Hello and Welcome!

Yes, anyone can speak... practically every language! We'll try to make it as easy and enjoyable as possible for you. Our goal is modest ... to give you a chance to become familiar with basic words and common sentences, so that you can already understand what people want from you and even chat a bit, or at least say the right thing at the right time. That's something, isn't it!

You'll do most of it yourself by listening to the language, reading the text and of course repeating what you hear. That's why every word and every sentence is repeated twice... to give you a chance to read... to absorb... and to speak! And by the way, if it doesn't work for you the first time, it will work the second time or maybe the third. Practice as often as you want! The most important thing is never to be afraid to talk. Ok, so others will guess it's not your native language... so what? Language brings people together, and people always appreciate it when you try to speak their language, even if you make mistakes.

We're learning to speak and to express ourselves, because it's important to tell the person we're talking to what we mean and what we want. The English translations of the sentences I read are not always a literal translation of the words, but they are certainly sufficient to get the message across.

We have also tried to be politically correct when it comes to masculine and feminine forms, though sometimes giving all the possibilities in every sentence makes learning more burdensome. In any case, the language is meant both for males and for females, and if here and there only the masculine form is used, it's just to make learning and reading easier.

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OK. Let's start our journey together by learning the word "yes."..



1. Things you need to know

Les must

1.

Yes, it's great to begin with a word of agreement: Yes
Oui

2. After saying "yes", sometimes there's no choice but to say "no"... From the tone you can tell that no means No!

Non

3

Now that we've mastered "yes" and "no", it's time to ask for something, and say **Please**

S'il vous plaît

4.

If we get what we asked for, we probably want to say thanks: you can just say **Thank You**

Merci

5.

And you can also add emphasis by saying **Thanks a Lot**Merci beaucoup / Merci bien

Usually you'll get a standard response, such as "my pleasure", "no problem", or a modest response like: You're welcome

De rien

7.

Now we already know how to put words together and say: **Yes**, **please**

Oui, merci

8.

Or: No, thank you

Non, merci

"Excuse me" is an interesting phrase. When we want to be polite, get someone's attention, make a comment, ask for something, the correct phrase is "excuse me". For example, "Excuse me please, you're stepping on my foot!" – Excuse me

Excusez-moi, Pardon

10.

There is also a way to ask for forgiveness – "Ooh, I beg your pardon, I didn't mean it!" If we accidently hurt someone, we can say I beg your pardon

Pardon

When we want to express true sorrow or to apologize, the appropriate phrase is: **Sorry**

Je regrette

And when everything is fine, you can say: It's okay

Ce n'est rien

13.

12.

Moving on to some "dating phrases". The first word you'll probably say at the beginning of the date is: **Hello Bonjour!** / **Salut!**

14.

And when you part ways? It's always nice to say, I had a great time, hope to see you soon, **Goodbye**

Au revoir

15.

Sometimes you do want to see that person again, and sometimes you say "see you" just to be polite... in either case, we say: **See** you

À bientôt!

16.

I wonder why almost every language has a special greeting for mornings. When you meet someone in the morning, you say: **Good morning!**

Bonjour!

17.

And there is also a special greeting for the afternoon: **Good afternoon!**

Bon après-midi!

18.

When you meet someone in the evening, you say: **Good** evening!

Bonsoir / Bonne soirée!

19.

And at night, when you are ready to go to sleep, you guessed right! – we say **Good night!**

Bonne nuit!

20.

After a good night's sleep, we're ready to start the new day. Or maybe we want to welcome a guest, or maybe someone is happy to meet us and says: "Good to see you... **Welcome!**"

Bienvenue!

21.

When people meet each other, they usually exchange "small talk". They aren't always interested in a specific answer, but they show interest: What's new?

Que devenez-vous?

22

How are you today?

Comment allez-vous aujourd'hui?

23.

Some people simply ask, How are you doing today?

Most people expect a polite answer and not a list of complaints...

You can simply say: Fine, thanks

Ça va bien merci

25.

Everything's fine with me. What about you?

Chez moi tout va bien, et chez vous?

26.

And if everything was okay, or at least no one complained, you can say politely: I enjoyed myself, I had a lovely time

C'était très agréable

27.

And your host will probably reply: "It's my pleasure".

Yes, it's always a good idea to be polite... It's my pleasure

Le plaisir est pour moi

28.

And so, continuing to be polite, let us part by saying: I wish you...

Je yous souhaite...

29.

You could also say "best wishes", or "all the best", and maybe even wish someone **Good luck**

bonne chance

30.

You could, of course, add a little more detail, such as: **Good** health and happiness

beaucoup de bonheur et une bonne santé

31.

And there's also **Happy Holiday**une bonne fête

32.

And of course Happy New Year une bonne année

33.

Another way of saying goodbye is **Bon voyage**bon voyage

34.

Hey, kid, how old are you?! Happy birthday un joyeux anniversaire

35.

And to mark a wedding anniversary, you would say **Happy** anniversary

un joyeux anniversaire de mariage

36.

Have a good time, Enjoy your stay un bon séjour

une bonne journée!

38.

And you could always add this greeting: All the best bien des choses!





2. Starting to Speak

Pour commencer

39.

[2] In a foreign country and unfamiliar surroundings you need words to ask questions ... to find out how and where and what and who and when... OK so let's learn some question words:

When something isn't clear, or you didn't hear or understand, just ask: **What?**

Comment ? / Quoi ?

40.

Or you might want to know: Who?

Qui?

41.

Let's learn some useful pronouns, so we'll be able to introduce ourselves or talk about our friends. First there's I or me:

mo

42.

Then there's you in the singular.

toi

43.

And what about us or we?

nous

44.

And you in the plural.

vous

45.

Then there's the third person: **he** and **she** or **him** and **her** lui [elle]

46.

And them

eux [elles]

47.

What about everybody?

tous [toutes]

48.

Or nobody?..

personne

49.

Let's talk a bit about time, a topic we'll talk about later as well. Our first word is the question: **When?**

Quand?

There are lots of possible answers to the question "When?" If I don't know the exact time, I can give an answer relative to something else: "Before the trip" or "After the meal." Let's start with **before**

avant

51.

And go on to after

après

52.

When some people ask "When?" they hope the answer will be right away, **now**

maintenant

53.

Then there are those people who always put things off until **later**plus tard

54.

If not now, when? When will it be? Will it be sooner or will it be later? **sooner**

prochainement

55. or **later**

plus tard

56.

You probably want to get to more complex sentences... **not yet...**pas encore / bientôt

57.

If you're impatient you'll say, "now or never!" If you have no faith you'll say, "no way, it will never happen to me!" And if you like to complain you'll say, "Darn it! It always happens to me!" always toujours

58.

Compared to never

jamais

59.

Can I take a break? Just a minute. I'll be right back... Just a minute!

un moment!

60.

Let's go over some other useful question words. "How I am doing?" **How?**

Comment?

61.

Why is it so hot in the summer? Why? Pourquoi?

What's on top of the table? And what are you hiding underneath? on top of

sur

and underneath

74.

sous

Here's another question word to help you make up your mind. For example, when you go shopping the salesperson may ask which item you want to buy. Which one?

Quel / Quelle ?

76

Now we can start confusing the salesperson: "This one! No, that one, the one over there!" Soon we'll know the words for colors to make things easier... but in the meantime: **this one**

celui-ci / celle-ci

77.

Or that one

celui-là / celle-là

78.

And in the plural: "Actually I want those.": those ceux-ci / ceux-là





3. How Much, How Many?

La juste mesure

79.

Let's learn a few words for sizes and amounts. "How much water is in the bottle?" (Not very much...) "How much money is in your wallet?" (Not enough...) "How many sugars do you take in your coffee?" (a few more..." How much food did you bring?" (Lots!) You're right, these questions all begin with **How much / How many?**

Combien?

80.

"How much?" is often short for "How much does it cost?" Though between you and me, everything here is beautiful, but at these prices... you're out of your mind!.. I'm not buying anything. Nothing! nothing

rien

81.

Compared to: everything

tous / tout

82.

We bought a little and we paid a lot: a little un peu

83.

or a lot

beaucoup

84.

The salesperson said it cost him more... Get real, usually salespeople pay less and we pay more. That's the nature of commerce... **less**

moins

85.

compared to more

plus

86.

Do you want to go up to the top of the tower? Sorry... I'm staying down here. I've had enough. I've climbed too many stairs today already. **enough**

ça suffit

87.

Compared to too much

c'est trop

88.

They're going up the tower and I'm staying here. I want to do just a bit more shopping... a bit more

It will take them around half an hour, not exactly but about... **around, about**

à peu près

90.

Wait, let me count. How much change do I have left? Is it enough for coffee and cake? I think so, more or less

plus ou moins

91.

I'm sitting in the café, with all my purchases in front of me. I was sure I'd bought a lot more. **Is that all?**

c'est tout?

92.

For today, that's enough!

ça suffit!

93.

They're back from the tower. How was it? Was it especially nice? ... Too bad you missed it, they say. **Really?..**

Vraiment...?

94.

Maybe I'll come back tomorrow morning. Maybe peut-être

95.

Is it possible to take a shortcut and get there from this street? Sure it's possible. What do you mean? It's impossible. Note the difference: **possible**

c'est possible

96.

compared to Impossible

c'est impossible

97.

Are you certain? Yes, Sure

certainement

98.

As always, you're right ... Of course!
bien entendu!

99.

Sure, no doubt. Certainly!

absolument!

100.

I think there's no way this can be even considered. **No way!**Jamais de la vie!



4. Common Questions

Questions courantes

Tourists usually have a list of prepared questions. You can get along very well with these questions, provided you can understand the answers. So let's get started.

We're nobody's fools and we've brought money for shopping, so what we want to know is: **How much does it cost?**

C'est combien?

102.

But we also want to do some touring. Can you go there on foot or do you need to take the bus? **How far is it to...?**

À quelle distance se trouve...?

103.

Do I have enough time? When does it open?

À quelle heure ouvre-t-on?

104.

When does it close?

À quelle heure ferme-t-on?

105.

Can someone here kindly tell me: What time is it?

Quelle heure est-il?

106.

I've never seen anything as interesting as this. What is this?

Qu'est-ce que c'est?

107.

When you can't manage on your own, you can always ask someone: Can you tell me...?

Pouvez-vous me dire...?

108.

Here's another useful opening for a request question: Can I please have...? For example, a menu or the check or anything else you might want: Can I please have...?

S'il vous plaît, je voudrais...?

109.

This isn't what I'm looking for. I know what I need... **Do you have...?**

Avez-vous...?

110.

There's something I like in the shop window... Can you show it to me please? Can you show me...?

Pourriez-vous me montrer...?

Just a moment. I'm a bit lost. What is that over there? Where am I? I'd better ask someone. Where am I?

Où suis-je?

112.

Here's a word I don't understand. What does this word mean? What does... mean?

Qu'est-ce que cela veut dire...?

113.

I thought I'd be able to find my way more easily, but I got mixed up and I'm having trouble figuring out where I am. I'll ask for help. Excuse me... Can you help me please?

Pouvez-vous m'aider, s'il vous plaît?

114.

Someone here noticed I was a bit confused and offered me help: "May I help you?" In stores, you are often asked the same question: "May I help you?"

Puis-je vous aider?





5. Important Words

Mots importants

115.

Every language has its "little words" - prepositions and conjunctions - that are in almost every sentence. There's no avoiding it - you have to know them. True, they can't be picked up just like that, and they usually have different meanings in different contexts. But we're not going to give in just because learning these words is hard, because without them ... you cannot speak!

116

First of all, there's the definite article "the" used when we're referring to something specific: I read a book, but <u>the</u> book you gave me was really good; <u>the</u> hotel where we're staying is far; <u>the</u> trip was interesting; <u>the</u> coffee is hot: **the**

le / la / les

117.

Then there's the coordinating conjunction <u>and</u> for great combinations such as coffee <u>and</u> cake: <u>and</u>

et

118.

Hello! Yes, we're <u>in</u> our hotel room: in à, en, dans

119.

Call us tonight at the hotel: at

à

120.

We're going to my sister. She's been living there for two years: to vers

121.

Where are you from? We are from the USA. from

de / du

122.

It'll take us about an hour: about

environ

123.

We need to go back. I left my glasses on the table at the restaurant... on

sur

124.

But why does this keep happening to me... but mais

```
What do you prefer? Coffee or tea? hot or cold? or
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I <u>only</u> drink tea. **only**

seulement

127.

I also like tea. But I drink coffee too: also / too

128.

Little Red Riding Hood went for a walk in the woods. Then the wolf showed up... and then he asked her... then

129.

I heard that story, and since then I've been worried about my grandmother... since then

depuis

130.

I was really in suspense until the hunter showed up... until jusqu'à

131.

On this diet, you don't eat ice cream during the week, only on the weekend... during

pendant

132.

The museum is near the hotel. And the hotel is close to the museum: near, close to

à côté / près

133.

They may be close... but my car broke down between the museum and the hotel: between

entre

134.

Now let's learn a few useful words related to what we have and what we don't have: I have

J'ai

135.

Compared to: I don't have

Je n'ai pas

136.

This watch is mine: mine

mon / ma

137.

It was mine, but now it's yours: yours

ton / ta

138.

This car is ours: ours

Wait, this is really an important verb. Let's go over it again: I have j'ai

140.

He has a boyfriend. Does he have a girlfriend? He has

141.

Does she have a boyfriend? Yes, **she has** elle a

142.

Luckily, we have a bit of money: We have nous avons

143.

Let's review again. What's the opposite of "I have"?... I don't have

je n'ai pas

144.

This isn't mine... Excuse me, is this yours? Excuse me, is this yours?

Excusez-moi, c'est à vous ?

145.

What are you talking about?.. No, it's not mine. No, it's not mine Non, ce n'est pas à moi

146

I've lost my shoe. Does anyone know where my shoe is? Where's my...?

Où est mon / ma...?

147.

Not every Cinderella has a Prince Charming to find her shoe. In most cases the answer is: "I don't know where your shoe is" or "I have no idea!" I don't know!

Je ne sais pas!



6. Adjectives

Les adjectifs

148.

Adjectives help us describe nouns... sometimes according to our own taste – beautiful or ugly – and sometimes according to their attributes: large or small, dark or light, young or old.

149.

Is it cold or hot there? Do I need to wear long sleeves or short sleeves? **long**

long [longue]

150.

Or short

court [courte]

151.

He's tall and I'm short, but it's okay. We're a good match... tall haut [haute]

152.

or short

bas [basse]

153.

We packed a big suitcase and a small bag. big / large grand [grande]

154.

compared to small / little

petit [petite]

155

My bag is already old. I've decided to buy a new one on this trip. **new**

nouveau [nouvelle]

156.

compared to old

vieux [vieille]

157.

Sir, how do you take your coffee? **strong fort [forte]**

158.

or maybe weak

faible

159.

It's hot during the day and cold at night. During the day it's **hot**chaud [chaude]

160. and at night it's cold froid [froide] 161. The book was good, but the movie was bad... The book was bon [bonne] 162. but unfortunately the movie was bad mauvais [mauvaise] We eat together at the restaurant, but when it comes to paying, we each get a separate bill: together ensemble 164. but separate when it comes to money... separate seul [seule] 165. How can you explain the concept of right and left to children who don't wear wristwatches? right droite 166.

or left

gauche

167.

Now I'll try to speak like the GPS: "Turn to the right at the traffic circle. Then turn to the left at the traffic light..." to the right à droite

168.

and then turn to the left

à gauche

169.

When it comes to preferences, as the saying goes, "different strokes for different folks..." Yet it seems to me that we know what's beautiful and what's ugly. **beautiful**

beau [belle]

170.

and ugly

laid [laide]

171.

Strange... some people think that expensive clothes are prettier... **expensive**

cher [chère]

172.

I prefer... cheap

pas cher [pas chère]

173.

foncé [foncée]

174.

compared to light

clair [claire]

175.

Were you ever told that you must wait an hour after eating before swimming? Well, today we know that's just an old wives' tale. You don't need to wait to digest your lunch before you go swimming. Swimming on a full stomach will not cause cramps.... before

avant

176.

or after

après

177

I want you to line up in a row. The first person should stand in front of the second, and the third should stand behind the second and in front of the fourth, and so on... in front of

avant

178.

or **behind**

après

179.

All the cars are going fast on this superhighway. What's a slow car doing here? **fast**

rapide

180.

compared to slow

lent [lente]

181.

Am I speaking too quickly? I'll try to speak more slowly and to emphasize every word... **quickly**

vite

182.

as opposed to slowly

lentement

183.

My guests left late. Too bad they didn't leave... early tôt

184.

They left... late

tard

185.

Excuse me, is smoking permitted here? No way.. smoking's forbidden! **permitted**

permis

```
186.
The opposite of permitted: forbidden
 187.
I got the car with a full tank of gas, but I returned it empty... full
                            plein [pleine]
 188.
but I returned it empty
                                vide
 189.
What's right is right! right
                           exact [exacte]
 190.
Or wrong
                            faux [fausse]
 191.
Is your room clean? Ours is still dirty! The room is clean
                               propre
 192.
The room is dirty
                                sale
 193.
I brought a gift but without a card... with
                                avec
 194.
compared to without
                                sans
 195.
Is the restroom on the plane vacant?
                                libre
 196.
It was vacant before, but now you'll have to wait. It's occupied
                         occupé [occupée]
 197.
The restaurant is closed. I can't wait until it's open. open
                          ouvert [ouverte]
 198.
But now it's closed
                           fermé [fermée]
 199.
Old people have interesting stories, but young people don't have the
patience to listen... young
                                jeune
```

200. old

vieux [vieille]

21

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202.
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OK, I saw it. You can go forward

avant

203.

Don't you get it? Is it complicated for you? I'll explain once more, and you'll see that it's simple... **simple**

simple

204.

You only thought it was complicated compliqué [compliquée]

205.

Can't you hear me? You're standing too far away. Come stand near me and you'll hear every word... near

près

206.

or far

loin

207.

What's better? One heavy suitcase or two light ones? light léger [légère]

208.

Or heavy

lourd [lourde]

209

Tell the truth. So far has it been easy or difficult? easy facile

210.

It really wasn't difficult

difficile

211.

This towel is wet? Can I have a dry towel? wet mouillé [mouillée]

212.

I prefer dry

sec [sèche]

213.

Who hasn't seen movies about a fat guy and a skinny guy? fat gros [grosse]

214.

skinny

mince



7. Numbers

Les chiffres

Knowing how to count and recognize numbers is basic in any language. Let's learn together. We'll start with examples and our fingers, and when we run out of fingers we'll count out loud together.

216.

Zero is round, made by placing your thumb against your index finger: **zero**

zéro

217.

They say that 'one bad apple spoils the barrel': **one**un [une]

218.

How many legs? Two. How many eyes? two deux

219.

Two's company but three's a crowd. three trois

220.

Someone who wears glasses is called "four eyes": **four quatre**

221.

People usually have five fingers on each hand: five cinq

222.

six

six

223.

seven

sept

224.

eight

huit

225.

nine

neuf

226.

ten

dix

```
227.
Before we go on... let's repeat the numbers one through ten!
     un, deux, trois, quatre, cinq, six, sept, huit, neuf... dix!
OK let's go on: eleven
                               onze
 229.
twelve
                               douze
 230.
thirteen
                               treize
 231.
fourteen
                             quatorze
 232.
fifteen
                              quinze
 233.
sixteen
                               seize
 234.
seventeen
                              dix-sept
 235.
eighteen
                              dix-huit
 236.
nineteen
                              dix-neuf
 237.
This is easy, right? OK, let's go on: twenty
                               vingt
 238.
And, naturally: twenty-one
                            vingt et un
 239.
twenty-two
                            vingt-deux
 240.
twenty-three
                             vingt-trois
 241.
```

vingt-quatre

twenty-four

```
twenty-five
                            vingt-cinq
 243.
twenty-six
                            vingt-six
 244.
twenty-seven
                            vingt-sept
 245.
twenty-eight
                            vingt-huit
 246.
twenty-nine
                            vingt-neuf
 247.
OK, let's move on to the multiples of ten: thirty
                              trente
 248.
forty
                            quarante
 249.
fifty
                            cinquante
 250.
sixty
                            soixante
 251.
seventy
                           soixante-dix
 252.
eighty
                          quatre-vingts
 253.
ninety
                         quatre-vingt-dix
 254.
And finally we've reached one hundred
                               cent
 255.
two hundred
                           deux cents
 256.
Now, can you say this number: two hundred forty-seven
                    deux cents quarante-sept
 257.
three hundred
```

```
258.
four hundred
                           quatre cents
 259.
five hundred
                            cinq cents
 260.
Let's jump ahead to one thousand
 261.
And of course to two thousand
                            deux mille
 262.
three thousand
                            trois mille
 263.
four thousand
                           quatre mille
 264.
five thousand
                            cinq mille
 265.
ten thousand
                             dix mille
 266.
Soon we'll be finished. one hundred thousand
                            cent mille
 267.
Let's finish with one million
                            un million
 268.
That wasn't too bad, was it? Now let's learn the ordinal numbers
to help us put first things first and last things last. We'll start with
first
                        premier [première]
 269.
second
                            deuxième
 270.
third
                            troisième
 271.
```

quatrième

272.

fourth

fifth cinquième 273. sixth sixième 274. seventh septième 275. eighth huitième 276. ninth neuvième 277. tenth dixième 278. How many times will you need to practice the ordinal numbers until you know them by heart? once? une fois 279. Or maybe twice? deux fois Don't feel bad if it takes you three times trois fois 281. Let's toast our accomplishments... Give me a half a glass of wine please... half moitié 282. Actually, a quarter of a glass is enough... quarter quart



8. Colors

Les couleurs

283.

Every place in the world has the same colors, and they look the same in all languages... Interesting?.. **Colors**

Couleurs

284.

What's your favorite color? Maybe red?

rouge

285.

yellow

jaune

286.

blue

bleu [bleue]

287.

black

noir [noire]

288.

white

blanc [blanche]

289.

Maybe orange, like the fruit with the same name? **orange orange**

290.

brown

marron / brun [brune]

291.

purple

violet [violette]

292.

green

vert [verte]

293.

pink

rose

294.

gray

gris [grise]

295.

No, it's actually gold. **gold**

or





9. Days of the Week

Les jours de la semaine

Now that we've learned to count and learned the colors, we should learn the days of the week. Every language has a separate name for each day. Days of the Week

Jours de la semaine

298.

What day is it? Today is...

Aujourd'hui nous sommes...

Sunday

dimanche

300.

Monday

lundi

301.

Tuesday

mardi

302.

Wednesday

mercredi

303.

Thursday

jeudi

304.

Friday vendredi

305.

Saturday

samedi

306.

When did you get back? We came back yesterday. **yesterday**hier

307.

There's also the day before yesterday avant-hier

308.

I'm going today. today

aujourd'hui

and coming back tomorrow. tomorrow

310.

Or if I'm having a good time, the day after tomorrow après-demain

311.

Isn't his birthday this week? Wow! What's today's date?

Quel jour sommes-nous?

312.

When is your birthday?

C'est quand ton anniversaire?

313.

Thanks for the good wishes, but it was... last week la semaine dernière

314.

There's still time. It's next month
le mois prochain

315.

When will you come for a visit? Next year?? Too bad, I'd hoped you'd come **this year**.

cette année



10. Telling the Time

L'heure

316.

OK, since we now know the numbers, it's time to learn about time and how to say what time it is...

317.

What's the most popular question asked? Of course... **Excuse** me, what time is it?

Vous avez l'heure, s'il vous plaît?

318.

The answer usually begins with.. The time is...

Il est...

319.

Let's start with one o'clock and add a little something each hour to make things interesting and to review. Here we go: **one o'clock in the morning**

une heure du matin

320.

two o'clock in the afternoon deux heures de l'après-midi

321.

Three-thirty is the same thing as half past three: three-thirty or half past three

trois heures et demie

322.

Four-fifteen is the same as a quarter after four: **four-fifteen** or **quarter after four**

quatre heures et quart

323.

When will my coffee be ready? It's already... quarter to five cinq heures moins quart

324.

six-twenty

six heures vingt

325.

seven in the evening

sept heures du soir

326.

eight minutes to seven

sept heures moins huit minutes

The next bus leaves in another ten hours dans dix heures

329.

It's late. It's eleven p.m.

onze heures du soir

330.

When do lazy people get up? At twelve noon or at noon midi

331.

Time is counted by the **second**, **minute** and **hour**. **seconde** / **minute** / **heure**

332.

I'm sure you remember, but since it's important let's review: **quarter / half**

quart / demie

333.

Now it's midnight

il est... minuit

334.

Finally, let's review again: day / week jour / semaine

335.

and of course month / year

mois / année



11. Personal Details

Les coordonnées personnelles

We've just about finished all the basic concepts and topics. Now we'll concentrate on more practical matters: hotels, restaurants, roads, stores and markets. Let's start by filling in a form with our personal details... very important to know how to do. Usually these forms begin with: **First name**

Prénom

337.

And then: Last name

Nom de famille

338.

Usually you need to write the address where you'll be staying: **Address**

Adresse

339.

Including the street name

rue

340.

house number

numéro

341.

city

ville

342.

postal code

code postal

343.

And of course, the name of the country: **country** pays

344.

They usually also want to know your marital status: single or married, divorced or widowed: **Marital status**Situation de famille

345.

They're also interested in your nationality: Nationality
Nationalité

346.

Sometimes they also want to know about your occupational training, even though many people don't work in the profession

Of course everyone has a ... Date of birth

Date de naissance

348.

Even if you've visited lots of countries on your trip, they usually want to know where you started: Origin of trip
Origine

349.

And of course they want to know your destination: **Destination Destination**

350.

You'll need to indicate the purpose of your visit... business or pleasure... **Purpose of your visit**

But de la visite

351.

You should know your passport number by heart or at least write it down somewhere for safekeeping: Passport number

Numéro du passeport

352.

Flight number

Numéro du vol

353.

The date is usually at the end of the form: **Date**

354.

Yes, it's OK to sign in any language!.. **Signature**Signature



12. Hotels

A l'hôtel

355.

Now that we've landed safely, filled in all the forms and set out as tourists... let's think about the most common situations we may encounter. We'll begin at the hotel. Make a reservation in advance to make sure there's a room... Making Hotel Reservations

Réservations de chambres d'hôtel

356.

If you didn't make a reservation, your first question to the hotel clerk is: **Hello**, **do you have a vacancy?**

Bonjour, avez-vous une chambre de libre?

357.

Here's the answer you don't want to hear: Sorry, everything's taken

Je regrette, nous sommes complets

358.

If you did make a reservation, you can say: I have a reservation

J'ai une réservation

359.

And if not, try your luck and hope for the best: I don't have a reservation

Je n'ai pas de réservation

360.

Maybe you need to give more information: I need a room...

Je voudrais une chambre...

361.

for one night

pour une nuit

362.

for two adults and two children pour deux adultes et deux enfants

363.

This may sound odd, but based on experience it's a good idea to add: with a bathroom

avec salle de bain et toilettes

364

with a single bed or a double bed avec un lit pour une personne / un lit double

365.

Where is the room? on the first floor

Or maybe on the top floor

au dernier étage

367.

Do I need to take the stairs to get upstairs en haut

368.

Or to get downstairs

en bas

369.

But I have suitcases... Is there an elevator? elevator ascenseur

370.

The hotel's location is important for tourists and also affects the price. A hotel can be downtown, near the train station or in the suburbs. It's always good to know the hotel's exact address.

Where are you located?

Où se trouve votre hôtel?

371.

If the location isn't clear, you can always ask: **How do I get there** from...?

Pouvez-vous m'indiquer le chemin pour y arriver ?

372

And of course, to avoid any surprises... **How much does it cost?**Quels sont vos tarifs?

373.

This is not always obvious... Does the price include breakfast?

Cela inclut-il le petit-déjeuner?

374

Let's review meals! first, breakfast petit-déjeuner

375.

lunch

déjeuner

376.

supper

dîner

377.

We've almost forgotten the hotel clerk on the phone... what should we tell him? We'll take the room! **Thank you, I'll be there by... 4**

Merci, j'arriverai avant... 4 heures

378.

Most countries that welcome tourists have tourist information offices. Most hotels also have a tourist desk to answer tourists' questions... **Tourist Information**

Fill in the following question as needed: Excuse me, where can I find...?

Excusez-moi, où pourrais-je trouver...

380.

Maybe we'll separate to shop in the market. We need a... **meeting point**

point de rencontre

381.

Perhaps you have a free map of the city une carte de la ville

382.

Can you help me find ... a car rental agency la location de voitures

383.

Actually, maybe I'd prefer a taxi stand or a bus stop la station de taxis / l'arrêt d'autobus

384.

A train to...

un train pour...



13. Car Rentals

La location de voiture

Let's assume we're seasoned travelers who know how to get along. We don't need any favors. After arranging a hotel, of course we need a car. **Car Rental**

Location de voiture

386.

The clerk at the car rental agency welcomes us and asks how she can help us. What should we say? Hello, my name is...

Bonjour, je m'appelle...

387.

Of course I didn't just drop in. I reserved a car j'ai réservé une voiture

388.

Here's my voucher and driver's license
Voici la confirmation de la commande et mon permis de conduire

389.

If you didn't arrange everything in advance.... What cars do you have available?

Qu'est-ce que vous avez comme voiture de libre?

390.

"I'd like a small automatic car"... "I'd like to return it at the airport"... This is a simple, polite and common request form: I'd like...

Je voudrais...

391.

I'd like to rent a car for a day / two days une voiture pour une journée / pour deux jours

392.

Or maybe... to rent a car for a week une voiture pour une semaine

393.

You also need to arrange for returning the car: to return the car on...

rendre la voiture à...

394.

I'd like to pay by credit card payer avec une carte de crédit

Sometimes you need extras, like a baby car seat or a bicycle carrier. **Does this car have...?**

Est-ce que cette voiture est...?

397.

or, for example: automatic transmission or airconditioning automatique / climatisée

398.

Let's move on to the price... Does the price include...?

Le prix inclut-il...?

399.

Of course you're not planning to have an accident. You've come to have a good time. Still, you need to know about **insurance**une assurance

400.

What's included in the price?.. unlimited kilometrage (mileage) sans limitation de kilométrage

401

Sometimes the answer is: This price doesn't include...

Ce prix ne comprend pas...

402.

And sometimes you need to put down a deposit. After all, it is a car... a deposit of...

le dépôt de garantie de...

403.

To avoid future unpleasantness, make sure to check the car. "Please make a note that this car has a scratch on the front, a broken headlight and no spare tire..." Please make a note that the car has...

Veuillez noter s'il vous plaît que le véhicule a...

404.

a scratch / dent on...

une égratignure / un coup là...

405.

no spare tire

Il n'y a pas de roue de secours

406.

Is the tank half full... or maybe it's half empty? Just be sure to check... half a tank of gas

le réservoir est à moitié plein

407.

Before we leave: Here's a map and a list of our branch offices
Voici une carte et une liste de nos agences

Bon voyage!

Bon voyage!

410.

Another way of saying this... **Have a good trip! Bon séjour**





14. Friends and Businesses

Les amis et les affaires

We've left the airport, the weather is great, the car is a dream... and we're on our way to meet people. Let's learn a little about **Friends, People and Business**

Amis, gens et affaires

412.

How to present other people and how they present us is the topic of **Introductions**

Les présentations

413.

I'd like you to meet Mr. [Mrs. / Miss / Ms.]...

Je vous présente Monsieur / Madame...

414.

Nice to meet you

Je suis enchanté de faire votre connaissance

415.

How are you?

Comment allez-vous?

416.

Usually this doesn't require a detailed answer but just a polite response: Fine, thank you. And you?

Bien merci et vous-même?

Dien mercret vous-meme

417.

If you want to be less formal, try this: What's new? / How's it going?

Que devenez-vous?

418.

Everything's okay

Tout va bien

419.

Sometimes it's good to show interest in close family or friends: **How's... your wife / your husband?**

Comment va votre épouse / votre mari ?

420

Usually a general answer is sufficient: **Thanks for taking an interest**

Merci de votre intérêt

421.

Someone may ask you this: What's your name?

```
422.
```

You can answer like this: My name is...

Je m'appelle...

423.

Ask the following questions only if you feel comfortable and want to get to know someone better: **How old are you?**Quel âge avez-vous?

424.

For years I've been answering like this: I'm 20 years old

J'ai vingt ans

425.

I was born in 1980

Je suis né en 1980

426.

Where are you from?

D'où venez-vous?

427.

Me? I'm from... (the) ...

Je viens...

428.

Sometimes the conversation flows, and we feel we've known the other person for years: What do you do for a living?

Que faites-yous dans la vie?

429.

How many children do you have?

Combien d'enfants avez-vous ?

430.

Here's a possible answer: I have a son and a daughter

J'ai une fille et un garçon

431.

Are you here by yourself?

Vous êtes seul ici?

432.

You can go on to tell who came with you... I came with...

Je suis venu avec ...

433.

my wife / my husband

mon épouse / mon mari

434.

my parents / my children

mes parents / mes enfants

435.

Sometimes you need to reveal your marital status: I'm... married

Je suis... marié [mariée]

Or... I'm... single Je suis... célibataire 437. divorced divorcé [divorcée] 438. widowed veuf [veuve] 439. Perhaps they want to know whether you have enough time to have dinner with them: How long will you be here? Pour combien de temps êtes-vous ici? 440. Remember? a day / a week / a month un jour / une semaine / un mois 441. So you can explain why you came, start like this: I came... Je suis venu... 442. And now the explanation: for a vacation / a visit en vacances / en visite 443. to tour / on business en excursion / pour affaires They may want to know where you are staying: Where are you staying? Où logez-vous?

445.

They may propose going out with you: What are you doing this evening?

Que faites-vous ce soir?

446.

At the end of the conversation, usually mutual friends are mentioned... **Regards to...**

Mes salutations à...



15. A New Language

Une nouvelle langue

447.

OK, so we've met our friends and said goodbye. Now let's try to cope with problems in the new language. Clearly we won't always be able to make ourselves understood, and we don't really understand everything said to us... we need to know a few sentences to get us out of "jams"!

448

First, let's find out if you have a language in common: **Do you speak...?**

Parlez-vous...?

449.

Do you speak English / French?

anglais / français

450.

Spanish / German

espagnol / allemand

451.

Italian / Arabic

italien / arabe

452.

Don't be afraid to say: I speak...

Je parle...

453.

Asking if anyone speaks your language may seem useless. You may think no one speaks your language, but it never hurts to try: **Does anyone here speak...?**

Y a-t-il quelqu'un qui parle...?

454.

Here's a sentence that may elicit sympathy and clearer answers: I understand a bit

Je comprends un peu

455.

Don't be shy about asking this: Please speak more slowly

Pourriez-vous parler plus lentement

456.

What did he say? What does this sign mean? Can you translate this for me?

Pourriez-vous me traduire cela?

457.

Indicate exactly what you didn't understand: word / sentence / sign

ce mot / cette phrase / cette enseigne ?

Just a moment, I'm trying to understand... Can you repeat that?

Pourriez-vous répéter?

459.

When you don't understand, don't hesitate to ask someone you trust: What did he/she say?

Qu'est-ce qu'il [elle]a dit?

460.

I thought I knew this language, but I see no one can understand my accent. This question will do the trick: **Am I pronouncing this correctly?**

Est-ce que je prononce bien?

461.

And finally: Do you understand me?

Est-ce que vous me comprenez ?

462.

It's great to be able to answer: I understood everything

J'ai tout compris

463.

And how sad to say: I didn't understand a thing Je n'ai rien compris

464.

Sometimes it's easier when it's written down, like when you need to remember an address or a brand name: Please write it down Pourriez-vous me l'écrire

465.

If it can't be written down, for example over the phone... a topic we'll come to soon... you can ask: Can you please spell that Pourriez-vous me l'épeler?

466.

To make everyone feel at ease, you can say thank you and... **Now I understand**

J'ai compris maintenant!



16. Phone Conversations

Au téléphone

In face-to-face conversations, ... use your hands or facial expressions, or even ask a casual passerby to translate for you... but what can you do on the phone? Telephone Conversations

Conversation téléphonique

Here's how a phone conversation goes: the phone rings and someone answers (pay attention to how they say "hello"). When you're looking for someone specific: **Hello, may I please speak with...?**

Allô, pourrais-je parler avec...?

469.

Maybe you want to identify yourself first: Hello, this is... Bonjour, je suis...

470.

Things don't always go as smoothly as you'd like: Excuse me,

Excusez-moi, mais...

471.

I'm having trouble hearing you: I can't hear you ie n'entends pas

472.

Here, too, you can always ask the other person to speak slower: please speak more slowly

parlez plus lentement, s'il vous plaît

473.

Sometimes you need to call the operator, who might ask: What is the dialing code for ...?

Quel est l'indicatif de...?

474.

It's always good to know how they pronounce the name of your country... (the) ...

475.

Sometimes you need to leave a message: May I please leave a message for Mr. [Mrs./ Ms.]...?

Puis-je laisser un message pour Monsieur [Madame]...?

476.

What should you say? Please tell him that Mr.... called him Dites-lui, s'il vous plaît, que Monsieur [Madame]... l'a demandé

Here's another option, for the women among us: Please say that 47 Mrs. / Ms.... called her Dites-lui, s'il vous plaît, que Madame... l'a demandé 478. Are you managing? How's it doing? Can we continue? OK, let's go on! 479. And how could we ever do without our... Mobile or Cellular **Phones** Téléphone portable (cellulaire) 480. At the end of a meeting, if you want to stay in touch: What's your mobile phone number? Quel est le numéro de votre portable ? 481. Mobile or land line? Where are you? Where are you calling from?.. - I'm calling from the airport. I'll be at the hotel in an hour... Right now I'm speaking from... Je vous parle... 482. I'm speaking from my car de ma voiture 483. the airport de l'aéroport 484.

the hotel lobby

du hall de l'hôtel

485.

The reception here is bad. I can barely hear you Je vous entends à peine!

486.

It's important to know how to find someone's phone number and emergency numbers. What's the phone number of...?

Quel est le numéro de téléphone de...?

487.

What's the phone number of... the police department la police

488.

What's the phone number of... the fire department les pompiers

489.

Don't stand on the sidelines if you hear someone crying out: **Help!**

Au secours ! A l'aide !

490.

Even though we'd rather not, just in case we need to know...

Mobile Intensive Care Unit

Don't panic, but... This is an emergency!

C'est urgent!





17. Restaurants and Food

Au restaurant

492.

Now that we have all the words for emergencies, we can relax and finally begin our trip. What's on the agenda? food, travel, shopping... Where should we begin? With food, of course! **Restaurants and Food**

Restaurants et repas

493.

It's a good idea to make a reservation: Making Reservations

Réservations

494.

It can be over the phone: Hello, is there a table available this evening?

Bonjour, avez-vous une table de libre pour ce soir ?

495.

Usually you'll be asked: For how many?

pour combien de personnes ?

496.

For example: I'd like to reserve a table for... eight o'clock for... four people

Pourrais-je réserver une table pour ... 8 heures, pour ... 4 personnes ?

497.

Too bad: Sorry, everything's taken je regrette, nous sommes complet

498.

Sometimes it's easier after the rush: They have a table but **Only** at... nine o'clock

pour... 9 heures seulement

499.

Today in many countries this question is no longer relevant: **Smoking or non-smoking?**

fumeurs ou non-fumeurs?

500.

OK, we've finally arrived and we've reserved a table. How do we make ourselves known: **We have a reservation**

Nous avons des réservations

501.

The hostess or waitress will lead us to our table: Please have a seat here

Asseyez-vous là s'il vous plaît

Où se trouvent les toilettes?

503.

We've been sitting here for twenty minutes... where did the waiter disappear to? **Waiter!**

Monsieur! Mademoiselle!

504.

The menu, please

La carte s'il vous plaît!

505.

For some reason we trust the waiter, and we ask him what he recommends... What do you recommend?

Que nous conseillez-vous?

506.

On the other hand, he might ask: What would you like to order?

Que désirez-vous commander?

507.

Even though each person has different preferences, the waiter will usually say: This is highly recommended!

C'est très conseillé!

508.

I'll have soup... Before going into detail, you usually say I'll have...

Je prendrai...

509.

What did you order? That's what I want too... I'll have the same...

Je prendrai la même chose!

510.

That's all for now. If we want more, we'll order it later... **That's all for now**

C'est tout pour le moment

511.

This restaurant has more than food... What would you like to drink?

Que désirez-vous boire?

512.

I'll have...

Pour moi ce sera...

513.

mineral water

de l'eau minérale

514.

cold tap water

de l'eau fraîche

515.

orange juice / apple juice

These drinks sound the same all over the world: **cola / soda / lemonade**

un coca / un soda / une limonade

517.

Wow, that was good. **Another glass please! Encore un verre s'il vous plaît!**

518.

And if you want some more: I'd like some more...

Je voudrais encore...

519.

Have you had enough? Yes. That will be all, thank you C'est tout, merci

520.

There are two expressions that always set a good tone for a meal. One is: **Cheers!**

A la vôtre!

521.

And the other is: bon appétit!

Bon appétit!

522.

We've eaten our fill, and the chef wants to know how it was: **How was it?**

C'était bon ?

523.

What should we say?.. Excellent!

Très bon!

524.

It won't hurt to make him feel good: The meal was delicious
C'était très bon

525.

The hand motion to ask for the check is universal. Still, it's more polite to ask for it: **The check, please**

L'addition s'il vous plaît

526.

How much is the bill?

À combien se monte l'addition ?

527.

If this is written on the check, you'll understand the hint: **Service not included**

Service non compris

528.

You can personally give your tip to the waiter: **This is for you. Thanks**

C'est pour vous, merci



18. Taxis

Dans le taxi

We enjoyed our meal, but now it's raining outside and we want to go back to the hotel. What do we look for? Of course... a taxi

Le taxi

530.

Before we leave the restaurant we can ask at the desk: **Please** order me a taxi

Veuillez me commander un taxi

531.

When ordering a taxi, you usually need to say where you want to go: Where do you want to go?

Où voulez-vous aller?

532.

The answer: I'm going to...

Je dois me rendre à...

533.

How far away is it? How far is it to...?

Quelle est la distance pour...?

534.

How long will it take to get to ...?

Combien de temps dure le trajet jusqu'à...?

535.

It's a good idea to find out the taxi fare in advance: **How much** will it cost to get to...?

Combien ça me coûtera pour...?

536.

What's the fare?

Quel est le tarif?

537.

And don't let anyone cheat you: Please turn on the meter Veuillez mettre le compteur en marche

538.

Please take me to... the national museum: Please take me...

Je veux aller...

539.

Please take me to this address: to this address à cette adresse

540.

downtown

```
541.
to the airport
                            à l'aéroport
 542.
to the... hotel
                             à l'hôtel...
 543.
Sometimes you need to give the driver directions: Go... straight
                        Prenez... tout droit
 544.
Turn... right
                              à droite
 545.
No! Sorry... Turn... left
                             à gauche
 546.
Keep going straight... until the next turn
                        jusqu'au tournant
 547.
I'm in a big hurry. Go straight to the hotel. I'm in a hurry
                     je suis pressé [pressée]
 548.
But between you and me, it's more likely you'll say: Please drive
more slowly
                 Plus doucement, s'il vous plaît
 549.
Thanks, we're here. Please stop...
                  Arrêtez-vous là, s'il vous plaît
 550.
Where exactly?... here
                                 là
 551.
after the traffic light
                            après le feu
 552.
at the corner
                         après le tournant
 553.
near that house
                      près de cet immeuble
 554.
Before getting out of the taxi: How much do I owe you?
                     Je vous dois combien?
```

If you want to tip the driver: Thanks. Keep the change!

555.





19. Public Transportation

Dans les transports en commun

556.

When you don't have a car, and even when you do, there's nothing like public transportation for getting to know a city. For example, take the train or the bus. **Train / Bus**

Le train / L'autobus

557.

If you can't find something, the simplest thing is to ask: Where's the... train / bus station, please?

Où se trouve... la gare / la station d'autobus ?

558.

How do I get to the flea market? How do I get to the opera house? How do I get to...?

Comment fait-on pour se rendre à...?

559.

You'll usually get a direct answer: Take train / bus number...

Vous devez prendre le train / l'autobus numéro...

560.

When does the *last* bus leave? When does the *next* bus leave? When does the... bus leave?

À quelle heure part l'autobus?

561.

Here are some useful words, some of which we learned as ordinal numbers: next / first / last prochain / premier / dernier

562.

Sometimes the transport maps are so complicated, and all I want to know is: Where should I get off?

Où dois-je descendre?

563.

If I missed my stop: What's the next stop?

Quelle est la prochaine station?

564.

This is usually a question children ask on any trip that's longer than 10 minutes. But when you're abroad you can ask it as well: When will we get to...?

À quelle heure arrive-t-on à...?



20. Shopping

Les achats

A trip abroad without going shopping? No such thing! **Shopping**Achats

566.

You can shop in a store, in a stall at the market, or at a mall: **store**

magasin

567.

shopping center

centre commercial

568.

market

marché

569.

If there's a flea market, it offers the most amazing shopping experience: **flea market**

marché aux puces

570.

Who can help us? The salesperson vendeur [vendeuse]

571.

And who can help us if we have complaints? The manager directeur [directrice]

572.

Most signs usually have clear international symbols, but it's still good to know how to say: **entrance**

entrée

573.

exit

sortie

574.

And especially important: emergency exit issue de secours

575.

Here's a few more useful terms when you're shopping: **display** window

vitrine

576.

checkout

We need help. Here's someone who doesn't look like a tourist...

You can politely ask: Excuse me, do you work here?

Excusez-moi... vous travaillez ici?

578.

Sometimes you need advice from the salesperson: Can you help me for a moment?

Pouvez-vous me conseiller, s'il vous plaît?

579.

Professional salespeople will usually ask you first: How can I help you sir? How can I help you madam?

Comment pourrai-je vous aider, Monsieur [Madame]?

580.

And perhaps the salesperson will be a bit more blunt: **What are you looking for?**

Que cherchez-vous?

Now it's time to describe exactly what we want, exactly what we had in mind: I'm looking for something... smaller

Je cherche quelque chose... de plus petit

582.

Or maybe... **something larger de plus grand**

583.

Here's another possibility: Something... less expensive moins cher

584.

Or something... of higher quality

de meilleure qualité

585.

Or simply: just like I saw in the window comme dans la vitrine

586.

And then there's that typical shopper's answer that I'm sure you've often said: I'm just looking

Je regarde, merci

587.

If you're lucky: This is exactly what I've been looking for!

C'est exactement ce que je cherchais!

588.

You can simply admit: I like this

Ça me plaît

589.

There's no shame in saying politely: I don't like this

Ça ne me plaît pas

590.

Merci, mais ce n'est pas ce que je cherche

591.

At some point you'll have to pay, and what a price! **How much does it cost?**

Cela coûte combien?

592.

You can hope they'll take a subtle hint:... Is there a discount?

Y a-t-il une réduction

593.

What different does the price make, so long as it's on sale? Is it on sale?

C'est en solde?

594.

Too bad! It's too expensive for me

C'est trop cher pour moi!

595

On second thought, why not? We're not here every day. Let's go for it... especially after the salesperson took the trouble to take it down, put it back, take it out again... I'll take it, I'll buy it!

Je vais prendre... ceci

596.

Where can I pay?

Où se trouve la caisse?

597.

The checkout is... over there

La caisse est... là-bas

598.

I'll pay with a credit card

Je paie avec la carte de crédit

599.

Here's your change

Voici votre monnaie

600.

Here's your receipt

Voici votre reçu