

French

Knowledge Book

Summer Term

Year 7

Unit 5: Mon quartier

Places in town

Qu'est-ce qu'il y a dans ...?

What is there in ...?

il y a

there is

il n'y a pas

there isn't

un bowling

bowling alley

un centre commercial

shopping centre

un centre sportif

sports centre

un cinéma

cinema

un collège

secondary school

une église

church

un fast-food

fast food restaurant

une gare routière

bus station

un magasin

shop

une maison des jeunes

youth club

un parc

park

un parc d'attractions

theme park

une patinoire

ice rink

une piscine	swimming pool
une place	town square
un quartier	neighbourhood
une rue	street
un supermarché	supermarket
un terrain de sport	playing field

Activities

Qu'est-ce qu'on peut faire?	What is there to do?
on peut	we can/you can
acheter des vêtements	to buy clothes
faire de la natation	to go swimming
chercher un trésor	to look for treasure
faire du bowling	to go bowling
faire du patin à glace	to go ice skating
faire du skate	to go skateboarding
faire des courses	to go shopping
jouer au foot	to play football
prendre le bus	to take the bus

regarder un film

to watch a film

Asking for and giving directions

Pour aller à ...?

How do I get to ...?

Allez tout droit.

Go straight ahead.

Prenez la deuxième rue à droite.

Take the second road on the right.

Prenez la deuxième rue à gauche.

Take the second road on the left.

Prenez la première rue à droite.

Take the first road on the right.

Prenez la première rue à gauche.

Take the first road on the left.

tournez

turn

traversez

cross

Arranging to go out

Tu veux sortir?

Would you like to go out?

où (?)

where (?)

le matin

morning

l'après-midi

afternoon

le soir	evening
on se retrouve	let's meet
devant (le cinéma)	in front of (the cinema)
au café	at the café
à la gare routière	at the bus station
au parc	at the park
sur la place	in the square
chez moi	at my house
chez toi	at your house

Sequencing connectives

d'abord	first of all
puis	then
après	after
ensuite	next
pour finir	finally

Information on Grammar Points

Subject pronouns

The subject of a verb is the person or thing "doing" the verb. The subject pronoun is the word that is used to refer to this person or thing. e.g. **He** plays football. Here are the English and French subject pronouns.

		English	French
singular	1 st . person	I	je (j')
	2 nd . person	you (informal/singular)	tu
	3 rd . person	he	il
		she	elle
		one	on
plural	1 st . person	we	nous
	2 nd . person	you (formal/plural)	vous
	3 rd . person	they (masculine)	ils
		they (feminine)	elles

Present tense

The present tense is used to say what is happening **now**, what **usually** happens or what **does** happen. In English there are three ways of expressing a verb in the present tense; in French, just one.

Here are some examples:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | I am playing football. |
| ➤ Je joue au football. | I play football. |
| | I do play football. |
| | |
| | I am going to the park. |
| ➤ Je vais au parc. | I go to the park. |
| | I do go to the park. |
| | |
| | I am living in Luton. |
| ➤ J' habite à Luton. | I live in Luton. |
| | I do live in Luton. |

In French there are **three** groups of verbs:

- those ending in **-er**
- those ending in **-ir**
- those ending in **-re**

1. Regular **-er** verbs

Verbs change their spelling according to their subject. Regular-**er** verbs are formed by replacing the letters **-er** with different endings.

	Subject	Ending	Subject	Ending
1 st . person	je	-e	nous	-ons
2 nd . person	tu	-es	vous	-ez
3 rd . person	il	-e	ils	-ent
	elle	-e	elles	-ent
	on	-e		

2. Regular **-ir** verbs

For these verbs e.g. *finir* (to finish), *choisir* (to choose) and *remplir* (to fill),

replace **-ir** with the endings shown in the table below.

	Subject	Ending	Subject	Ending
1st. person	je	<i>-is</i>	nous	<i>-issons</i>
2nd. person	tu	<i>-is</i>	vous	<i>-issez</i>
3rd. person	il	<i>-it</i>	ils	<i>-issent</i>
	elle	<i>-it</i>	elles	<i>-issent</i>
	on	<i>-it</i>		

3. Regular *-re* verbs

For these verbs e.g. *mordre* (to bite), *perdre* (to lose), and *vendre* (to sell), the *-re* is replaced by the endings shown in the table below.

	Subject	Ending	Subject	Ending
1st. person	je	<i>-is</i>	nous	<i>-ons</i>
2nd. person	tu	<i>-s</i>	vous	<i>-ez</i>
3rd. person	il	<i>-</i>	ils	<i>-ent</i>
	elle	<i>-</i>	elles	<i>-ent</i>
	on	<i>-</i>		

Irregular verbs in the present tense

Irregular verbs do not follow the usual rules - they have their own patterns.

Some of the most useful, and most used, verbs are irregular and need to be learnt by heart.

avoir = to have		être = to be	
j'	ai	je	suis
tu	as	tu	es
il/elle/on	a	il/elle/on	est
nous	avons	nous	sommes
vous	avez	vous	êtes
ils/elles	ont	ils/elles	sont

e.g. **J'ai un chat.** = I have a cat.

e.g. **Je suis anglais.** = I am English.

aller to go		faire = to do	
je	vais	je	fais
tu	vas	tu	fais

il/elle/on	va	il/elle/on	fait
nous	allons	nous	faisons
vous	allez	vous	faites
ils/elles	vont	ils/elles	font

e.g. **Je vais au bar.** = I go to the bar.

e.g. **Je fais du skate.** = I go skateboarding.

pouvoir = to be able		vouloir = to want to	
je	peux	je	veux
tu	peux	tu	veux
il/elle/on	peut	il/elle/on	veut
nous	pouvons	nous	voulons
vous	pouvez	vous	voulez
ils/elles	peuvent	ils/elles	veulent

e.g. **Je peux faire de la natation.** = I can go swimming.

e.g. **Tu veux jouer au tennis?** = Do you want to play tennis?

Imperatives

Imperatives are used to give instructions or orders, to tell someone what to do.

First decide whether the person/people you are giving instructions to should be addressed as "tu" or "vous" in French.

In French, an order or an instruction is given by using either the "tu" or the "vous" form of the present tense without the subject pronoun. If using the "tu" form for *-er* verbs, the final *-s* is dropped.

Infinitive	Meaning	Tu form	Vous form	Meaning
écouter	to listen (to)	Écoute!	Écoutez!	Listen!
regarder	to watch	Regarde!	Regardez!	Watch!
tourner	to turn	Tourne!	Tournez!	Turn!
traverser	to cross	Traverse!	Traversez!	Cross!

Reflexive verbs

Verbs that you might say "you do to yourself" are known as reflexive verbs. In

English, these verbs might be expressed by adding the words "myself",

"yourself", "himself", etc. For example: I wash myself, he calls himself, they dress themselves. In French, these verbs always have a **reflexive pronoun** *between* the subject and the verb.

These verbs usually have a better translation in English than using the word for word equivalent.

Je m' appelle Anne.	= I call myself Anne.	= I am called Anne.
Tu te couches.	= You yourself go to bed.	= You go to bed.
Il se lève.	= He gets himself up.	= He gets up.

Here are the reflexive pronouns:

Singular		Plural	
myself	me/m'	ourselves	nous
yourself	te/t'	yourselves	vous
him/her/oneself	se/s'	themselves	se/s'

Nouns and articles

A noun is a "naming" word - places, people and things.

All French nouns are either **masculine** or **feminine**. When you look up a French word in the dictionary, it will tell you whether or not that word is a noun (n) and whether it is masculine (m) or feminine (f).

le and **la** are definite articles and mean "the".

e.g. le portable = the mobile 'phone

e.g. la voiture = the car

When **le** or **la** goes in front of a vowel, it loses a letter.

e.g. l'objet (m) = the object

l'école (f) = the school

In the plural (more than one), the definite article is **les** and the indefinite article is **des** (=some). You cannot omit des.

e.g. **les** portables = the mobile 'phones

Elle a **des** cartes postales = She's got (some) postcards.

un and **une** are indefinite articles and mean "a" or "an".

e.g. **un** portable = a mobile 'phone

e.g. **une** voiture = a car

	masculine	feminine	plural
definite article	le portable	la voiture	les portables les voitures
indefinite article	un portable	une voiture	des portables des voitures

Prepositions

Prepositions are words placed before nouns and pronouns to show position and other relationships. Example: **at** the park.

Prepositions: à

This preposition can mean "at", "to" or "in", depending on context. It is used with the definite article (le, la, l', les) when referring to places in town.

masculine noun	à + le	= au
feminine noun	à + la	= à la
singular noun starting with a vowel or silent "h"	à + l'	= à + l'
plural noun	à + les	= aux

Examples:

le parc

Je vais **au** parc.

= I am going to the park.

la piscine

Je vais à **la** piscine.

= I am going to the pool.

l' église Je vais à l' église. = I am going to the church.

les magasins Je vais aux magasins. = I am going to the shops.

Prepositions: de

This preposition can be used on its own or with the definite article (le, la, l', les). When it is used with the definite article, its spelling may change.

masculine noun	de + le	= du
feminine noun	de + la	= de la
singular noun starting with a vowel or silent "h"	de + l'	= de + l'
plural noun	de + les	= des

Examples:

le parc à côté du parc = next to the park

la piscine en face de la piscine = opposite the swimming pool

l' église à gauche de l'église = left of the church

les magasins à droite des magasins = right of the shops

Negatives

The negative is used when you want to say "no" or "not". In English the words don't, can't, hasn't and haven't are often used to make a negative statement e.g. I know -> I don't know.

To form the negative in French, you need to add two words to a statement - **ne** is placed in front of the verb and **pas** is placed after it.

- Je vais au bar. = I am going to the bar.

Je **ne** vais **pas** au bar. = I am not going to the bar.

- Il y a une piscine. = There is a swimming pool.

Il **n'y** a **pas** de piscine. = There isn't a swimming pool.

- Il y a des lions au zoo. There are (some) lions at the zoo.

Il **n'y** a **pas de** lions au zoo. There aren't any lions at the zoo.

Adjectives

Adjectives describe a noun. In French, they normally follow the noun.

e.g. un chat *gris* = a *grey* cat

une tortue *verte* = a *green* tortoise

Some adjectives, often short ones such as beau, joli, jeune, vieux, petit, grand, gros and nouveau go in front of the noun.

e.g. un *petit* chien = a small dog

une *grande* maison = a large house

Adjectival agreement

Most adjectives agree with the noun. Their sound and spelling change according to whether the noun they describe is **masculine** or **feminine**, singular or **plural**. They add an **-e** in the feminine and an **-s** in the plural.

	masculine	feminine
singular	un petit chien	une petite maison
plural	deux petits chiens	deux petites maisons

If an adjective already ends in **-s**, it does not change in the masculine plural. This often happens with adjectives of nationality.

e.g. *deux garçons français* = two French boys

If an adjective already ends in **-e**, it does not change in the feminine singular.

e.g. *une maison jaune* = a yellow house

Some adjectives follow different rules when they agree.

translation	masculine	feminine	masc. plural	fem. plural
active	actif	active	actifs	actives
brave	courageux	courageuse	courageux	courageuses
hard-working	travailleur	travailleuse	travailleurs	travailleuses
kind	gentil	gentille	gentils	gentilles
long	long	longue	longs	longues
fat	gros	grosse	gros	grosses
national	national	nationale	nationaux	nationales
red-haired	roux	rousse	roux	rousses
beautiful	beau	belle	beaux	belles

Some common adjectives have irregular agreements.

masculine	feminine	masc. plural	fem. plural
blanc	blanche	blancs	blanches
vieux	vieille	vieux	vieilles

Some adjectives, such as marron, orange, sympa and cool, do not agree at all:

they are invariable.

e.g. Mes parents sont sympa. = My parents are nice.

Mes copines sont cool. = My (girl) friends are cool.

Compound adjectives (made up of two adjectives) are also invariable.

e.g. des yeux bleu foncé = dark blue eyes

Possessive adjectives

Possessive adjectives tell you to whom something belongs: **my** cat, **your** budgie, **his** pencil, **her** book, **its** paw. In French, possessive adjectives (the words for

my, your, his etc.) agree with the noun. It does not matter if you are talking about a girl or a boy (a woman or a man) owning the item, what matters is the gender/number of the noun that follows.

		my	your	his/her/its
masculine (or starting with a vowel)	un bic	mon bic	ton bic	son bic
	une écharpe	mon écharpe	ton écharpe	son écharpe
feminine	une console	ma console	ta console	sa console
plural	les parents	mes parents	tes parents	ses parents

Examples:

Paul dort chez moi. Sa mère est en vacances. =

Paul is sleeping at my house. His mother is on holiday.

Laure joue bien au tennis. Son père est prof de tennis. =

Laure plays tennis well. Her father is a tennis teacher.

The Habits of Expression

To express an opinion, use:

J'aime	I like
Je n'aime pas	I don't like
J'adore	I love
Je déteste	I hate
Je préfère	I prefer

e.g. **J'adore les lions.** = I love lions.

Je n'aime pas surfer sur internet. = I don't like surfing the internet.

Je préfère manger au restaurant. = I prefer eating out.

Connectives to justify:

parce que	because
car	because

comme

as

puisque

since

vu que

considering that

To justify:

je pense que

I think that

je crois

I think/believe that

il me semble que

I think that/it seems to me that

selon moi

I think that/according to me

à mon avis

I think that/to my mind/in my opinion

e.g. ... **parce que je pense que c'est super.** = ... because I think that it's super.

... **comme je crois que c'est nul.** = ... as I think/believe that it's rubbish.