

**French
without
grammar**

**A preliminary lesson
for
beginners**

No exercises, No questions,

No puzzles, No cartoons

CATTAI SCHOOL OF AART

- **This preliminary lesson replaces a whole book!**

You can now learn the traditional scholastic French in three years instead of in six because **Education** is a commercial enterprise!

- **New Millennium French**

First people form a habit but then the habit forms the people.

French without grammar is the only course that employs a totally new way of teaching languages simply because it's practical.

- Contrary to all other courses, this one starts with **notes**; it will facilitate learning the story which will now become a summary.

- Each lesson starts with the **derivatives**; they are used to jog your memory. After studying a list, you will discover that you have been speaking French for quite while without realising it because **derivatives** are only **look-alikes**. English people put the **stress** on a different syllable instead of on the last one so the recognition is lost. Check story1!
- **The English translations above the French text is unique** because there is no need to print vocabularies. My Latin books Ecce Romani use this system as well.
- **A summary of the main differences between English and French: accents: garçon(boy), très(very), été(summer), hâte(haste), voilà(there is)**

- **Oe=œ:œil**(eye)
- Most final letters and h are not pronounced: **tous**(all), **portent**(they carry), **l'homme**(the man). Check the dictionary to learn if they are: **os**(bone), **fier**(proud).
- **Verbs** end in **er, ir, re, oir**:
aimer(to love), **finir**(to finish),
entendre(to hear), **recevoir**(to receive).
- **Each personal pronoun** (je, tu, il, elle, nous, vous, ils) has its own form. It's a question of remembering standard patterns. **Tu** is used for friends. **Vous** is used for others or a whole group.
- **The tenses**: there are about 9 different ones.

Present tense: I love...

j'aime-aimes-aime-aimons-aimez-aiment.

finis-finis-finit-finissons-finissez-finissent.

entends-entends-entend-entendons-entendez-entendent

recons-reçois-reçoit-recevons-recevez-reçoivent

- **Auxiliary verbs:** avoir(to have), être(to be)

j'ai-tu as-il a-nous avons-vous avez-ils ont

je suis-tu es-il-est-nous sommes-vous êtes-ils sont

- **Adverbs** follow the verbs:

Il ronfle doucement(he softly snores)

Since nouns and adjectives are either masculine or feminine, the suffix **ment** is added to the feminine form:

doux-douce-doucement

- **Masculine nouns and adjectives:**

Le joli jardin(the pretty garden),

un joli jardin(a pretty garden),

les beaux jardins(the beautiful

gardens), **de beaux jardins**(beautiful

gardens), **des jardins**(gardens),

du(de le) jardin(of the garden),
du sucre(sugar).

- **Feminine nouns and adjectives:**

La jolie fleur(the pretty flower),

une jolie fleur(a pretty flower),

les belles fleurs(the beautiful flowers),

de jolies fleurs(beautiful flowers),

de la fleur(of the flower),

des fleurs(flowers).

- **The nasal sounds:** practise them by squeezing your nose: **le jardin**(the garden), **un**(one), **l'enfant**(the child).

- **The R:** a guttural-or a rolling one:
bonjour

- **The possessive adjectives**

adjectives	
Mon livre- mes livres	My book-my books
Ma plume -mes plumes	My pen-my pens
Ton livre-tes livres	Your book-your books
Ta plume-tes plumes	Your pen-your pens

Son livre-ses livres	His book-his books
Sa plume-ses plumes	His pen-his pens
Notre livre-nos livres	Our book-our books
Notre plume-nos plumes	Our pen-our pens
Votre livre-vos livres	Your book-your books
Votre plume-vos plumes	Your pen-your pens
Leur livre-leurs livres	Their book-their books
Leur plume-leurs plumes	Their pen-their pens

• **The possessive pronouns:**

le mien- les miens	mine
la mienne-les miennes	mine
le tien- les tiens	yours
la tienne-les tiennes	yours
le sien-les siens	his
la sienne-les siennes	hers
le nôtre-les nôtres	ours
la nôtre-les nôtres	ours
le vôtre-les vôtres	yours
la vôtre-les vôtres	yours
le leur-les leurs	theirs
la leur-les leurs	theirs

• **The demonstrative adjectives**

Ce garçon-ce garçon-ci	this boy
Cet homme-cet homme-ci	this man
Cette femme-cette femme-ci	this woman
Ces garçons-ces garçons-ci	this boys
Ces homes-ces hommes-ci	this men

Ces femmes-ces femmes-ci	this women
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Ce garçon-là	That boy
Cet homme-là	That man
Cette femme-là	That woman
Ces garçons-là	Those boys
Ces hommes-là	Those men
Ces femmes-là	Those women

Learning to speak French

The natural way

1.

- **No grammar**
- **No exercises**
- **No questions**
- **No puzzles**
- **No cartoons**

CATTAI SCHOOL OF AART

FOREWORD

- **Contrary to all other language books, this one has no exercises and questions so you can't make mistakes; you can only forget!**
- **One can now learn scholastic French in 3 years- instead of in 6.**

- Script is the mirror image of speech. The word order in a sentence depends on the fluency it can be pronounced, so often the one in French is different from the one in English. Copying what you see makes the learning of rules unnecessary:

La viande Il me la donne –he gives it to me.

Le fromage Il me le donne –he gives it to me.

Pronounced as one word!

- Language is learnt by good examples; that's how French children learn to speak and write.

Learning French needs awareness of how words are pronounced and a good memory. Unfortunately, the many reminders and beeps are fast diminishing the skill to memorise. Fortunately, this can

be improved to an amazing degree by adopting the Principles of Professional Memory Training. Exercises may be found in my “Creative Writing.”

Professional Memory Training

- **Visualising the English** translation first is unique. Do it several times so that you become familiar with the vocabulary used in the notes.
- **Visualising** the translation means **seeing** it as a movie and **hearing** in your mind what the actors **say**!
- After memorising the English story, familiarise yourself with the pronunciation symbols.
A good dictionary gives them for each word.

- Then it's time to listen to the French story being read (YouTube with earphones).
- Most words, phrases, expressions and sentences in the story appear in the notes.

Studying the notes: Say & memorise the French; just looking is not enough. Learn a couple of words or sentences in a 30 - minute session. During the rest of the day, repeat them mentally while doing other chores including driving. Eventually, it should be possible to mentally translate the whole English story into French! This unique procedure will enable you to then say in French what you have stored in your mind.

- The French story (above elementary level) is actually a summary of the notes. Therefore, to read it comfortably, you should spend quite some time on them. Then “all you have to do” is string the bits and pieces together. That can only happen when they regularly fill your mind. Success depends on your study efficiency.
Remember : festina lente (less haste, more speed).

PRONUNCIATION SYMBOLS

- **The natural way** is the way French parents teach their children; from the simple to the more complex. For that reason, introductory lessons – the notes – consist of small, easy to remember units taken from the story.

- These units appear under the following headings:
- **Nouns & Adjectives:** masculine and feminine
- **Verbs:** each person has its own form, so they are usually presented in groups of six to get you used to the regular – and irregular patterns. They are to be used as a reference only.
- **Verbs & Adverbs**

- **Sentences, expressions & phrases**
Personal pronouns are in colour to indicate their position (**before or after the verb**) and their sequence, if there are two:

Elle les lui donne (pronounced as one word)

She gives **them** to **him**

The bold sections are to be memorised as a whole

without consulting a grammar book!

LESSON 1

NOTES

- In this unique book, the **notes precede** the lesson! Fortunately, they only refer to it. This technical preparation will facilitate memorising the French text.
- **The translation above the text** makes the use of a vocabulary unnecessary.

Derivatives: Another unique feature of this course. Many English words are derived from French. Although they are sometimes too sophisticated for a simple story, I use some of

them to facilitate learning French, and others to jog your memory.

Jardin	Garden	Femme	Feminine
Enfant	Infant	Fleur	Flower
Herbes	Herbs	Arbre	Arboreal
Porter	Porter	Rose	Rose
Se coucher	Couch	Longue	Long
Agréable	Agreeable	Fatigué	Fatigue
Dormir,dort	Dormant	Soudain	Suddenly
Courir	Courier	Enterrer	Terra
Bataille	Battle		Australis
Robe	Bathrobe	Comfortable	Comfortable
Journal	Journal	Chambre	Chamber
Beau	Beautiful	Étonné	Astonish
Miserable	Miserable	Ruine	Ruin
précieuse	Precious	S'amuser	Amuse themselves

Note: It's like half time you're already speaking French! It will increase your English vocabulary (vocabulaire!) as well; only the accent is on a different syllable.

Remember: The stress is always on the last syllable of a French word

Masculine nouns, adjectives and pronouns:

Red letters are not pronounced

I prefer to use the guttural R(at the back of the throat like gurgling); you may use the English one.

Liaison: pronouncing two or more words as one; s sounds z: les enfants(lizenfan), ses enfants(sizenfan)

Making the nasal sound needs quite a bit of practise; start by squeezing your nose!

Le jardin (the garden), **son jardin** (his garden), **au jardin** (in the garden), **votre jardin** (your garden), **son beau jardin** (his beautiful garden), **mon pauvre jardin** (my poor garden), **l'enfant** (the child), **les enfants** (the children), **ses enfants** (his children), **le buisson** (the bush), **les buissons** (the bushes), **des buissons** (bushes), **le printemps**

(the spring), **l'été** (the summer), **en été** (in summer), **le rosier** (the rose-bush), **les rosiers** (the rose-bushes), **le soir** (the evening), **un grand bruit** (a loud noise), **quel tapage!** (what a row!), **le chien** (the dog), **les chiens** (the dogs), **des chiens** (dogs), **ces chiens-là** (those dogs), **le trou** (the hole), **les trous** (the holes), **des trous** (holes), **de grands trous** (big holes), **un os** (a bone), **leurs os** (their bones), **des os** (bones), **un champ** (a field), **cher M. Toulouse** (dear Mr Toulouse), **l'oreiller** (the pillow), **son oreiller** (his pillow), **le matin** (the morning), **le journal** (the newspaper), **son journal** (his newspaper), **les journaux** (the newspapers), **le petit déjeuner** (breakfast), **mon Dieu** (my God), **mes chers buissons** (my dear bushes), **ces misérables chiens** (these wretched dogs), **l'arbre** (the tree), **les arbres** (the trees), **des arbres** (trees): [dizarbre]

Feminine nouns, adjectives & pronouns

la femme (the woman), **sa femme** (his wife), **une femme** (a woman),
les plates-bandes (the flower-beds),
la fleur (the flower), **une fleur** (a flower),
les fleurs (the flowers), **des fleurs** (flowers),
il n'y a pas de fleurs (there are no flowers),
les jolies fleurs (the pretty flowers),
la pelouse (the lawn), **les pelouses vertes**
(the green lawns), **les mauvaises herbes**
(the weeds), **la rose** (the rose), **les roses**
(the roses), **des roses** (roses),
les belles roses (the beautiful roses),
une longue journée (a long day),
une journée agréable (a pleasant day),
cette ruine (this ruin),
mes fleurs précieuses (my precious flowers), **une allée** (a garden path).

Summary

- **Le** jardin (the garden), **les** jardins (the gardens), **des** jardins (gardens), **du** jardin (of the garden), **du** fromage (cheese), **pas de** jardin (no garden), **il n'y a pas de** jardins (there are no gardens), **un** jardin (a garden), un joli jardin (a pretty garden), **son** jardin précieux (his precious garden), il est heureux (he is happy).
- Elle est heureuse (she is happy) **la** rose (the rose), **les** roses (the roses), **des** roses (roses), **pas de** rose (no rose), **il n'y a pas de** roses (there are no roses), **une** rose (a rose), **une** jolie rose (a pretty rose), **une** rose précieuse (a precious rose), **ses** roses précieuses (his precious roses), **de la** viande (meat).
- **Adverbs** qualify verbs:

Il dort **tranquillement** (he sleeps peacefully)

Il ronfle **doucement** (he snores softly)

- **Adjectives** are masculine or feminine according to the nouns they qualify. They are usually placed **after** the noun. Les pelouses **vertes** (the green lawns), une voiture **Américaine** (an American car), une journée **agréable** (a pleasant day), une lettre **intéressante** (an interesting letter), un oreiller **confortable** (a comfortable pillow), mes fleurs **précieuses** (my precious flowers), mon jardin **précieux** (my precious garden), un garçon **heureux** (a happy boy), une fille **heureuse** (a happy girl), la main **droite** (the right hand), la main **gauche** (the left hand), une femme **intelligente** (an intelligent woman), un homme **intelligent** (an intelligent man), un homme **aimable** (a pleasant man), le

garçon **poli** (the polite waiter), un homme **pauvre** (a poor man: no money), une table **ronde** (a round table).

- **The following adjectives** are almost always placed **before** the the noun:

Bon(good), **mauvais**(bad), **joli**(pretty), **villain**(nasty), **jeune**(young), **vieux**, **vieille**(old), **grand**(big), **gros**(stout), **petit**(small), **long**(long), **une longue journée**(a long day), **court**(short), **le premier janvier**(the first of January), **la première leçon**(the first lesson), **l'autre jour**(the other day), **chaque jour**(every day).

In the story they express a sentimental value:

Cette ruine(this ruin), **les belles roses**(the beautiful roses), **mes jolies fleurs**(my pretty flowers), **mes pauvres fleurs**(my poor flowers), **mes cher buissons**(my dear bushes),

ces misérables chiens(these wretched dogs),
mon pauvre jardin(my poor garden).

- **Past particles** behave like **adjectives**:

Marie est partie à midi(Mary left at midday),
étonné, il regarde son beau jardin(stunned,
he looks at his beautiful garden), **étonnée, sa
femme regarde cette ruine** (stunned, his wife
looks at this ruin), **cette dame est admirée de
tout le monde**(this lady is admired by
everyone), **voici la plume que j'ai
achetée**(here is the pen I bought), **elles se
sont assises**(they sat down).

Note: **reflexive verbs** are conjugated with
être(to be):

Voici les lettres écrites par moi(here are the
letters written by me), **la pauvre femme est
tombée**(the poor woman fell), **ils sont partis
ce matin**(they left this morning), **les chiens
sont morts de faim**(de dogs died of

starvation), **mes pelouses sont gâtées**(my lawns are damaged).

The Auxiliary verbs

avoir (to have)

être (to be)

present	past	present	past
j'ai	j'avais	je suis	j'étais
tu as	tu avais	tu es	tu étais
il a	il avait	il est	il était
nous avons	nous avons	nous sommes	nous étions
vous avez	vous aviez	vous êtes	vous étiez
ils ont	ils avaient	ils sont	ils étaient

Verbs: Regular & Irregular

They end in er-ir-re-oir

Each personal pronoun has its own form, so verbs are presented in groups of six. Our brain is a pattern making and a pattern using system(Edward de Bono), so it's better to print the prototypes of the regular ones in groups. Irregular groups are given when needed and to be used as a reference only. They are also mentioned in Harrap's shorter French-and English dictionary.

Tu is used for friends. **Vous** is used for one person or a whole group.

Regular verbs in story 1: present tense

aimer	finir	tondre	se coucher	mettre
to love	to finish	to mow	to go to bed	to put
j'aime	finis	tonds	je me couche	mets
aimes	finis	tonds	tu te couches	mets
aime	finit	tond	il se couche	met

aimons	finissons	tondons	nous nous couchons	mettons
aimez	finissez	tondez	vous vous couchez	mettez
aiment	finissent	tondent	ils se couchent	mettent

voir	enlever	aboyer	ouvrir	entendre
to see	to take away	to bark	to open	to hear
vois	j'enlève	le chien aboie	j'ouvre	j'entends
vois	enlèves	les chiens aboient	ouvres	entends
voit	enlève		ouvre	entend
voyons	enlevons		ouvrons	entendons
voyez	enlevez		ouvrez	entendez
voient	enlèvent		ouvrent	entendent

Irregular verbs in story 1

cueillir	courir	dormir	sortir	aller
to pick	to run	to sleep	to go out	to go
cueille	cours	dors	sors	vais
cueilles	cours	dors	sors	vas

cueille	court	dort	sort	va
cueillons	courons	dormons	sortons	allons
cueillez	courez	dormez	sortez	allez
cueillent	courent	dorment	sortent	vont

s'asseoir	boire	connaître	croire	devoir
to sit down	to drink	to know	to believe	to have to
je m'assieds	bois	connais	crois	dois
tu t'assieds	bois	connais	crois	dois
il s'assied	boit	connait	croit	doit
nous nous asseyons	buvons	connaissons	croyons	devons
vous vous asseyez	buvez	connaissez	croyez	devez
Il s'asseient	boivent	connaissent	croient	doivent

envoyer	envoyer	envoyer	avoir
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to send	to send	to send	to have
present	perfect	future	compare
j'envoie	j'ai envoyé	j'enverrai	j'ai
envoies	tu as envoyé	enverras	tu as
envoie	il a envoyé	enverra	il a
envoyons	nous avons...	enverrons	nous avons
envoyez	vous avez...	enverrez	vous avez
envoient	ils ont...	enverront	ils ont

Negative: je ne dors pas (I don't sleep)

Je n'ai pas dormi (I didn't sleep)

Interrogative: est – ce que j'ai dormi? (did I sleep)

Or: ai – je dormi?

penser	penser	rêver	dormir	dormir
to think	to think	to dream	to sleep	to sleep
imperfect	perfect	imperfect	perfect	future
I thought...	I thought...	I dreamt...	I slept...	I shall sleep...
pensais	j'ai pensé	rêvais	j'ai dormi	dormirai

pensais	tu as pensé	rêvais	tu as dormi	dormiras
pensait	il a pensé	rêvait	il a dormi	dormira
pensions	nous avons...	rêvions	nous avons...	dormirons
pensiez	vous avez...	rêviez	vous avez...	dormirez
pensaient	ils ont...	rêvaient	ils ont...	dormiront

1. **Perfect tense** (used in conversations): an action indicating a moment in the past.
2. **Imperfect tense**: a past action that goes on indefinitely.

J'ai pensé que je rêvais
(I thought that I was dreaming)

Imperative

This tense is used to give orders.

There are 3 forms: the present tense for

Je – nous – vous

Note: the French word order is the same as the English one

Give me a kiss

- Je donne: Donne – moi un baiser

Give it to me

- Je rends: Rends – **le** – **moi**!

Sit down

- Je m'assieds: Assieds - toi!

Sit down

Vous vous asseyez: Asseyez – vous!

Let us go to the beach

- Nous allons: Allons à la plage

- Aller (irregular): to go

vais, vas, **il va**, allons, allez, vont

va à l'école! (go to school)

Vais is not strong enough to give an order

Allons à l'école (Let's go to school)

First lesson

Lesson one

Première leçon

Leçon un

The dream of Mr

Toulouse

Le rêve de Monsieur Toulouse

- I've translated the French story; you only translate the English one. This is an oral activity; after all, you want to learn to speak French!

Sometimes, a translation is not a word for word one: only the meaning is translated; just memorise the French (the bold expressions). If you translate the French words, you'll see what I mean.

Il lève les yeux (he looks up), **sous peu** (before long), **il fait du vent** (it's windy), **il fait chaud** (it is hot), **il fait froid** (it is cold), **j'ai faim** (I am hungry), **j'ai soif** (I am thirsty), **s'il vous plaît** (please), **elle désire rentrer chez elle** (she wishes to be back home), **je m'appelle** (my name is), **il donne un coup de téléphone à** (he rings), **un coup de poing** (a punch), **un œil poché** (a black eye), **nous allons à la**

pêche(we're going fishing), **canne à pêche**(fishing rod).

- The numbered sentences will facilitate memorising the **bold** expressions.
- The English translation **above** the French text is unique.

Mr. Toulouse loves his garden as he

1.M. Toulouse aime son jardin comme il
loves his wife and his children
aime sa femme et ses enfants.

All the week-ends he waters the

2.Tous les week-ends, il arrose les
flower-beds and the bushes
plates-bandes et les buissons.

He picks the pretty flowers mows the

3.Il cueille les jolies fleurs, tond les
green lawns and removes the weeds
pelouses vertes et enlève les mauvaises
herbes.

In spring and in summer it is very

4. **Au printemps et en été, c'est très**
pretty when the trees bear their flowers
joli quand les arbres portent leurs fleurs.

And when the beautiful roses are on the
5. **Et quand les belles roses sont sur les**
rose-bushes
rosiers.

Mr. Toulouse is very proud of his garden

6. **M. Toulouse est très fier de son jardin.**

Sunday evening when Mr Toulouse goes

7. **Dimanche soir, quand M. Toulouse se**
to bed after a long pleasant day
couche après **une longue journée agréable**
in the garden
au jardin.

He is very tired and before long he sleeps

**8. Il est très fatigué et sous peu il dort
peacefully
tranquillement.**

Suddenly it seems to him that he hears a

**9. Soudain, il lui semble qu'il entend un
loud noise what a din
grand bruit! Quel tapage!**

Dogs bark everywhere

10. Des chiens aboient partout.

They run on his paths on the

11. Ils courent sur ses allées, sur les

lawns amongst the rose bushes

pelouses, parmi les rosiers.

He hears them dig big holes

12. Il les entend creuser de grands trous

in his flower-beds to bury their

dans ses plates-bandes pour enterrer leurs

bones

os.

His garden resembles

13. Son jardin ressemble à

a battle-field

un champ de bataille.

No dear Mr Toulouse

14.Non, cher M.Toulouse,

there are no dogs in your garden

il n'y a pas de chienss dans votre jardin.

Go to sleep

Endormez-vous!

Mr Toulouse puts **his** head upon his

15.M.Toulouse met la tête sur son

pillow comfortable and soon he is snoring

oreiller confortable et bientôt il ronfle

gently

doucement.

The following morning in slippers and

16.Le lendemain matin, en pantoufles et

in dressing gown he goes out
en robe de chambre, il sort
to bring back his newspaper before
pour rapporter son journal avant
breakfast
le petit déjeuner.

Surprised he watches his beautiful garden
17.Etonné, il regarde son beau jardin.

What does he see everywhere bones
18.Q'u est-ce qu'il voit partout- des os!

Oh my God exclaims Mr Toulouse
19.Oh, mon Dieu! s'écrie M. Toulouse.

My poor garden my lawns are

20. Mon pauvre jardin! **Mes** pelouses sont
spoilt
gâtées.

My poor flowers my dear bushes

21. Mes pauvres fleurs! **Mes** chers buissons!

Those dogs are the cause of this ruin

22. Ces chiens-là sont la cause de **cette** ruine!

I thought, that I was dreaming when

23. J'ai pensé que je rêvais quand
these wretched dogs enjoyed themselves
ces misérables chiens s'amusaient

among my precious flowers

parmi **mes fleurs précieuses!**

And into the bargain it's Monday today

24. Et en plus c'est aujourd'hui lundi!

Learning to speak French

The natural way

2.

- **No grammar**
- **No exercises**
- **No questions**
- **No puzzles**
- **No cartoons**

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Second lesson
Deuxième leçon

Lesson 2
Leçon deux

Notes

• **Derivatives**

Paragraph	Paragraph	Lettre	Letter
Intéressant	Interesting	Parler	Parlour
Favori	Favourite	Neveu	Nephew
Appeler	Appeal	Grand	Grand
Cage	Cage	Matin	Matinee
Donner	Donate	Fraîche	Fresh
D'habitude	Habit	Joyeux	Joyous
Ami	Amical	En retard	Retarded
École	School	Solidement	Solidly
Soupe	Soup	Retourner	Return
Directement	Directly	Caisse	Case
Merveilleux	Marvellous	Perch	Perch
Gratter	Grate	Voler	Volatile

Remember to say and memorise the French.

• **Masculine nouns & adjectives:**

Le perroquet favori de ton neveu(the favourite parrot of your nephew), **cet oiseau**(this bird), **quelques paragraphes** (some paragraphs), **sous un arbre**(under a tree), **le joli oiseau vert et rouge**(the pretty green and red bird), **tous les matins**(every morning), **son perroquet**(his parrot), **un petit baiser**(a little kiss), **un gros baiser**(a big kiss), **son joyeux petit ami**(his merry little friend), **hier matin**(yesterday morning), **l'heure du déjeuner**(lunch time), **dans les arbres voisins**(in the neighbouring trees), **un petit morceau de pâté de lapin**(a small piece of rabbit pie), **pas de perroquet**(no parrot), **il est très fatigué**(he is very tired), **le petit ami de mon fils**(the little friend of my son), **un œil fripon**(a mischievous eye), **un garçon heureux**(a happy boy).

- **Feminine nouns & adjectives:**

Sa sœur en Australie(her sister in Australia), **sa longue lettre intéressante**(her long, interesting letter), **une grande cage**(a big cage), **près de la maison**(near the house), **de l'eau fraîche**(fresh water), **la porte de la cage**(the door of the cage), **l'école**(the school), **la porte ouverte**(the open door), **notre arrière cour**(our back yard), **dans la rue**(in the street), **sa bonne soupe**(his nice soup), **une petite caisse**(a little case), **quelle surprise merveilleuse**(what a marvellous surprise), **la palissade**(the fence), **ses plumes sont mouillées**(his feathers are damp), **son épaule**(his shoulder), **quatre heures et demie**(half past 4), **une femme heureuse**(a happy woman), **une vieille femme**(an old woman).

- **Verbs & adverbs:**

Il ferme soigneusement la porte (he carefully closes the door), **il a oublié de fermer solidement** la porte de la cage (he forgot to securely close the door of the cage), **il est allé directement** à la cage (he went directly to the cage), **il s'est assis tristement** sur une petite caisse (he sadly sat down on a small case).

- **The perfect tense** is used for past actions that only last a moment (conversational language). **Est-ce que je t'ai parlé du perroquet** (did I tell you about the parrot...), **il a été un peu en retard pour l'école** (he was a bit late for school), **il a oublié** (he forgot), **il est rentré** (he came back), **il est sorti** (he left), **il a trouvé** (he found), **il a cherché** (he searched), **il n'a pas trouvé** (he didn't find), **il n'a pas voulu** (he didn't want), **il a eu seulement** (he only had), **il est retourné à**

l'école(he went back to school), **il est allé**(he went), **il s'est assis**(he sat down).

- **The imperfect tense** is used for continuous past actions: **il écrivait une lettre**(he was writing a letter)
- **A combination: j'al pensé que je rêvais**(I thought that I was dreaming)
- **Vouloir**(to want), **voulant**(wanting), **voulu**(wanted). Present: **veux, veux, veut, voulons, voulez, veulent.**
- **Agreement of the past participle:**
Intransitive verbs have no object: they are conjugated with to be(**être**).
Examples: **Il est rentré**(he **re-entered**), **il est sorti**(**he left**), **il est retourné**(**he returned**), **il est allé**(**he went**), **elle est rentrée**(**she came back**), **elle est allée**(**she went**), **elle est sortie**(**she left**)
- **Reflexive verbs** also use **être**:
il s'est couché(he went to bed), **je me**

couche, tu te couches, il se couche, nous nous couchons, vous vous couchez, ils se couchent. **S'appeler**: je m'appelle (I am called, my name is), **s'asseoir**(to sit down), Georges s'est assis(George sat down), je m'assieds, tu t'assieds, il s'assied, nous nous asseyons, vous vous asseyez, ils s'asseyent.

- **Expressions, paragraphs, sentences:**
elle écrit à sa sœur(she writes to her sister), **voici**(here are), **est-ce que je t'ai parlé**(did I tell you), **il s'appelle**(his name is), **appeler**(to call), **il demeure**(he lives), **il aime aussi**(he also loves), **il donne à l'oiseau**(he gives the bird), **il lui rend**(he gives him back), **donne à boire**(give something to drink), **donne-moi**(give me), **il ferme**(he closes), **il ne veut pas perdre**(he doesn't want to lose), **il a été un peu en retard pour l'école**(he was a bit

late for school), **il a oublié**(he forgot),
quand il est rentré(when he came back),
il est sorti(he went out), **il a trouvé**(he
found), **pour parler**(to talk), **le perroquet**
n'est plus là(the parrot isn't there
anymore), **il a cherché**(he searched), **il n'a**
pas trouvé(he did not find), **il n'a pas**
voulu(he didn't want), **il a eu**(he had),
il est retourné à l'école(he went back to
school), **il est allé**(he went), **la cage reste**
vide(the cage remains empty), **il s'est**
assis(he sat down), **et perche sur son**
épaule(and perches on his shoulder), **il a**
soif(he **is** thirsty), **il a faim**(he **is** hungry),
il vole(he flies), **voler**(to fly), **et sautiller**
dedans(and hop inside), **il gratte**
(he scratches), **clignant**(winking),
il lui dit(he says **to him**).

Second lesson

lesson two

Deuxième leçon

leçon deux

Remember to say and memorise the bold sections.

The lost parrot

La perroquet perdu

Mrs Toulouse writes to her sister in

**1.Mme Toulouse écrit à sa sœur en
Australia
Australie.**

Here are some paragraphs of her

**2.Voici quelques paragraphes de sa
long interesting letter
longue lettre intéressante:**

Did I tell you about the

**3.Est-ce que je t'ai parlé du
favourite parrot of your nephew
perroquet favori de ton neveu?**

This bird is called Polly

4.Cet oiseau s'appelle Jacquot.

He lives in a big cage under

5.Il demeure dans une grande cage sous

a tree near the house

un arbre près de la maison.

George loves Polly and the pretty

6.Georges aime Jacquot et le joli oiseau

green and red bird loves him also

vert et rouge l'aime aussi.

Every morning George gives his

7.Tous les matins, Georges donne à son

parrot bird-seed and fresh water

perroquet du millet et de l'eau fraîche.

The parrot gives him a little kiss

8. Le perroquet lui rend un petit baiser

saying

en disant:

Give something to drink to Polly

9.-Donne à boire à Jaquot

George or

Georges ou

Give me a big kiss George

-Donne-moi un gros baiser, Georges.

Usually George carefully

10. D'habitude Georges ferme

closes the door of the cage

soigneusement la porte de la cage

because he doesn't want to lose his

parce qu'il ne veut pas perdre son

happy little friend
joyeux petit ami.

However yesterday morning George
11.Cependant, hier matin, Georges
was a bit late for school and he
a été un peu en retard pour l'école et il
forgot to securely close the door
a oublié de fermer solidement la porte
of the cage of Polly
de la cage de Jaquot.

When he returned at lunch time
12.Quand il est rentré à l'heure du
he went outside to
déjeuner, il est sorti de la maison pour
talk to Polly
parler à Jaquot.

But he found the door of the cage
13. Mais il a trouvé la porte de la cage
open
ouverte.

The parrot isn't there anymore
14. Le perroquet n'est plus là.

Very sad he searched everywhere
15. Très triste. Il a cherché partout
in our back yard in the trees
dans notre arrière court, dans les arbres
next door in the street but he didn't
voisins, dans la rue, mais il n'a pas
find his parrot
trouvé son perroquet.

George didn't want his nice
16. Georges n'a pas voulu sa bonne
soup
soupe.

He only had a small piece
17. Il a eu seulement un petit morceau
of rabbit pie and a glass of fresh milk
de pâté de lapin et un verre de lait frais.

Then he went back to school
18. Puis il est retourné à l'école.

Towards half past four he
19. Vers quatre heures et demie, il
returned and went straight away
est rentré et est allé directement
to the cage
à la cage.

No parrot the cage is still empty
20. Pas de perroquet, la cage reste vide.

George sat cheerlessly upon a
21. Georges s'est assis tristement sur une
small case next to the cage
petite caisse près de la cage.

Suddenly what a marvellous surprise
22. Soudain, quelle surprise merveilleuse!

Polly is back and perches on
23. Jacquot est de retour et perche sur
the fence
la palissade.

His feathers are damp and he is
24.Ses plumes sont moullées et il est
very tired he is thirsty and he is hungry
très fatigué. Il a soif et il a faim.

The little friend of my son flies from
25.Le petit ami de mon fils vole de
the fence and perches itself on his
la palissade et se perche sur son
shoulder
épaule.

Give Polly something to drink
26.-Donne à boire à Jacquot!
He shouts
Crie-t-il.

Now George is happy
27. Maintenant, Georges est heureux,
especially when he sees his parrot
surtout quand il voit son perroquet
fly towards the open door of the
voler vers la porte ouverte de la
cage and hop inside
cage et sautiller dedans.

George scratches the head of
28. Georges gratte la tête de
the bird and winking a mischievous eye
l'oiseau, et clignant d'un œil frippon,
the parrot says to him give me a
le perroquet lui dit. –Donne-moi un
big kiss George
gros baiser, Georges!

Learning to speak French

The natural way

3.

- **No grammar**
- **No exercises**
- **No questions**
- **No puzzles**
- **No cartoons**

Third lesson
Troisième leçon

Lesson three
Leçon trois

Notes

• **Derivatives**

Sac	Sack	Main	Manipulate
Ombrelle	Umbrella	Main	Manual
Table	Table	Restaurant	Restaurant
Air	Air force	Madame	Madam
Désirer	Desire	Manger	Manger
Passants	Passers-by	Arrêt	Arrest
Excuser	Excuse	Commencer	Commence
Pied	Pedal	Attentivement	Attentively
Pied	Pedestrian	Livraison	Delivery
Élégant	Elegant	Se reposer	Repose
Distance	Distance	Pièce	Piece
Monnaie	Money	Se tourner	Turn around
Intéressé	Interested	Conduire	Conduct
Personnes	Persons	Façon	Fashion
Furtivement	Furtively	Poche	Pocket
Étrange	Strange	Ignorant	Ignoring
Sauver	Save	Chasser	Chase
Continuer	Continue	Fugitif	Fugitive
Échapper	Escape	poursuit	persuit
Violamment	Violently		

- **Masculine nouns and adjectives: il fait très chaud dit-elle au garçon(au=à le).**
(it is very hot she says to the waiter),
les passants(the passers-by),
l'autobus(the bus), **cet arrêt**(this stop),
le garçon(the waiter), **son journal**(her newspaper): although it's her newspaper, the possessive adjective agrees with journal(m), not with her! **Le soulier**(the shoe), **ses souliers**(her shoes),
tout le monde(everybody),
hommes d'affaires(business-men),
balayeur de rues(street sweeper),
le touriste(the tourist),
leurs appareils photographiques(their cameras), **leurs guides**(their guides),
le camion(the truck), **le déjeuner**(lunch),
un kilomètre(1km), **un plateau**(a tray),
son sac à main(her handbag),
son torchon(his cloth),

- **un cendrier propre**(a clean ashtray),
le vieillard(the old man),
au chapeau melon(with a bowler hat),
leurs paquets(their parcels),
l'homme élégant(the well-dressed gentleman), **le vieux clochard**(the old hobo), **ce vieux bon homme**(this dear old man), **du papier-monnaie**(bank notes),
des billets de vingt euros(twenty euro bills), **un vrai filou**(a real pickpocket),
au voleur!(stop thief),
un agent de police(a policeman),
le fugitif(the fugitive), **le voleur**(the thief),
le prisonnier(the prisoner),
à l'arrêt d'autobus(at the bus stop),
ces billets-là(those banknotes),
monsieur l'agent(mister policeman),
ce monsieur(that gentleman),
au poste de police(to the police station),
il les a volés(he stole them),

du restaurant(of the restaurant),
au mois d'août(in the month of August),
beaucoup de gens(many people),
ses pieds(her feet),
ses pieds sont très fatigués(her feet are very tired).

- **Feminine nouns and adjectives.**

Madame(Mme)(Mrs Paintbrush),
son ombrelle(f)(her parasol). Masculine pronoun before a vowel.

La table(the table),
quelque chose à boire ou à manger
(something to drink or to eat),
une glace à la fraise(a straw berry ice cream),
votre glace(your ice cream),
devant sa table(in front of her table),
des femmes élégantes(elegant women),
il y a des voitures partout(there are cars everywhere): in the sentence that follows,

des is left out to create fluency:

voitures de livraison(delivery vans),

dans les rues(in the streets),

de bonne heure(early), **l'heure**(the hour),

quelle heure est-il?(what time is it),

une distance(a distance),

quelques minutes (a few minutes),

des pièces de monnaie(coins),

une table voisine(a nearby table),

un peu intéressée(a bit interested),

la queue(the queue),

dix-neuf personnes(19 people),

des ménagères (house-wives),

les deux midinettes(the working girls),

une façon étrange (a strange manner),

la main(the head), **elle est stupéfaite**(she is astonished), **elle est fatiguée**(she is

tired), **de toutes ses forces**(with all her

might), **la force**(the strength, the force),

une porte(a door), **elle est essoufflée**(she

is out of breath),

maintenant elle est déconcertée(now she is flustered).

- **Verbs & adverbs**

Il y met furtivement la main(he furtively puts his hand **in it**),

ils se heurtent violemment(they fiercely bump into each other).

- **Perfect tense in conversations:** it is used for past actions that only last a moment:

Elle a oublié ses souliers(she forgot her shoes), **j'ai oublié**(I forgot), tu as oublié, il a oublié, nous avons oublié, vous avez oublié, ils ont oublié, **il les a volés**(he stole **them**), **ce monsieur qui a perdu**(that gentleman who lost),

il est monté dans un autobus(he got into a bus): **verbs of motion are conjugated with être:** entrer, aller, sortir, monter...)

- **Present participle: et en attendant**(and while waiting),
tout à fait ignorant de ce qui se passe (completely unaware of what's happening),
le frappant avec son journal(hitting **him** with her newspaper).
- **Reflexive verbs:**
Le garçon s'approche(the waiter approaches), **le garçon s'en va**(the waiter goes **away**), **elle se retourne-**(she turns around), **il se conduit**(he behaves),
se reposer(to have a rest),
elle se précipite(she hurries),
ignorant de ce qui se passe(unaware of what happens), **il va s'échapper**(he is going to escape), **ils se heurtent**(they bump into each other),
ils se trouvent(they are).

- **Verbs:**

Poser(to put), **faire**(to make):

faisant(making), **fait**(made), je fais, fais, fait. faisons, faites, font. **Dire**(to say), **disant**(saying), **dit**(said): dis, dis, dit, disons, dites, disent.

Dit-elle au garçon(she says to the waiter),

lui dit-il(he says **to her**), **s'il vous plait**

(please), **je regarderai**(I shall watch),

attendre: ils attendent l'autobus(they are waiting for the bus), **excusez-moi**(excuse me),

je vous rapporterai votre glace

(I shall bring back your ice-cream),

commencer (to begin),

elle commence à enlever: (she begins to take off)

elle enlève ses souliers (she takes off her shoes), **lire**(to read), **lisant**(reading),

lu(read),

lis-lis-lit-lisons-lisez, lisent, il lui semble

(it seems to her), **donner**(to give),
donnant(giving), **donné**(given),
il lui donne la glace(he gives **her** the ice-
cream), **il la lui donne**(he gives **it to her**),
il y a des voitures partout(there are cars
everywhere), **elle désire**(she desires),
elle veut se reposer (she wants to have a
rest), **il s'approche** (he approaches),
elle prend (she takes), **prendre**(to take) –
prenant (taking) – **pris**(taken), **prends** –
prends – **prend** – **prenons** – **prenez** –
prennent, **merci, madame lui dit-il**(thank
you madam he says **to her**), **il y arrive**(he
arrives **there**), **il essuie la table**(he wipes
the table), **il met**(he puts), **elle le**
regarde(she watches **him**),
elle se retourne (she turns around),
pour regarder(to watch), **ils font la queue**
(they form a queue), **faire**(to make, to
do), **faisant**(making), **fait**(made),

fais-fais-fait-faisons-faites-font),
elle y compte(she counts **there are**),
qui bavardent(who gossip),
il se conduit(he behaves), **il en tire**(he
pulls **out of it**), **il y en a vingt** **aumoins**
(**there are** at least 20 **of them**),

- **Elle se précipite**(she rushes),
tout le monde la regarde(everybody
watches **her**), **tout le monde**("the whole
world"), **le filou se sauve**(the pickpocket
runs away), **se sauver**(to escape),
sauver(to save, to rescue), **elle le poursuit**
(she chases **him**), **suivre**(to follow),
il continue à lire(he keeps on reading),
elle ne cesse pas de chaser le vieillard
(she doesn't stop chasing the old man),
il va s'échapper(he is going to escape),
il sort d'une porte(he comes out of a
door) **Ils se heurtent violemment**(they
bump into each other),

celui-là saisit le voleur(that one grabs the thief), **il le fait prisonnier**(he arrests him), **regardez ces billets-là**(look at those banknotes),

il les a volés d'un monsieur à l'arrêt (he stole them from a gentleman at the bus stop), **allons voir ce monsieur**(let us go and see that gentleman),

voir(to see)-voyant(seeing)-vu(seen),

vois-vois-voit-voyons-voyez-voient,

il a perdu les billets(he lost the banknotes), **nous les lui rendrons**(we shall give them back to him),

puis nous irons au poste de police(then we shall go to the police station),

allant-allé present: vais-vais-vait-allons-allez-vont aller(to go),

future: j'irai-iras-ira-irons-irez-iront), the se endings resemble the present tense of

**avoir(to have). J'ai, tu as, il a, nous avons,
vous avez, ils ont!**

Summary

Pronoun objects: direct & indirect. With **la viande**(the meat) & **le fromage**(the cheese).
Say aloud to hear the fluency because scrips is the mirror image of speech (authors of text book have never discovered this wisdom)

1. **Il me la donne** he gives it to me
Il me le donne
2. **Il te la donne** he gives it to you
Il te le donne
3. **Il se couche** he goes to bed
4. **Il nous la donne** he gives to us
Il nous le donne
5. **Il vous la donne** he gives it to you
Il vous le donne
6. **Ils se couchent** they go to bed

Different order:

Turn them around and hear that the fluency is lost!

Il **la lui** donne he gives it to him or to her

Il **le lui** donne

Il **la leur** donne he gives it to them

Il **le leur** donne

Third lesson

lesson 3

Troisième leçon

leçon trois

The pickpocket

Le filou

Mrs Painbrush puts her handbag and

1. Mme Pinceau pose son sac à main et

her parasol on the table of the

son ombrelle sur la table du

al fresco restaurant

restaurant en plein air.

In the month of August it is very hot in

2.-Au mois d'août il fait très chaud à

Paris isn't it she says to the waiter

Paris n'est-ce pas? Dit-elle au garçon.

Yes madame you like something

3.-Oui, Madame, vous désirez quelque chose

to drink or to eat he says to her

à boire ou à manger? Lui dit-il.

A strawberry flavoured icecream please

4.-Une glace à la fraise, s'il vous plaît

and while waiting I shall watch the passers-by

et en attendant, je regarderai les passants.

Yes madame many people

5.-Oui, Madame. Beaucoup de gens

are waiting for the bus at this busstop

attendent l'auto bus à cet arrêt.

Excuse me I shall bring you back your

**6. Excusez-moi, je vous rapporterai votre
ice cream
glace.**

The waiter goes away and Mrs Painbrush

**7. Le garçon s'en va et Madame Pinceau
begins to read her newspaper
commence à lire son journal.**

She takes off her shoes for her feet

**8. Elle enlève ses souliers car ses pieds
are very tired
sont très fatigués.**

Before long she stops reading and attentively

9. Sous peu, elle cesse de lire et regarde

watches the passers-by

attentivement les gens qui passent.

It seems to her that everyone passes

10. Il lui semble que tout le monde passe

in front of her table

devant sa table

Elegant woman business-men

11.- Femmes élégantes, homes d'affaires,

de street sweepers tourists who carry

balayeurs de rues, touristes qui portent

their cameras and their

leurs appareils photographiques et leurs

guides

guides.

There are motor cars everywhere buses

12. Il y a des voitures partout- autobus,
trucks, taxis delivery vans
camions, taxis, voitures de livraison.

It is lunch time and many

13. C'est l'heure du déjeuner et beaucoup de
Parisians are in the street
Parisiens se trouvent dans les rues.

Mrs Paintbrush wants to go back home

14. Mme Pinceau désire de rentrer chez elle
early but the metro is at
de bonne heure mais le metro est à
a distance of one kilometre
une distance d' un kilomètre.

She wants to have a rest for some

15.Elle veut se reposer pour quelques minutes minutes.

The waiter approaches On a tray he

16.Le garçon s'approche. Sur un plateau, il carries the ice cream of Mrs Paintbrush porte la glace de Mme Pinceau.

He gives **it to her**

17.Il la lui donne.

She takes some coins from

18.Elle prend des pieces de monnaie de her handbag and gives them to her son sac-à-main et les lui donne.

Thank you Madam he says to her and he

19.-**Merci, Madame, lui dit-il et il**
goes to nearby table
va à une table voisine.

When he gets **there** he wipes the table

20.**Quand il y arrive, il essuie la table**
with his cloth and puts a clean
avec son torchon et y met un cendrier
ashtray **on it**
propre.

A bit interested she watched **him**

21.**Un peu intéressée, elle le regarde.**

She turns around to watches people

22.Elle se retourne pour regarder des gents
forming a queue close by
qui font la queue tout près.

She counts there nineteen people

23.Elle y compte dix-neuf personnes.

The old man with the bowler hat the two

24.-Le vieillard au chapeau melon, les deux
gossiping working girls the housewives
midinettes qui bavardent, les ménagères
with their parcels the well-dressed man
avec leurs paquets, l'home élégant
and the old hobo behind him
et le vieux clochard derrière lui.

Hey this simple looking old man behaves

25. Hé! ce vieux bon homme se conduit

in a strange way

d'une façon étrange!

What's happening he has his hand near

26. Qu'y a-t-il? Il a la main près de

the pocket of the well-dressed man

la poche de l'homme élégant.

He furtively puts his hand **in it**

27. Il y met furtivement la main.

He pulls bank notes **from it**

28. Il en tire du papier-monnaie.

Twenty euro notes

29.Des billets de vingt euros.

There are twenty at least **of those**

30.Il y en a vingt au moins

It's a real pickpocket Mrs Paintbrush is

31.C'est un vrai filou! Mme Pinceau est
dumbfounded
stupéfaite.

Suddenly she rushes towards the

32.Tout à coup elle se précipite vers la
queue her newspaper in her hand
queue, son journal à la main.

Stop thief she shouts everybody

33.-Au voleur! Crie-t-elle. Tout le monde

looks at her

la regarde.

The notes still in his hand,

34.Les billets toujours à la main,

the pickpocket runs away but Mrs Paintbrush

le filou se sauve, mais Mme Pinceau

chases him

le poursuit.

Totally unaware of what is happening

35.Tout à fait ignorant de ce qui se passe,

the well dressed gentleman keeps reading

l'homme elegant continue à lire

his newspaper

son journal.

Mrs Paintbrush is tired she forgot

36.Mme Pinceau est fatiguée, elle a oublié

her shoes but she doesn't stop to chase

ses souliers mais elle ne cesse pas de chaser

the pickpocket hitting him with her paper

le filou, le frappant avec son journal

but he runs too fast

mais il court trop vite.

He is going to escape with the twenty euro notes

37.Il va s'échapper avec les billets de vingt euros.

Stop thief shouts Mrs Paintbrush with all her might

38.-Au voleur! Crie Mme Pinceau de toutes ses forces.

Suddenly a police man comes of a door

39.Soudain, un agent de police sort d'une porte.

The policeman and the fugitive violently bump into each other

40.L'agent et le fugitif se heurtent violemment.

That one grabs the thief and arrest him

41.Celui-là saisit le voleur et le fait prisonnier.

Out of breath Mrs Paintbrush arrives

42.Essoufflée, Mme Pinceau arrive.

Look at those notes Mr policeman

43.-Regardez ces-billets-là monsieur l'agent.

He has stolen them she says to him

44.Il les a volés d'un monsieur à l'arrêt de l'autobus lui dit elle.

Let us go and see that gentleman who has lost the

45.-Allons voir ce monsieur qui a perdu les billets notes answers the policeman we shall give them back to him
répond l'agent. Nous les lui rendrons.

Then we shall go to the police station

46.Puis nous irons au poste de police.

But when they arrive at the bus stop the well dressed

47. Mais quand ils arrivent à l'arrêt, l'homme élégant gentleman isn't there anymore for he got on to a bus n'est n'y est plus, car il est monté dans un auto bus.

Now Mrs Paintbrush is really flustered

48. Maintenant, Mme Pinceau est vraiment déconcertée.