

LEÇON 1

In this chapter you will learn:

- Personal pronouns “I” and “you”
- How to say: “I’m called...”

French Text

Marie: Bonjour, je m’appelle Marie. Vous vous appelez comment ?

Alain : Je m’appelle Alain. Ça va bien?

Marie: Ça va bien, merci. Et vous ?

Alain : Ça va bien, merci.

English Translation

***Marie:** Hello, my name’s Marie (I call myself Marie). What’s your name? (you call yourself how?)*

***Alain:** I’m called Alain. How are you? (Does that go well?)*

***Marie:** I’m fine, thank you. And you?*

***Alain:** I’m fine, thank you.*

Translation

Write the French for the following:

- 1) Hello
- 2) How are you?
- 3) I’m called ...
- 4) What’s your name?
- 5) I’m fine, thank you.

Answers:

- 1) Bonjour
- 2) Ça va bien?
- 3) Je m’appelle...
- 4) Vous vous appelez comment?
- 5) Ça va bien, merci

LEÇON 2

In this chapter you will learn:

- Personal pronouns “He” and “she”
- How to say: “he/she is called...”

French Text

Claire: Bonjour, je m'appelle Claire et mon ami, il s'appelle Paul

Jean : Bonjour Paul et Claire. Je m'appelle Jean. Et mon amie, elle s'appelle Anne.

Claire et Paul: Bonjour Anne et Jean. Ça va bien?

Jean et Anne : Ça va bien, merci.

English Translation

***Claire:** Hello, I'm called Claire and my friend, he's called Paul.*

***Jean:** Hello Paul and Claire. I'm called Jean. And my friend, she's called Anne*

***Claire et Paul:** Hello Anne and Jean. How are you ?*

***Jean and Anne:** Fine, thank you.*

Translation

Write the French for the following:

- 1) He's called Marc
- 2) She's called Lucie
- 3) I'm called Alain and she's called Marie
- 4) What's your name?
- 5) What's her name? What's his name?

(Hint: She is called how?)

Grammar:

“Mon ami” is for male friends and “mon amie” is for female friends. The pronunciation is the same for both.

Answers:

- 1) Il s'appelle Marc
- 2) Elle s'appelle Lucie
- 3) Je m'appelle Alain et elle s'appelle Marie.
- 4) Vous vous appelez comment?
- 5) Elle s'appelle comment ? Il s'appelle comment ?

LEÇON 3

So far, we have learnt some basic introductions. This lesson will be a little longer and there will be a couple more activities to help you practice.

In this chapter you will learn:

- Forms of “to be”
- How to form simple negations

French Text

Claire: Bonjour. Je m'appelle Claire et je suis professeure¹.

Jean : Bonjour Claire. Je m'appelle Jean. Qui est-ce ?

Claire: C'est mon ami. Il s'appelle Carlos.

Jean : Est-ce qu'il² est professeur aussi ?

Claire : Non, il n'est pas³ professeur. Il est acteur.

Carlos : Est-ce que vous êtes professeur, Jean ?

Jean : Non, je ne suis pas professeur. Je suis étudiant.

English Translation

Claire: Hello, I'm called Claire, and I'm a teacher.

Jean: Hello Claire. I'm called Jean. Who is that (he)?

Claire: It's my friend. He's called Carlos.

Jean: Is he a teacher, too?

Claire: No, he isn't a teacher. He's an actor

Carlos: Are you a teacher, Jean?

Jean: No, I'm not a teacher. I'm a student.

Translation

Write the French for the following:

- 1) I'm a teacher (masculine)
- 2) She isn't called Marie.
- 3) She isn't a teacher.
- 4) Who is it? It's my friend (masculine)
- 5) I'm not an actor, I'm a student.

Grammar:

1) Il est professeur (masculine)
Elle est professeure (feminine)

2) Est-ce que : This announces a question.
To make pronunciation easier :
Est-ce que + il/elle=Est-ce qu'il/Est-ce qu'elle

3) To make a negation we put “ne pas” around the verb.

Je suis=>Je ne suis pas
Il s'appelle=> Il ne s'appelle pas
Elle est => Elle n'est pas

- 1) Je suis professeur
- 2) Elle ne s'appelle pas Marie
- 3) Elle n'est pas professeure
- 4) Qui est-ce? C'est mon ami
- 5) Je ne suis pas acteur, je suis étudiant

Les Professions:

In a similar way to some professions in English, French professions change according to gender.



Il est professeur



Elle est professeure (or “professeur”)



Il est étudiant



Elle est étudiante

Activity:

Use the prompts to answer the questions

Ex. Est-ce qu'elle est policière? Non/professeure

--->Non, elle n'est pas policière. Elle est professeure

- 1) Est-ce qu'il est professeur? Non/étudiant
- 2) Est-ce qu'elle est étudiante? Non/professeure
- 3) Est-ce que vous êtes professeur? Non/je/étudiant

1) Non, il n'est pas professeur. Il est étudiant
2) Non, elle n'est pas étudiante. Elle est professeure
3) Non, je ne suis pas professeur. Je suis étudiant

LEÇON 4

This time we will look at the plural forms of “to be” and some nationalities.

In this chapter you will learn:

- Plurals: How to say “they are” and “we are”
- Nationalities

French Text

Anne: Bonjour, je m'appelle Anne. Je suis française¹. Mon amie s'appelle Julie.

John : Bonjour Anne et Julie. Je m'appelle John. Etes-vous française aussi, Julie ?

Julie: Oui, je suis française. Anne et moi, nous sommes françaises². Etes-vous français, John ?

John : Non, je suis américain. Et mes parents, ils sont américains³ aussi. Etes-vous étudiantes, Anne et Julie?

Anne : Non, nous ne sommes pas étudiantes, nous sommes professeures.

John: Mais, vous êtes très jeunes!

Anne et Julie: Merci!

English Translation

Anne: Hello, I'm called Anne. I'm French. My friend is called Julie.

John: Hello Anne and Julie. I'm called John. Are you French too, Julie?

Julie: Yes, I'm French. Anne and me, we're French. Are you French, John?

John: No, I'm American. And my parents, they're American, too. Are you students, Anne and Julie?

Anne: No, we aren't students, we are teachers.

Carlos: But, you are very young!

Anne and Julie: Thank you!

Translation

Write the French for the following:

- 1) My friend (masculine) is called Marc
- 2) She isn't a student
- 3) They are teachers.
- 4) Are you French? (feminine)
- 5) We aren't French. We are American. (masculine)

Grammar:

1) Nationalities also have masculine and feminine forms : Il est français *but* elle est française

2) We are=nous sommes, you are= vous êtes. More on this later !

3) They are=ils sont.

Note: Nationalities, professions and adjectives change for gender and plural. This is why there is an “s” on “américains”. More on this later, too!

- 1) Mon ami s'appelle Marc
- 2) Elle n'est pas étudiante
- 3) Ils sont professeurs
- 4) Etes-vous française ?
- 5) Nous ne sommes pas français. Nous sommes américains

Grammar

So, we have some new grammar in this lesson that might seem a little confusing at first. However, with a little practice it does get a lot easier.

First of all, let's break down the verb "to be":

être

Je suis

Tu es

Il est

Elle est

Nous sommes

Vous êtes

Ils sont

Elles sont

to be

I am

You are (one friend)

He is

She is

We are

You are (formal/2 or more people)

They are

They are (all women)

This is the verb "to be". There are a few things you might have noticed. There are two forms for "you". "Vous" is used in polite situations (like the conversation above) and also when speaking to more than one person. "Tu" is used exclusively when talking to one friend (or maybe someone the same age as you).

There are also two forms for "they". "Ils" is used most often, but "elles" is used for groups of *only* women. So, even if there is a group of 30,000 women and one man we have to use "ils"... This is a little strange, but it's not my fault!

Nationalities

Here's a small list of some nationalities. There are masculine and feminine forms for each of these. The feminine usually adds an "e". This is often written in brackets in other books. For plurals an "s" is added (unless there already is an "s" at the end, like in "français").

French= **français(e)**

American=**américain(e)**

Japanese=**japonais(e)**

Chinese=**chinois(e)**

Spanish=**espagnol(e)**

Canadian=**canadien(ne)** *Note the extra "n"*

Australian=**australien(ne)**

Practice

Translate the following sentences :

- 1) He is French
- 2) She is American
- 3) We (masculine) are Spanish
- 4) They (masculine) are Australian
- 5) They (masculine) are Japanese
- 6) You (polite singular/feminine) are French.
- 7) You (one friend/masculine) are Chinese
- 8) I (feminine) am Canadian
- 9) They (feminine) are Japanese
- 10) We (group of men and women) are American

| |
|---|
| 1) Il est français |
| 2) Elle est américaine |
| 3) Nous sommes espagnols |
| 4) Ils sont australiens |
| 5) Ils sont japonais |
| 6) Vous êtes française |
| 7) Tu es chinois |
| 8) Je suis canadienne |
| 9) Elles sont japonaises |
| 10) Nous sommes américains (if there is at least one man in the group then the ending is masculine) |

LEÇON 5

So far, we have seen just the one verb: “to be”. In this lesson we will look at some new verbs.

In this chapter you will learn:

- Learn new verbs: “to live”, “to speak” and “to like”
- Learn conjugations of -er verbs (this will make sense later)

French Text

Anne: Bonjour Paul, c’est mon amie Lucie. Elle est anglaise.

Paul : Bonjour Lucie. Je m’appelle Paul.
Enchanté¹. Est-ce que vous parlez français?

Lucie: Enchantée². Oui, je parle français, mais je ne parle pas³ très bien. C’est très difficile !

Paul : Oui, c’est un peu difficile, mais vous parlez très bien! Habitez-vous en France?

Lucie: Oui, j’habite avec Anne.

Anne: Oui, nous habitons³ ensemble à Paris.

Paul: Aimez-vous Paris, Lucie?

Lucie: Oui, j’aime beaucoup Paris.

English Translation

Anne: Hello, this is my friend, Lucie. She’s English

Paul: Hello Lucie. I’m called Paul. Nice to meet you. Do you speak French?

Lucie: Nice to meet you, Yes, I speak French, but I don’t speak very well. It’s very difficult.

Paul: Yes, it’s a little difficult, but you speak very well. Do you live in France?

Lucie: Yes, I live with Anne.

Anne: Yes, we live together in Paris.

Paul: Do you like Paris, Lucie?

Lucie: Yes, I like Paris a lot (litt: I like a lot Paris)

Try to find the following words in the text.

- 1) Nice to meet you
- 2) Difficult
- 3) A little
- 4) Very well
- 5) With
- 6) I speak
- 7) A lot

Grammar:

- 1) “Enchanté” is the masculine form. For women we add an “e”: “Enchantée”.
- 2) Remember that “ne pas” goes around the verb.
I speak=>je parle
I don’t speak=>Je ne parle pas
- 3) Verb forms change according to the person. More on this soon!

- 1) Enchanté (masculine) or Enchantée (feminine)
- 2) Difficile
- 3) Un peu
- 4) Très bien
- 5) Avec
- 6) Je parle
- 7) Beaucoup

Grammar

In English the verbs don't really change much according to the subject. We say: "I speak", "you speak", "he/she/it speaks", "we speak", and "they speak". The only change is "he/she/it speaks" where we add an "s". In French the conjugations are a little more complicated, but don't worry! You get used to them!

In English we have three ways to say the present tense: "I speak", "I am speaking" and "I do speak". Luckily, in French there is only one way. So "je parle" means "I speak", "I am speaking" and "I do speak".

Parler=to speak

Je parle=I speak

Tu parles=You (one friend) speak

Il/elle parle=He/she speaks

Nous parlons=We speak

Vous parlez=You speak (polite/more than one person)

Ils/elles parlent=They speak ("elles" for a group of women)

habiter=to live (in a place)

J'habite=I live ("h" not pronounced so contracted)

Tu habites=You (one friend) live

Il/elle habite=He/she lives

Nous habitons=We live

Vous habitez=You live (polite/more than one person)

Ils/elles habitent=They live ("elles" for a group of women)

What do you notice about the verbs? The -er ending at the top is removed and replaced by "-e", "-es", "-e", "-ons", "-ez", "-ent".

Also, the forms for "je", "tu", "il", "elle" and "ils" and "elles" are all pronounced the same.

On the next page we have two more verbs which you can try to conjugate. Use the verbs above as a guide.

Grammar Activity

Conjugate the following verbs:

Aimer=to like (sometimes “to love”)

J'aime

Tu ...

Il/elle ...

Nous ...

Vous ...

Ils/elles ...

regarder=to watch

Je regarde

Tu ...

Il/elle ...

Nous ...

Vous ...

Ils/elles ...

regarder=to
watch
je regarde
tu regardes
il/elle regarde
nous regardons
vous regardez
ils/elles regardent

Aimer=to like (sometimes “to love”)
J'aime
Tu aimes
Il/elle aime
Nous aimons (pronunciation: “nuz emon”)
Vous aimez (pronunciation: “vooz emay”)
Ils/elles aiment (pronunciation=“elz em” “elz em”)