

Beginner

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French Lessons Canada ™ Beginner Lessons

Beginner 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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Beginner -Lesson 1

How to ask somebody a question !

Some expressions introduce automatically the

interrogative form.

1-«Est-ce que» is used before the pronoun subject

ex{mp3}A0110000{/mp3}: Est-ce que vous avez de la famille au Québec?

Also you can complete this interrogative form with some

interrogative words:

2-«Comment» related to the way

«Qu’(e)» related to something

«Où» related to places or destinations

«Quand» related to the period, time or moment

«Pourquoi» related to the reason

«Qui» related to someone

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Beginner-Lesson 2

Two (2) categories of letters complete the french

alphabet: consonants and vowels.

There are:

twenty (20) consonants

b, c, d, f, g, h, j, k, l, m, n, p, q, r, s, t, v, w, x, z.

and,

six (6) vowels

a, e, i, o, u, y

By mixing consonants and vowels, you obtain the most part

of the words and their pronounciations.

ex:

c+a=ca

n+a=na

d+a=da

but some letters can have one (1) or more derivative(s) and

it changes the pronounciation.

ex:

e, é, è...

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Beginner-Lesson 3

The indefinite articles

There are three indefinite articles and they agree in gender

and number with the following nouns:

-un followed by a singular masculine noun

ex: un pantalon

-une followed by a singular feminine noun

ex: une chemise

-des followed by a plural(masculine or feminine) noun

ex: des souliers

des fleurs

{mp3}A0820000{/mp3}

Note 1: the english indefinite article before a profession or

an occupation name is omitted in french.

ex: je suis professeur

elle est médecin

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Note 2: the indefinite articles become de or d' before vowel

or silent h in negative sentences.

ex: est-ce vous avez un(e) cousin(e) au Canada ?

non, je n'ai pas de cousin(e) au Canada.

ex: ont-ils des parents au Québec ?

non, ils n'ont pas de parents au Québec

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Beginner-Lesson 4

On the whole, the partitive article is used when we are talking about something we cannot enumerate.

There are three (3) partitive articles and they agree in gender and number with the following nouns:

-du followed by a singular masculine noun

ex: je mange du pain

-de la followed by a singular feminine noun

ex: je bois de la bière

-des followed by a plural(masculine or feminine) noun

ex: ils cultivent des légumes

on achète des céréales

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Note 1: the partitive articles du and de la become <de l'>

when the following nouns begin with a vowel or a silent h

ex: il apporte de l'ail à sa mère

elle ajoute de l'huile dans son repas.

{mp3}A0950000{/mp3}

Note 2: in negative expressions, the partitive articles are

replaced by de or d' before vowel or silent h

ex: est-ce que vous buvez du vin ?

non, je ne bois pas de vin

a-t-on de la musique contemporaine ?

non, on n'a pas de musique contemporaine

est-ce que vous avez des cheveux blancs ?

non, nous n'avons pas de cheveux blancs

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Beginner-Lesson 5

The pronoun "en"

Used to replace "d'(e)+noun", the pronoun "en" comes

immediately

-before the main verb in case of a simple tense

-before the auxiliary verb in case of a compound tense

-between aller and the second verb in the infinitive form

in case of an immediate future

with the following partitive/indefinite articles:

	singular	plural
masculine	du	des
feminine	de l'(a)	des

affirmative form: Oui, ..."en" + verb

ex: {mp3}A0970000{/mp3}

-Aujourd'hui, elle a du travail

Oui, elle en a.

-Hier, nous avons acheté de l'eau

Oui, nous en avons

acheté.

-Demain, ils vont apporter des céréales

Oui, ils vont en apporter.

negative form: Non, ...n' "en" + verb + pas

ex:{mp3}A0990000{/mp3}

-Aujourd'hui, elle n'a pas de travail

Non, elle n'en a pas.

-Hier, nous n'avons pas acheté d'eau

Non, nous n'en avons pas acheté.

-Demain, ils ne vont pas apporter de céréales

Non, ils ne vont pas en apporter.

Note 1

With the adverbs beaucoup d(e), assez d(e) and trop d(e) +

noun, the pronoun "en" is required and the same adverb

will

be added at the end

ex:{mp3}A1000000{/mp3}

-A-t-elle assez d'amis ?

Oui, elle en a assez

Non, elle n'en a pas assez

Note 2

With the indefinite articles "un" or "une" + noun, the pronoun "en" is used in the same way and the same indefinite article will be added at the end but in the affirmative form only.

ex:{mp3}A1010000{/mp3}

-Est-ce que vous avez un téléviseur ?

Oui, nous en avons un

Non, nous n'en avons pas

Note 3

With Combien d'(e) + noun, the following process of

enumeration will be enough

ex:`{mp3}A1020000{/mp3}`

-Combien de grands-parents avez-vous ?

J'en ai deux

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