

Chapter- 6

Les amis de Caroline

STUDY NOTES

In this chapter you will learn about

A. Definite Article

B. French nationalities

A. French Definite Article

The English definite article is **"THE"** and has four French equivalents:

The **definite article** indicates that the speaker is referring to either a specific noun or to a class of nouns in a general sense. The English definite article, the, has four equivalent forms in **French**, depending on the **gender** and **number** of the noun as well as what letter it begins with.

Singular

Plural

Masculine	le livre	the book	les livres	the books
Feminine	la table	the table	les tables	the tables
Vowel or h muet	l'abricot	the apricot	les abricots	the apricots

NOTE-

le (masculine)

la (feminine)

l' (masculine or feminine in front of vowel or mute h)

les (plural)

French **definite articles** are more complex than our simple English "the" because they need to agree in **number** and **gender** with the nouns they are used with, and they are often required where we omit articles in English (zero article).

Definite articles indicate a specific noun in both languages.

For example

Je vois le restaurant. - **I see the restaurant.**

Où sont les voitures ? - **Where are the cars?**

Paradoxically, the French definite article is also used for the general sense of a noun.

Il aime l'ail. - **He likes garlic.**

C'est la vie ! - **That's life!**

B. French Nationalities

Knowing the names of different nationalities (les nationalités) will not only allow you to tell something about yourself but also it will help you to get to know better the person you are talking to, especially if he/she is a foreigner.

Things to remember:

As with majority of the French adjectives, there is a masculine and feminine form for most of the names of nationalities. All you need to do is to add an “-e” to the masculine form. Eg. français / française

Most of the time it will change the pronunciation français / française (z) but there are some exceptions where it stays the same: Eg. espagnol / espagnole

If the name of the adjective of nationality ends with “-e”, the word stays the same. Eg. Paul est suisse. / Marie est suisse.

The names of nationalities in French are written in small letters, unlike in the English language !

Names of Nationalities in French:**Les Pays et Les Nationalités**

	Pays	masculin	féminin
	La France	français	française
	L'Irlande (f)	irlandais	irlandaise
	L'Angleterre (f)	anglais	anglaise
	L'Allemagne (f)	allemand	allemande
	La Suisse	suisse	suisse
	L'Italie (f)	italien	italienne
	L'Espagne (f)	espagnol	espagnole
	La Russie	russe	russe
	Le Japon	japonais	japonaise
	Le Portugal	portugais	portugaise
	Le Canada	canadien	canadienne
	Les États-Unis	américain	américaine
	La Grèce	grec	grecque
	La Turquie	turc	turque
	La Chine	chinois	chinoise

iSLCollective.com