

1 - Animals

l'animal	the pet	l'araignée	the spider
le chat	the cat	la chèvre	the goat
le chien	the dog	la grenouille	the frog
le hamster	the hamster	la renne	the reindeer
le lapin	the rabbit	la souris	the mouse
l'oiseau	the bird	la tortue	the tortoise
l'ours	the bear		
le poisson	the fish		
le serpent	the snake		

Definite article: the word for 'the' changes in French depending on whether a noun is **masculine** or **feminine**:

If a noun is **masculine** we use **le**: **le chien** (the dog)

If a noun is **feminine** we use **la**: **la renne** (the reindeer)

If a noun is **plural** we use **les**: **les poissons** (the fish)

If a noun **begins with a vowel** we use **l'**: **l'ours** (the bear)

2 - Être (to be)

The verb être (to be) is a key verb in French. It does not follow a set pattern, so you need to learn all of its forms by heart.

être	to be
je suis	I am
tu es	you are (singular)
il est	he is
elle est	she is
nous sommes	we are
vous êtes	you are (plural/formal)
ils sont	they are (masculine)
elles sont	they are (feminine)

3 - Adjectives

Colours

blanc/he	white
bleu/e	blue
brun/e	brown
gris/e	grey
jaune	yellow
marron	chestnut
noir/e	black
orange	orange
rose	pink
rouge	red
vert/e	green
violet/te	purple
en argent	silver
en bronze	bronze
en or	gold

Personality/ appearance

amusant/e	fun
bavard/e	talkative
branché/e	trendy
drôle	funny
égoïste	selfish
ennuyeux/euse	boring
généreux/euse	generous
gentil/le	kind
grand/e	big
intelligent/e	intelligent
joli/e	pretty
marrant/e	funny
paresseux/euse	lazy
sérieux/euse	serious
timide	shy
tranquille	quiet

4 - Adjective Agreement and Position

Most adjectives in French come after the noun that they describe. For example:

un chien brun = a dog brown (a brown dog)

Adjective endings match whether the noun that they are describing is **masculine**, **feminine**, singular or plural.

masculine	masculine plural	feminine	feminine plural
amusant	amusants	amusante	amusantes
généreux	généreux	généreuse	généreuses
sportif	sportifs	sportive	sportives
gentil	gentils	gentille	gentilles

5 - Possessive Adjectives

Possessive adjectives tell us who a noun belongs to. In English they are: **my/ your/ his/ her** etc.

In French, they must **agree** with the person or thing they are **describing**, not you or the person who they belong to.

	masculine	feminine	plural
my	mon	ma	mes
your	ton	ta	tes
his/her	son	sa	ses

E.g. **ma** tortue **my** tortoise
son frère **his or her** brother
sa soeur **his or her** sister

6 - Phonics

Some letters, and pairs of letters, sound different in French to what you might expect.

Looks like	Sounds like	Example
é/est/et	ay	araignée
in	an	lapin
i	ee	animal
oi	wah	poisson
qu	k	quatre
r	comes from the back of throat!	au revoir
t, d, s, n, x	silent at the end of a word	deux