pain
le verre
voulez-vous*...?
encore de...
la viande
oui, s’il te plaît
non, merci
j’ai assez
mangé
c’est bon?
c’est délicieux

come to the table please
I’m hungry
me too
help
yourself
help
yourselves
enjoy your meal
can you pass me...
water
bread
glass
would you like some more...
meat
yes please
no, thank you
I’ve had enough
is it good?
it’s delicious

Dinner is ready

A table, s’il vous plaît!
J’ai faim.
Moi aussi!

Sers-toi, s’il te plaît!
Merci.

Bon appétit!

Please will you pass me...

Tu peux me passer l’eau, s’il te plaît?
Tu peux me passer le pain, s’il te plaît?
Tu peux me passer un verre, s’il te plaît?

*Vous is a polite way of saying “you”. You can find out more about it on page 30.
Would you like some more?

Voulez-vous encore de la viande?
Oui, merci.

Voulez-vous encore des frites?
Non, merci. J'ai assez mangé.

C'est bon?
Oui, c'est délicieux!

Who is saying what?
These little pictures show you different mealtime situations. Cover up the rest of the page and see if you know what everyone would say in French.

Simon is saying he is hungry.
The chef wants you to enjoy your meal.
Isabelle is saying "Help yourself".
Pierre wants someone to pass him a glass.

Maman is offering Simon more chips.
He says "Yes please" and that he likes chips.
Then he says "No thanks", he's had enough.
Marc is saying the food is delicious.

De

De often comes before le, la or les in French, as in encore de . . ? (some more . . ?). Before le and les it changes, as follows:

\[ \text{de + le} = \text{du} \]
\[ \text{de + la} = \text{de la} \]
\[ \text{de + l'} = \text{de l'} \]
\[ \text{de + les} = \text{des} \]
Your hobbies

These people are talking about their hobbies.

New words

- faire: to do
- faire de la peinture: to paint
- faire la cuisine: to cook
- le passe-temps: hobby
- bricoler: to make things
- danser: to dance
- lire: to read
- regarder la télé: to watch TV
- tricoter: to knit
- nager: to swim
- jouer: to play
- le sport: sport
- le football: football
- le tennis: tennis
- la musique: music
- écouter: to listen to
- l'instrument (m): instrument
- le violon: violin
- le piano: piano
- le soir: in the evening

faire (to make or do)

- je fais: I do
- tu fais: you do
- il/elle fait: he/she/it does
- nous faisons: we do
- vous faites: you do
- ils/elles font: they do

jouer à and jouer de

When you talk about playing a sport, you say jouer à, then the name of the sport. A + le becomes au, e.g. je joue au football (I play football).

To talk about playing an instrument, you say jouer de. Remember that de + le becomes du, e.g. je joue du piano (I play the piano).
The sporty type

Tu as des passe-temps?

J'aime le sport!

Je nage.

Je joue au football.

Et je joue au tennis.

Music lovers

Vous avez des passe-temps?

Oui, nous aimons écouter de la musique.

Vous jouez des instruments?

Et, moi, je joue du piano.

Oui, moi, je joue du violon.

What are they doing?

A

B

C

D

E

Cover up the rest of the page and see if you can say what all these people are doing in French, e.g. Il joue au football.

Can you say in French what your hobbies are?
Telling the time

Here you can find out how to tell the time in French. You can look up any numbers you don’t know on page 40.

There is no word for “past” in French; you just add the number of minutes to the hour: il est neuf heures cinq (it is five past nine). To say “five to” you say moins cinq (less five): il est neuf heures moins cinq (it is five to nine).

New words

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>quelle heure</td>
<td>what is the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>est-il</td>
<td>time?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>il est une</td>
<td>it is one</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>heure</td>
<td>o'clock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>il est deux</td>
<td>it is two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>heures</td>
<td>o'clock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>moins cinq</td>
<td>five to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>et quart</td>
<td>quarter past</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>moins le quart</td>
<td>quarter to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>et demie*</td>
<td>half past</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>midi</td>
<td>midday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>minuit</td>
<td>midnight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>du matin</td>
<td>in the morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>du soir</td>
<td>in the evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>à se lever</td>
<td>at</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>son</td>
<td>to get up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le petit</td>
<td>his/her</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>déjeuner</td>
<td>breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le déjeuner</td>
<td>lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le diner</td>
<td>supper, dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>il va</td>
<td>he goes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>à l'école</td>
<td>to school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>au lit</td>
<td>to bed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

aller (to go)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>je vais</td>
<td>I go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tu vas</td>
<td>you go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>il/elle va</td>
<td>he/she goes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nous allons</td>
<td>we go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vous allez</td>
<td>you go (pl)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ils/elles vont</td>
<td>they go</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What is the time?

Quelle heure est-il?
Il est une heure.

Quelle heure est-il?
Il est sept heures.

Here is how to ask what the time is.

The time is ...

Il est neuf heures cinq.
Il est neuf heures et quart.
Il est neuf heures et demi.
Il est dix heures moins le quart.
Il est dix heures moins cinq.
Il est midi/minuit.

What time of day?

Il est six heures du matin.
Il est six heures du soir.

*To say “half past twelve” you say midi/minuit et demi.
Marc's day

Read what Marc does throughout the day, then see if you can match each clock with the right picture. You can find out what the answers are on pages 44-45.

1. Marc se lève à sept heures et demie.*
2. Il mange son petit déjeuner à huit heures.
3. À neuf heures moins le quart, il va à l'école.
4. Il mange son déjeuner à midi et demi.
5. À deux heures dix il joue au football.
6. À cinq heures et quart il regarde la télé.
7. À six heures il mange son dîner.
8. Il va au lit à huit heures et demie.

What time is it?

Can you say in French what times these clocks show?

*Some verbs are formed from two parts. You can read about these on pages 42-43.
Arranging things

Here is how to arrange things with your friends.

New words

**Tennis**

**On va jouer au tennis?**

**Quand? Mardi?**

**Oui, d'accord. A mardi.**

**Swimming**

**On va à la piscine mercredi?**

**D'accord. L'après-midi?**

**Oui, vers trois heures?**

**Bon, très bien. A mercredi.**

**Going to the cinema**

**On va au cinéma ce soir?**

**Non, je ne peux pas.**

**Et demain? Vers huit heures?**

**A demain. Au revoir.**

**Days of the week**

- **dimanche** (Sunday)
- **lundi** (Monday)
- **mardi** (Tuesday)
- **mercredi** (Wednesday)
- **jeudi** (Thursday)
- **vendredi** (Friday)
- **samedi** (Saturday)

**New words**

- **on va . . ?** shall we go . . ?
- **quand?** when?
- **mardi** on Tuesday
- **le matin** in the morning
- **l'après-midi** in the afternoon
- **le soir** in the evening
- **la piscine** swimming pool
- **vers** at about
- **à mardi** until Tuesday
- **aujourd'hui** today
- **à demain** until tomorrow
- **ce soir** this evening
- **d'accord** O.K.
- **je ne peux pas** I can't
- **pas possible** that's no good
- **dommage** it's a pity!
- **aller à** to go to
- **le cinéma** cinema
- **la partie** party
Going to a party

Tu viens à ma partie?
C'est quand?
Samédi soir.
Dommage. Pas possible.
Samédi je vais danser.

Your diary for the week

Here is your diary, showing you what you are doing for a week. Read it, then see if you can answer the questions at the bottom of the page in French.

Qu'est-ce que tu fais vendredi?
Quand joues-tu au tennis?
Tu vas quand au cinéma?
Tu joues du piano jeudi?
Qu'est-ce que tu fais dimanche?
A quelle heure est la partie samedi?

à + le

When à comes before le, you say au instead: on va au cinéma? (shall we go to the cinema?)*

* You can find out more about this on pages 42-43.
Asking where places are

Here and on the next two pages you can find out how to ask your way around.

In French there are two words for “you” – tu and vous*. You say tu to friends, but it is more polite to say vous when you talk to adults you don’t know well.

New words

pardon    excuse me
je vous en prie not at all
ici       here
là-bas    over there
la poste   post office
sur la place in the market
place
l’hôtel    hotel
puis      then
tournez . . . turn . . .
il y a . . . ? is there . . . ?
près d’ici nearby
la rue     road, street
juste    just
cest loin?  is it far?
à cinq minutes five minutes
away
à pied    on foot
le supermarché supermarket
en face de opposite
à côté de next to
la banque bank
la pharmacie chemist’s

Directions

tout droit
toward right
à gauche toward left

Being polite

Pardon: Monsieur...

Merci.

Je vous en prie.

This is how to say “Excuse me”. Always add monsieur or madame.

Where is . . . ?

Pardon, où est la poste?

Là-bas, sur la place du marché.

When people thank you, it is polite to answer “Je vous en prie”.

Où est l’hôtel de la gare, s’il vous plaît?

Tournez à gauche ici, puis allez tout droit.

*tSee pages 42-43
Is there a... nearby?

Pardon, il y a un café près d'ici?

Oui, juste à gauche dans la rue Racine.

Non, à cinq minutes à pied.

Pardon, il y a un supermarché près d'ici?

Oui, là-bas en face de la banque.

Et il y a une pharmacie près d'ici?

Juste à côté du supermarché.

---

Other useful places to ask for

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>la gare</td>
<td>the station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>une station service</td>
<td>a petrol station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>les toilettes</td>
<td>toilets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>une boîte aux lettres</td>
<td>a letter box</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the station</td>
<td>a campsite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>une cabine téléphonique</td>
<td>the hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>une station service</td>
<td>a campsite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l'aéroport</td>
<td>a telephone box</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a letter box</td>
<td>a campsite</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Finding your way around

Here you can find out how to ask your way around and follow directions. When you have read everything, try the map puzzle on the opposite page.

Pardon, pour aller à la gare, s'il vous plaît?

Prenez la première à droite, puis la deuxième à gauche.

La gare est à droite.

Pour aller à l'auberge de jeunesse, s'il vous plaît?

Allez tout droit jusqu'à la gare...

Puis prenez la troisième rue à droite.

Pour aller au syndicat d'initiative, s'il vous plaît?

En voiture? Continuez tout droit...

Puis prenez la première rue à gauche.

*S'il vous plaît is the polite way to say "please".
New words

- **pour aller à?** how do I get to?
- **prenez . . .** take . . .
- **continuez . . .** carry on . . .
- **l'auberge de jeunesse (f)** youth hostel
- **le syndicat d'initiative** tourist office
- **jusqu'à** as far as
- **en voiture** by car
- **la première rue** the first street
- **la deuxième rue** the second street
- **la troisième rue** the third street
- **l'Hôtel de Ville** town hall
- **l'église(f)** church

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verbs</th>
<th>Meanings</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>prendre</td>
<td>to take</td>
<td>nous prenons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>je prends</td>
<td>I take</td>
<td>nous prenons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tu prends</td>
<td>you take</td>
<td>nous prenons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>il/elle prend</td>
<td>he/she takes</td>
<td>nous prenons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Finding your way around Beauville

- **la gare** train station
- **l'église** church
- **l'école** school
- **l'Hôtel de ville** hotel
- **le marché** market
- **les magasins** shops
- **la piscine** swimming pool
- **le café** café

How would you ask someone the way to the market place? How would you ask them if there is a café nearby? Ask how far it is.

Can you tell the person in the yellow car how to get to the church? Can you direct someone from the hotel to the market?

Where would these directions take the yellow car? Prenez la deuxième rue à gauche et c'est à droite.
Going shopping

Here and on the next two pages you can find out how to say what you want when you go shopping. When you go into a French shop you should say “Bonjour, madame” (or monsieur). If there are lots of people in there you say “Bonjour, messieurs, mesdames”.

Spending money

There are 100 centimes in a euro. On price labels, the symbol € is used after the price. For example, deux euros is written as 2€, and deux euros vingt as 2,20€. To understand prices you must know the numbers in French. They are listed on page 40.

New words

faire des courses to go shopping
acheter to buy
la boulangerie baker’s
l’épicerie grocer’s
la boucherie butcher’s
le lait milk
l’œuf(m) egg
le fruit piece of fruit
le légume vegetable
la viande meat
le petit pain bread roll
la pomme apple
tomate tomato
vous désirez? can I help you?
je voudrais I would like
oui, bien sûr with pleasure
cest tout? is that all?
et avec ça? anything else?
ça fait how much
combien? is that?
voilà there you are
un litre a litre
un kilo a kilo
une livre half a kilo
alors so, well then

Madame Delon fait des courses.

À la boulangerie

Bonjour, Madame. Bonjour, Madame.
Je voudrais quatre petits pains.

Oui, bien sûr. C’est tout?

Trois euros, s’il vous plaît.

Oui, merci. Ça fait combien?

Voilà! Merci!

*You can read about du, de la and de l’ on page 21.
Elle achète du lait et des oeufs à l’épicerie.

Elle achète des fruits et des légumes au marché.

Elle achète de la viande à la boucherie.

À l’épicerie

Vous désirez ?

Six oeufs, s’il vous plaît.

Et avec ça, Madame ?

Ça fait combien ?

Ça fait deux euros vingt.

À l’épicerie

Un litre de lait, s’il vous plaît.

Au marché

Bonjour, Madame. Vous désirez ?

Un kilo de pommes, s’il vous plaît.

Et avec ça ?

Une livre de tomates.

Alors, ça fait quatre euros.
More shopping and going to a café

Here you can find out how to ask how much things cost and how to order things in a café.

New words

côter  to cost
combien côte  how much is /coûtent? /are?
lacarte  postcard
postale  ... le kilo
... la pièce  ... each
larose  rose
donnezm'en  give me seven
sept  coffee
lecafé  the bill
l'addition(f)  grape
le raisin  orange
l'orange(f)  banana
labanane  pineapple
pl'ananas(m)  lemon
le citron  peach
la pêche  lemonade
labidonade  coca cola
le coca-cola  tea
l'éthé  with milk
au lait  with lemon
au citron  hot chocolate
un verredé  a glass of
une glace  ice cream

Asking how much things cost

Combien coûte cette carte postale?

Soixante centimes.

Deux euros trente le kilo.

Trois euros dix la pièce.

Alors, donnez-m'en sept, s'il vous plaît.

Going to a café

Vous désirez?

Un café, s'il vous plaît.

Voilà!

Merci.

L'addition, s'il vous plaît.

Ça fait trois euros.
Buying fruit

Everything on the fruit stall is marked with its name and price.

Look at the picture, then see if you can answer the questions below it.

How do you tell the stallholder you would like four lemons, a kilo of bananas and a pineapple? How much do each of these things cost?

Qu'est-ce qui coûte deux euros la pièce?
Qu'est-ce qui coûte deux euros dix le kilo?
Qu'est-ce qui coûte deux euros trente le kilo?
Qu'est-ce qui coûte quarante centimes?

Things to order

Here are some things you might want to order in a café.

Je voudrais...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>une limonade</td>
<td>lemonade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>un coca</td>
<td>coca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>un thé au lait</td>
<td>tea with milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>un thé au citron</td>
<td>tea with lemon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>un jus d'orange</td>
<td>orange juice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>un chocolat</td>
<td>chocolate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>un verre de lait</td>
<td>glass of milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>une glace</td>
<td>ice cream</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The months and seasons

Here you can learn what the seasons and months are called and find out how to say what the date is.

**New words**
- le mois  
- l'année  
- quelle est la date?  
- aujourd'hui  
- l'anniversaire(m)  
- month  
- year  
- what is the date?  
- today  
- birthday

**The seasons**
- le printemps  
- l'été(m)  
- l'automne(m)  
- l'hiver(m)  
- spring  
- summer  
- autumn  
- winter

**The months**
- janvier  
- février  
- mars  
- avril  
- mai  
- juin  
- juillet  
- août  
- septembre  
- octobre  
- novembre  
- décembre  
- January  
- February  
- March  
- April  
- May  
- June  
- July  
- August  
- September  
- October  
- November  
- December

**First, second, third . . .**

For "first" you say premier for *le* words and première for *la* words. For "second" and so on you addième to the number, e.g. deuxième. If the number ends in "e" you leave the "e" out, e.g. quatrième (fourth).

With dates you say le premier for "the first", but for all the other dates you just say le plus the number.

Can you say where the rest of the months come in the year?
What is the date?

Aujourd'hui c'est le trois mai.

Quelle est la date aujourd'hui?

Le premier janvier.

Writing the date

Paris, le 3 mai.

Here you can see how a date is written. You put le, the number and the month. For "the first" you put le 1er.

When is your birthday?

C'est quand ton anniversaire?

C'est le dix novembre.

Mon anniversaire est le douze février.

L'anniversaire de Simon est le huit juin.

When are their birthdays?

The dates of the children's birthdays are written below their pictures. Can you say in French when they are, e.g. L'anniversaire de Nicole est le deux avril.

Nicole

le 2 avril

Bertrand

le 21 juin

Hélène

le 18 octobre

Claire

le 31 août

Claude

le 3 mars

Roger

le 7 septembre
Colours and numbers

Colours are describing words, so you add "e" when they refer to a la word, unless they end in 'e'. Marron does not change and blanc becomes blanche.

The colours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Colour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>rouge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bleu(e)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jaune</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vert(e)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>noir(e)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>blanc(ne)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gris(e)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>marron</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What colour is it?

Cover the picture above and see if you can say what colour everything is in the painting. You should know all the words you need.*

Numbers

You count the 30s, 40s, 50s, 60s and 80s in the same way as 20-29. For 70-79 you add 10-19 to soixante (60) and for 90-99 you add 10-19 to quatre-vingts (80).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>French</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>un</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>deux</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>trois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>quatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>cinq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>six</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>huit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>neuf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>dix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>onze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>douze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>treize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>quatorze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>quinze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>seize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>dix-sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>dix-huit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>dix-neuf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>vingt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>vingt et un</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>vingt-deux</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>vingt-trois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>vingt-quatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>vingt-cinq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>vingt-six</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>vingt-sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>vingt-huit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>vingt-neuf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>trente</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>.......</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>quarante</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>cinquante</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>soixante</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>soixante-dix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>soixante et onze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>quatre-vingts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td>quatre-vingt-un</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>quatre-vingt-dix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91</td>
<td>quatre-vingt-onze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>cent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*"The sky" is le ciel.
Pronunciation Guide

In French many letters are pronounced differently from in English. The best way to learn to speak French is to listen carefully to French people and copy what they say, but here are some general points to help you.

Below is a list of letters, with a guide to how to pronounce each one. For each French sound we have shown an English word, or part of a word, which sounds like it. Read it out loud in a normal way to find out how to pronounce the French sound, then practise saying the examples shown beneath.

a
Often like the “a” sound in “cat”:
arriver, Paris, chat, mari

Like the “a” sound in “above”:
le, petit, regarder

é
Like the “ay” sound in “late”:
éte, café, thé

è
Like the “a” sound in “care”:
même, vous êtes

i
Like the “i” in “machine”:
il, dix, police, ville

o
Like the “o” in “holiday”:
fromage, pomme

Round your lips as if to say “oo”,
then try to say “ee”:
du, une, plus, musique

eau, au
Like the “oa” sound in “toast”:
eau, beau, gauche, château

eu
Like the “u” sound in “fur”:
deux, bleu, cheveux

ou
Like the “oo” sound in “food”:
ou, tout, beaucoup

oi
Like the “wa” sound in “whack”:
voix, poisson, boîte

un
Like the “u” sound in “sun”.
You do not pronounce the “n”:
un, chacun

in, ain, im
Like the “an” sound in “rang”
without the “g” at the end:
vin, prince, impossible, train

Before “i” or “e” it sounds like the “s” in “sun”:
merci, France, certain

Before other letters it sounds like the “c” in “cat”:
café, coton, crabe

ç
Like the “s” in “sun”:
garçon, français

ch
Like the “sh” sound in “shirt”:
cochon, vache, chanter, Charles

Before “i” or “e” it sounds like the “s” sound in “measure”:
gendarme, girafe, âge

Before other letters it is like the “g” in “get”:
grand, gare, guitarre

gn
Like the “ni” sound in “onion”:
campagne, montagne

j
Like the soft “g” in girafe above:
bonjour, jeune

Like the “t” in “top”:
thé, théâtre

qu
Like the “k” sound in “kettle”:
question, musique

This is not pronounced:
histoire, hôpital, hôtel

A consonant at the end of a French word is not usually pronounced: français, petit, les, tout.
Grammar

Grammar is like a set of rules about how you put words together and it is different for every language. You will find French easier if you learn some of its grammar, but don’t worry if you don’t understand all of it straightaway. Just read a little about it at a time. This is a summary of the grammar used in this book.

le, la, l’

In French every noun is masculine (m) or feminine (f). The word you use for “the” shows whether the noun is masculine or feminine and whether singular or plural. The word for “the” is le before masculine nouns, la before feminine nouns and l’ before nouns beginning with a vowel:

| le livre       | the book     |
| la maison     | the house    |
| l’arbre (m)   | the tree     |

les

When you are talking about more than one thing the word for “the” is always les:

| les livres    | the books    |
| les maisons  | the houses   |
| les arbres   | the trees    |

You add “s” to most nouns to make the plural, but you don’t pronounce it. Some plurals are formed differently and they are shown in brackets in the glossary on page 46.

au, aux

If le comes after à, they join together and become au:

Il est au cinéma He is at the cinema.

à + les becomes aux:

la tarte aux fruits fruit tart

du, des

If le comes after de, they join together and become du:

le prix du pain the price of the bread
de + les becomes des:

le prix des oeufs the price of the eggs

un, une

The word for “a” or “an” is un before masculine nouns and une before feminine nouns:

| un livre      | a book       |
| une maison    | a house      |
| un arbre      | a tree       |

some, any

The word for “some” or “any” is du before le words, de la before la words, de l’ before nouns beginning with a vowel and des before plurals. The French often say “some” where there is nothing in English:

Il mange du pain. He is eating bread.

Adjectives

An adjective is a describing word. French adjectives change their endings depending on whether they are describing a masculine or feminine word, and whether the word is singular or plural. In the word lists the masculine singular adjective is shown. You usually add “e” to this to make it feminine, unless it already ends in “e”:

| il est petit     | he is small     |
| elle est petite  | she is small    |

You usually add “s” to an adjective to make it plural:

| ils sont petits | they (m) are small |
| elles sont petites | they (f) are small |
My, your

The word for “my” or “your” depends on whether the word that follows it is masculine or feminine, singular or plural:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>mon/ton livre</th>
<th>ma/ta maison</th>
<th>mes/tes frères</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>my/your book</td>
<td>my/your house</td>
<td>my/your brothers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pronouns

There are two words for “you” in French: tu and vous. You say tu to friends and vous when you want to be polite, or when you are talking to someone you don’t know well, or more than one person. There are two words for “it”: il for le words and elle for la words. There are also two words for “they”: ils for boys, men and le words and elles for girls, women and la words. For masculine and feminine things together, you say ils.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>l</th>
<th>je</th>
<th>he/it (m)</th>
<th>il</th>
<th>we</th>
<th>nous</th>
<th>they (m)</th>
<th>ils</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>you</td>
<td>tu</td>
<td>she/it (f)</td>
<td>elle</td>
<td>you</td>
<td>vous</td>
<td>they (f)</td>
<td>elles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Verbs

French verbs (doing words) change according to who is doing the action. Most of them follow regular patterns and have the same endings. The main type of verb used in this book ends in er, like manger (to eat). You can see what the different endings are on the right. There are some verbs in this book which do not follow this pattern, e.g. avoir, être and aller. It is best to learn them as you go along.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>manger</th>
<th>to eat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>je mange</td>
<td>I eat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tu manges</td>
<td>you eat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>il/elle mange</td>
<td>he/she/it eats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nous mangeons</td>
<td>we eat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vous mangez</td>
<td>you eat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ils/elles mangent</td>
<td>they eat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ne . . . pas

To make a verb negative in French, e.g. to say “I do not . . .”, “he does not . . .” etc., you put ne immediately before the verb and pas immediately after it. Ne becomes n’ if the verb begins with a vowel:

Je ne parle pas français.
I do not speak French.

Il n’aime pas le jambon.
He does not like ham.

Reflexive verbs

These are verbs which always have a special pronoun in front of them. Where in English we say “I get up”, the French say “I get myself up”. The pronoun changes according to who is doing the action, but me always goes with je and te with tu etc., as you can see on the right. Me becomes m’ and te becomes t’ if the verb begins with a vowel: je m’appelle (I am called), tu t’appelles (you are called).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>se lever</th>
<th>to get up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>je me lève</td>
<td>I get up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tu te lèves</td>
<td>you get up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>il/elle se lève</td>
<td>he/she/it gets up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nous nous levons</td>
<td>we get up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vous vous levez</td>
<td>you get up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ils/elles se lèvent</td>
<td>they get up</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Answers to puzzles

p.5

How are you?
The two people on the far right.

p.7

What are they called?
Il s’appelle Pierre.
Elle s’appelle Marie.
Ils s’appellent Paul et Jean.
Je m’appelle (your name).

Who is who?
Michel is talking to Jean.
Anne is talking to Pascale.
Michel is next to the seal.
Jean is talking to him.
Anne is in the bottom left-hand corner.
The man talking to Nicolas is going home.

Can you remember?
Comment tu t’appelles?
Je m’appelle . . .
C’est mon amie. Elle s’appelle Pascale.
Mon ami s’appelle Daniel.

p.9

Can you remember?
la/une fleur, le/un chat, l’/un arbre, le/un nid,
l’/un oiseau, le/un toit, le soleil, la/une fenêtre,
la/une voiture, le/un chien

p.11

Who comes from where?
Franz comes from Austria.
They are called Hari and Indira.
Lolita is Spanish.
Yes, Angus comes from Scotland.
Marie and Pierre come from France.
Yuri lives in Budapest.
Budapest is in Hungary.

Can you remember?
Tu viens d’où? Je viens de . . .
Je parle français. Tu parles français?

p.13

How old are they?
Michel is 13. Diane and Sylvie are 15. Guy is 12.
Odile is 11. Luc is 9. Colette is 5.

How many brothers and sisters?
A = Diane et Sylvie. B = Luc. C = Michel.
D = Guy. E = Odile.

p.17

Where is everyone?
Simon est dans la cuisine.
Pépé est dans la salle à manger.
Maman est dans la chambre.
Pierre est dans la salle de bains.
Isabelle est en haut.
Le fantôme est dans la chambre d’Isabelle.
Mémé est dans le salon.

Dans le salon.
Dans la chambre d’Isabelle.
Dans la salle à manger.
Dans la salle de bains.

Can you remember?
Tu habites où?
Tu habites une maison ou un appartement?
à la campagne
en ville
Je suis en haut.
Je suis dans la cuisine.

p.19

Where are they hiding?
Le hamster est dans le vase.
Le petit chat est derrière la télévision.
Le petit chien est dans le placard.
La perruche est sur le rayon.
Le serpent est derrière le canapé.
La tortue est à côté du téléphone.
Who likes what?

Who is saying what?
"J'ai faim."
"Bon appétit."
"Sers-toi."
"Peux-tu me passer un verre?"
"Veux-tu encore des pommes frites?"
"Oui, merci. J'aime les pommes frites."
"Non, merci. J'ai assez mangé."
"C'est délicieux."

What are they doing?
D Elle joue du violon. E Il fait de la peinture.

Marc's day
1b, 2e, 3f, 4a, 5h, 6g, 7d, 8c.

What time is it?
A Il est trois heures cinq.
B Il est onze heures cinq.
C Il est neuf heures moins dix.
D Il est quatre heures moins le quart.
E Il est trois heures vingt-cinq.
F Il est sept heures et demie.
G Il est trois heures.
H Il est quatre heures.
I Il est neuf heures.
J Il est une heure et demie.
K Il est sept heures cinq.
L Il est dix heures et demie.
M Il est six heures.
N Il est quatre heures moins vingt-cinq.
O Il est deux heures moins cinq.

Vendredi soir je vais danser avec Boris.
Je joue au tennis lundi, mercredi et dimanche.

Pour aller à la place du marché, s'il vous plaît?
Pardon, il y a un café près d'ici?
C'est loin?
Prenez la troisième à gauche, puis allez tout droit.
Prenez la troisième à droite, puis allez tout droit. Le marché est à gauche.

To the school.

Je voudrais quatre citrons, un kilo de bananes et un ananas.
Quatre citrons coûtent un euro soixante.
Un kilo de bananes coûte un euro soixante-dix.
Un ananas coûte deux euros.

un ananas. les pêches. le raisin. un citron.

L'anniversaire de Bertrand est le vingt et un juin.
L'anniversaire d'Hélène est le dix-huit octobre.
L'anniversaire de Claire est le trente et un août.
L'anniversaire de Claude est le trois mars.
L'anniversaire de Roger est le sept septembre.

La rue est grise.
Le soleil est jaune.
Le toit est orange.
Le ciel est bleu.
Les fleurs sont roses.
Le chien est marron.
L'oiseau est noir.
La voiture est rouge.
Les arbres sont verts.
La maison est blanche.
Glossary

Adjectives are shown in their masculine singular form. You just add "e" to make them feminine. The feminine form is only shown as well when it is different from usual. Irregular plurals are shown in brackets next to the letters "pl".

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French Word</th>
<th>English Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>à</td>
<td>at, to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>à bientôt</td>
<td>see you soon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>à côté de</td>
<td>next to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>à droite</td>
<td>on the right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>à gauche</td>
<td>on the left</td>
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<td>à la campagne</td>
<td>in the country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>à peu près</td>
<td>about</td>
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<td>à pied</td>
<td>on foot</td>
</tr>
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<td>acheter</td>
<td>to buy</td>
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<td>l'addition</td>
<td>bill</td>
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<td>affectueux, affectueuse</td>
<td>friendly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l'Afrique</td>
<td>Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aimer</td>
<td>to like</td>
</tr>
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<td>l'Allemagne</td>
<td>Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td>allemand</td>
<td>German</td>
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<tr>
<td>aller</td>
<td>to go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alors</td>
<td>then</td>
</tr>
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<td>l'ami (m), l'ami (f)</td>
<td>friend</td>
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<td>l'ananas (m)</td>
<td>pineapple</td>
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<td>anglais</td>
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<td>England</td>
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<td>l'année (f)</td>
<td>year</td>
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<td>August</td>
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<td>l'appartement (m)</td>
<td>flat</td>
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<td>l'après-midi (m)</td>
<td>afternoon</td>
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<td>tree</td>
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<td>l'armoire (f)</td>
<td>wardrobe</td>
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<td>assez</td>
<td>enough, quite</td>
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<td>youth hostel</td>
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<td>by the sea</td>
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<td>today</td>
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<td>au revoir</td>
<td>Goodbye</td>
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<td>aussi</td>
<td>also, too</td>
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<td>to be . . . years old</td>
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<td>fence</td>
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<td>a lot, much, many</td>
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<td>good, well</td>
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<td>of course</td>
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<td>steak</td>
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<td>blanc, blanche</td>
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<td>blue</td>
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<td>blond</td>
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<td>bon appétit!</td>
<td>Enjoy your meal!</td>
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<td>bonjour</td>
<td>Hello</td>
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<td>bonne nuit</td>
<td>Good Night</td>
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<td>how are you?</td>
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<td>ce, cette</td>
<td>this, that</td>
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<td>what is your name?</td>
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<td>supper, dinner</td>
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<td>it's a pity!</td>
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<td>from where?</td>
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<td>du soir</td>
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<td>in the town</td>
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<td>French Word</td>
<td>English Translation</td>
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<td>ici</td>
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<td>il n'y a pas de quoi</td>
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<td>Mr., sir</td>
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<td>egg</td>
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<td>or</td>
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<td>yes</td>
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<td>papa</td>
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pardon
les parents
parler
pas du tout
pas possible
le passe-temps
la pêche
pépé
le père
la perruche
petit
le petit chat
le petit chien
le petit déjeuner
le petit pain
la pharmacie
le piano
la pièce
la pizza
le placard
la place du marché
la plante
le poisson
la pomme
les pommes frites
la porte
la poste
premier, première
prendre
près d'ici
presque
le printemps
puis
quand?
quel, quelle
quelque chose
qui?
là quiche
le raisin
le rayon
regarder
le rideau
le riz
rose
la rose
rouge
la rue
la salade
la salle à manger
la salle de bains
le salon
Salut!
samedi
la saucisse
se lever
le serpent
s'il te plaît
s'il vous plaît
la soeur
le soleil
le soir
son, sa, ses
sous
les spaghetti (m. pl.)
le sport
la station service
le supermarché
sur
le syndicat d'initiative
la table
la tante
le tapis
la tarte aux fruits
le téléphone
la télévision
le tennis
le thé
le toit
la toilette
la tomate
ton, ta, tes
toujours
tourner
tout droit
la tortue
très
tricoter
troisième
trouver
un, une
le vase
vendre
vendredi
venir de
le verre
vert
le vestibule
veux-tu . . . ?
la viande
vieux, vieille
le violon
voici!
voilà!
la voiture

Excuse me
parents
to speak
not at all
that's no good
hobby
peach
Grandad
father
budgie
small
kitten
puppy
breakfast
bread roll
chemist's piano
piano
each (one)
piuzz
cupboard
market place
plant
fish
apple
chips
doors
post office
first
to take
nearby
almost
spring
then
when?
what
something
who?
quiche
grape
bookshelf
to watch
curtain
rice
pink
rose
red
street
salad
dining room
bathroom
living room
Hi!, Hello
Saturday
sausage
to get up
snake
please
please (polite)
sister
sun
evening
his, her, its
under
spaghetti
sport
petrol station
supermarket
on top of
tourist office

Table
aunt
carpet
fruit tart
telephone
television
tennis
tea
roof
toilet
tomato
your (sing.)
always
to turn
straight ahead
tortoise
very
to knit
third
to find

A, an
vase
to sell
Friday
to come from
glass
green
hall
would you like . . . ?
meat
old
violin
here is . . . !
there is . . .!
car
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