

Intermediate

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French Lessons Canada ™ Intermediate Lessons

Intermediate Lessons

Conceived to meet the essential need for oral communication, French Lessons Canada™ addresses a diversified public who favours the training of French by means of conversation.

On-line lessons are provided for students by means of audio files and accompanying text documents which contain the lesson transcript. Previews are provided here for each lesson and contain both an audio clip and a textual description.

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Intermediate-Lesson 1

The basic sentence

Three (3) components are usually enough to form a

simple sentence

1- The subject

2- The verb

3- The complement

ex {mp3}A0260000{/mp3}

-Le français est une langue merveilleuse.

-J'étudie le français.

nb: when the subject is a personal pronoun, it is called

subject personal pronoun and it concerns people.

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Intermediate-Lesson 2

The possessive adjectives

The possessive adjectives refer automatically to the

possessor(s) / possession(s) and they agree in gender and

number with the possession which is the noun contrary

to english in case of the following specific possessive

adjectives:

son; sa; ses; ses

So, they are not connected with the possessor but with

the following possession.

ex{mp3}A0710000{/mp3}

-le père d'Andréa; son père

-la femme de John; sa femme

It will be similar for the plural possessive adjectives, in

the masculine(ses) or in the feminine(ses) eventhough

the difference is not obvious.

ex{mp3}A0720000{/mp3}

-les vêtements de Madame Frey; ses vêtements.

-les habitudes de Monsieur Cole; ses habitudes

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Intermediate-Lesson 3

The relative pronouns "Qui" and "Qu'(e)"

As the name indicates, the relative pronouns establishes a link between at least two parts of the sentence and makes them become only one.

The usual relative pronouns are: Qui and Qu'(e)

-Qui is used as the subject of the verb in the relative clause and it refers to somebody or something.

ex: Nous avons un oncle;

il habite aux îles de la madeleine.

Nous avons un oncle qui habite aux îles de la madeleine.

ex: Le café est une boisson;

elle est délicieuse.

Le café est une boisson qui est délicieuse.

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-Qu'(e) is used as the object of the verb in the relative clause

and there is another subject applied to the verb of the

relative clause. It refers also to somebody or something.

ex: Elle rencontre un homme dans le métro;

c'est son voisin.

L'homme qu'elle rencontre dans le métro est son voisin.

ex: Le chocolat est un produit;

j'adore !

Le chocolat est un produit que j'adore.

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Note 1:

Contrary to "Qui" where the verb agrees with the

antecedent which means the preceding word of the relative

pronoun,

it doesn't in case of "Que" because there is another

subject in the relative clause.

Note 2:

Que becomes Qu' before vowel or silent h

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Intermediate-Lesson 4

The simple and compound tenses

Seven (7) tenses can be considered as simple tenses

including the imperfect which refers to the past.

The simple tense implies only one verb without any

auxiliary

ex:

Le matin, elle prend son déjeuner à dix heures (10h00)

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When there is an auxiliary verb (avoir or être) with a following past participle, the whole tense will form part of the compound tenses category

ex:

Ce matin, elle a pris son déjeuner à onze heures (11h00)

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Note 1

If the perfect tense is a compound tense, the compound tense include not only the perfect tense but also the pluperfect, the past conditional, the future perfect, the perfect subjunctive...

auxiliary verb + past participle = compound tenses

(present indicative) + past participle = perfect tense

(imperfect) + past participle = pluperfect

(present conditional) + past participle = past conditional

(future) + past participle = future perfect

(present subjunctive) + past participle=perfect subjunctive

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Intermediate-Lesson 5

The reported speech

To report the speech or the thought of someone to others,

the reported speech is necessary in the present or in the past:

-Qu'est-ce que ? ----- ce que

ex: "Je suis jeune" (Amy)

Qu'est-ce qu'elle dit ? (Peter)

Elle dit qu'elle est jeune (John)

-Qu'est-ce qui ? -----ce qui

ex: "Qu'est-ce qui se passe ?" (Amy)

Qu'est-ce qu'elle demande ?(Peter)

Elle demande ce qui se passe (John)

-Est-ce que ? -----si

ex: "Est-ce que tu travailles ?" (Amy)

Qu'est-ce qu'elle te demande ? (Peter)

Elle me demande si je travaille (John)

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nb: Remember that The following interrogative words:

qui ?; où ?; comment ? etc... have to be replaced in the answers.

ex: Qui es-tu ? Où habites-tu ? et Comment vas-tu ? (Amy)

Qu'est-ce qu'elle te demande ? (Peter)

Elle me demande qui je suis, où j'habite, et comment je vais.(John)

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nb: On ne demande pas une question but

On pose une question

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Intermediate-Lesson 6

The relative pronouns lequel, laquelle, lesquels,

lesquelles and their various forms

Not only we have the usual relative pronouns Qui & Qu' (e)

{see Intermediate-Lesson 3}, but also we identify a few

relative pronouns who agree in gender and number

according to the antecedent:

Lequel when the antecedent is in the singular masculine

form

Écrire
à
+ lequel = auquel

Ex:
{mp3}A1350000{/mp3}

Écrire à l'architecte : l'architecte
auquel j'écris est grec.

Laquelle when the antecedent is in the singular-feminine

form

Habiter
chez
+ laquelle = chez
laquelle

Ex:
{mp3}A1360000{/mp3}

Habiter
chez
une secrétaire: la secrétaire chez laquelle

vous habitez est
drôle.

Lesquels
when the antecedent is in the plural-masculine

form

Étudier
avec
+ lesquels = avec lesquels

Ex:
{mp3}A1370000{/mp3}

Étudier
avec
des amis: les amis avec lesquels nous étudions

sont intelligents.

Lesquelles when the antecedent is in the plural-feminine

form

Monter
au-dessus
de
+ lesquelles = au-dessus

desquelles

Ex:
{mp3}A1380000{/mp3}

Monter
au-dessus
des branches: les branches au-dessus

desquelles ils sont montés
étaient fragiles.

Note 1

The various forms will depend on the preposition after the verb:

Parler
à

+ lequel = auquel

Habiter
chez
+ laquelle = chez laquelle

Travailler
pour
+ lesquels = pour lesquels

Tomber
de
+ lesquelles = desquelles

Note 2

We have a variety of prepositions in
french: à, chez, pour,

de, sans, avec, devant…and always replaced in
front of

the relative pronouns

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