

**G The partitive article ('some', 'any')**

You use the partitive article (**de** + the definite article) to say 'some':

de + le → **du**      de + l' → **de l'**  
de + la → **de la**    de + les → **des**

But after a negative, or with containers and quantities, just use **de/d'**:

Je ne mange pas **de** viande.  
un kilo **de** bananes/une bouteille **d'**eau

**G The irregular verbs boire and prendre** > Page 208

boire (to drink)	prendre (to take)*
je bois	je prends
tu bois	tu prends
il/elle/on boit	il/elle/on prend
nous buvons	nous prenons
vous buvez	vous prenez
ils/elles boivent	ils/elles prennent
(perfect tense) j'ai bu	(perfect tense) j'ai pris

\* French people often use *prendre* with food or drink, to mean 'have':

Parfois, je **prends** du pain grillé. Sometimes, I **have** toast.



Remember, à + le = **au**:  
**au** marché at/to the market

**G Subject and object pronouns (it, they, them)** > Pages 206 and 230

	subject	object
<b>masculine</b>	<b>Il</b> est trop petit.	Je <b>le</b> prends.
<b>feminine</b>	<b>Elle</b> est trop petite.	Je <b>la</b> prends.
<b>plural</b>	<b>Ils/Elles</b> sont trop petit(e)s.	Je <b>les</b> prends.

**G Adjectives of colour** > Page 224

Adjectives of colour go **after the noun**. Most follow the same patterns of agreement as other adjectives.

But remember that *blanc* is irregular:

*blanche* (fem sg)  
*blancs* (masc pl)  
*blanches* (fem pl)

*Marron* and *orange* are invariable (never change).

If you add *foncé* (dark) or *clair* (light), the adjective does not agree:  
*une jupe vert foncé* (a dark green skirt)  
*des gants bleu clair* (light blue gloves)



**Chez** can refer to someone's home, or someone's country.  
Je reste **chez** moi. I stay at home.  
**Chez** nous, on parle français. In my country, we speak French.



When you add **-e** or **-es** after a final **s** or **t**, you pronounce the consonant.

**G The verbs porter and mettre** > Pages 236 and 239

	porter (to wear)	mettre (to put/put on)
present tense	je porte	je mets
perfect tense	j'ai porté	j'ai mis
near future tense	je vais porter	je vais mettre

**G Asking questions** > Page 210

The simplest way to ask questions is to turn a statement into a question, by making your voice go up at the end of the sentence:

Tu te lèves tôt? Do you get up early?

You can add these words to the beginning or the end of the question:

Comment? How?                      À quelle heure? At what time?  
Où? Where?                            À quel âge? At what age?  
Quand? When? (day or date)      Pourquoi? Why?

Qu'est-ce que ...? (What ...? followed by a verb) and *Quel(le)s* ...? (Which/What ...? followed by a noun) can only go at the beginning of a question.



Listen carefully for negatives and words like *sauf* (except) – they can change the whole meaning of a sentence!

**G The pronoun en** > Page 230

The pronoun *en* is often used to replace a partitive article. It can mean 'some', 'of it' or 'of them'. It goes in front of the verb.

On mange **du** gâteau. **J'en** garde une tranche pour toi.  
We're eating cake. I'm keeping a slice (of it) for you.

Il y a **des** champignons dedans. Tu **en** veux?  
There are mushrooms in it. Do you want some?

**G Il faut...** > Page 220

You use **il faut** to say 'I/you/we need to' or 'must'. It is normally followed by the infinitive:

**Il faut** acheter du jambon.  
I/You/We need to buy some ham.

**G** Forming questions in the *tu* and *vous* forms > Page 210

- Use **vous** with people you don't know well or with more than one person.
- Use **tu** with younger people, or when someone invites you to call them **tu**.

You can use inversion to form questions: put the verb before the subject pronoun, with a hyphen in between:

Que **fais-tu** pendant ton temps libre?  
What do you in your spare time?

With *il/elle* questions, if the verb ends with a vowel, put **t** in between:

A-**t**-il des tatouages?  
Does he have tattoos?

★ *Il y a* can mean 'there is/are' or 'ago':

**Il y a** six mois, j'ai fêté mon anniversaire.  
Six months **ago**, I celebrated my birthday.

Note that when it means 'ago', it goes before the number of days/years, etc.

★ Use the perfect tense for single, completed actions in the past and the imperfect tense to say 'was/were/used to ...' (see page 216). The imperfect of *il y a* is *il y avait* (there was).

★ To refer to a whole day, morning, evening or year, use: *la journée, la matinée, la soirée, l'année*.

★ Use:

- the **present tense** to say what you usually do
- the **imperfect tense** to say what you used to do
- the **near future tense** to say what you are going to do
- the **perfect tense** to refer to something that happened in the past.

Remember also to include some **opinions**.

★ Understanding figures in French:

<i>un quart de</i>	a quarter of
<i>la moitié de</i>	half of
<i>un tiers de</i>	a third of
<i>trois quarts de</i>	three quarters of
<i>une personne sur (cinq)</i>	one person out of (five)

Percentages: *dix pour cent* 10%

**G** *venir de + infinitive* > Page 228

You use the present tense of **venir + de** + an infinitive to say what has **just** happened:

*Je viens de fêter mon anniversaire.*  
I've just celebrated my birthday.

*Ils viennent de se marier.*  
They've just got married.

To see *venir* in full, refer to page 239.

★ The exam translation will test you on different tenses:

- Make sure you know the third person (*il/elle*) verb endings, especially in the present tense.
- Remember, some verbs take *être* in the perfect tense and the past participle must agree.

You may also be tested on:

- Adjectives: masculine or feminine? Singular or plural? Does it go before or after the noun?
- The partitive article: do you need *du, de la, de l'* or *des*?
- Pronouns, such as *en*: make sure you know where they go, in different tenses.