

UNE BOUM

SUB-HEADING- LES ADJECTIFS POSSESSIFS

CLASS - 8

SUBJECT : FRENCH CHAPTER

NUMBER: 1

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CHANGING YOUR TOMORROW

LES ADJECTIVES POSSESSIFS

In English, we often use phrases like “my book” or “your hair.” These are known as possessive adjectives. They are used to modify the word that follows, telling you more about the noun itself, indicating who owns the thing the noun describes, so to speak. The French equivalents of these pronouns are usually used in the same way an article is used, placed before the noun to modify it.

These adjectives replace the definite or indefinite article. When you use it, you are changing the meaning to “my” or “your” or “his,” instead of “the” or “an.” You are indicating something specific, something owned by someone, so possessive adjectives replace articles entirely

Nous écoutons **ma** musique.

Où est **mon** frère ?

J’ai perdu **mes** clés.

We’re listening to **my** music.

Where is **my** brother?

I lost **my** keys.

LES ADJECTIVES POSSESSIFS

PERSON	ENGLISH	MASCULINE SINGULAR	FEMININE SINGULAR	PLURAL
1st Person	my	<i>mon</i> (mohn)	<i>ma</i> (mah)	<i>mes</i> (may)
2nd Person	your	<i>ton</i> (tohn)	<i>ta</i> (tah)	<i>tes</i> (tay)
3rd Person	his or hers	<i>son</i> (sohn)	<i>sa</i> (sah)	<i>ses</i> (say)

PERSON	ENGLISH	SINGULAR	PLURAL
1st Person	our	<i>notre</i> (not-truh)	<i>nos</i> (no)
2nd Person	your	<i>votre</i> (vot-truh)	<i>vos</i> (vo)
3rd Person	their	<i>leur</i> (leuhr)	<i>leurs</i> (leuhr)

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The following samples show some possessive adjectives in action.

1. J'ai besoin de **votre** aide. (I need your help.)
2. Il aime **son** chat. (He loves his cat.)
3. Ils habitent dans **ma** ville. (They live in my city.)
4. J'achète **leur** livre. (I am buying their book.)
5. Est-ce que tu étudies pour **nos** examens? (Are you studying for our tests?)

The Mutant French Possessive Adjective.

As a rule, remember that if a feminine word starts with a **vowel** or a mute **'h'**, we won't use **'ma, ta or sa'**.

However, **'mon, ton or son'** will be used so as to avoid a clash with vowels and have proper pronunciation.

Example: This is your car.

C'est ton auto.

LES ADJECTIVES POSSESSIFS

Take a look at the following examples of possessive adjectives changing shape in French.

1. **C'est mon amie.** – She's my friend.

2. **Je vais à ton école.** – I go to your school.

3. **C'est son idée.** – It's his/her idea.

“C'est mon amie” instead of **“c'est ma amie”** because we cannot put “ma” in front of “amie” which starts with a vowel. Even though “école” is female, but we cannot use “ta” in front of it because it starts with a vowel. Similarly, although “idée” is feminine, we cannot put “sa” in front of it because of the vowel, and so, we use “son.”

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