

Chapter- 1

LA RENTRÉE

STUDY NOTES

In this chapter we will learn about

- A small paragraph
- Les adverbos de quantité
- Articles

Les articles définies

Les articles indéfinis

Les articles avec prépositions

Les articles partitifs

- Les verbes (Three forms)
- La Negation

LES ADVERBES DE QUANTITÉ

Just as an adjective modifies (*describes*) a noun, an **ADVERB** modifies a verb, adjective, or another adverb. Adverbs generally answer the question How? How well? How much? How often? *or* When? They help us provide more details when we're describing actions.

Not surprisingly, **adverbs of quantity** indicate *how much*. They help us provide more details when describing amounts of things.

Many **adverbs of quantity** are followed by [**de + noun**]. Used this way, the noun immediately follows the word **de** (or **d'**, in the event of a noun that begins with a vowel or vowel sound); that is, the noun is *not* preceded by a **definite article**.

assez (de)	quite, fairly, enough
moins (de)	less, fewer
beaucoup (de)	a lot, many
combien (de)	how many, much
trop (de)	too much, too many
plus (de)	more
tant (de)	so much, so many

(un) peu (de)	few, little, not very
un/e verre/boîte/kilo de	a glass/can/kg/bit of
seulement	only
si	so

Many other quantity adverbs are there we will learn in the class as the chapter goes.

ARTICLES

One of the eight parts of speech, an article is a word that modifies a noun in a particular way, by stating whether the noun is specific, unspecific, or partial. French articles agree in gender and number with the nouns they modify, and there are three types:

Definite / Défini

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.

Les articles définis		Woodward's FRENCH	
Definite Articles in French			
	Singulier	Pluriel	
Masculin	le le livre	les les livres	
Féminin	la la maison	les les maisons	
Masculin Féminin Devant une voyelle ou un H muet	l' l'arbre l'école	les les arbres les écoles	

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Indefinite / Indéfini

The indefinite article indicates that the speaker is referring to either an unspecific noun or to one/some of something. The English indefinite article has two forms, **a** and **an**, while the French has three, depending on the gender and number of the noun.

The English equivalent of des is **some**, which is not considered an article in English.

Singular

Plural

Masculine **un** un abricot an apricot **des** des livres some books

Feminine **une** une table a table **des** des tables some tables

Article partitif

The partitive article refers to an unspecified quantity of food, liquid, or some other uncountable noun. English has no equivalent article – the partitive is usually translated by the adjectives “some” or “any,” or may be left out entirely.

Masculine Feminine

singular

du de la
de l' de l'

plural

des des

Les articles partitifs du, de la, de l', des

Qu'est-ce que tu prends au petit déjeuner?

Je bois
du café du jus d'orange de l'eau du lait

Je prends
du yaourt de l'avoine

Je mange
du pain des fruits des céréales

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Article contractés

Preposition +
article

Contraction

Example

à + le

au

Je vais **au** cinéma. (le cinéma)

à + les

aux

Je vais **aux** États-Unis. (Les États-Unis / USA)

de + le

du

Je viens **du** marché. (le marché /market)

de + les

des

Je viens **des** Pays-Bas. (Les Pays-Bas / The Netherlands)

These don't contract

à + la

Je vais **à la** poste (the post office)

à + l'

Je vais **à l'**hôtel.

de + la

Je viens **de la** piscine. (the swimming pool)

de + l'

Je viens **de l'**auberge de jeunesse. (the youth hostel)

THREE FORMS OF VERBS

French verbs are unlike English verbs, in that they depend heavily on the use of **conjugated tenses**. In English

French verbs are generally classified either as regular verbs, or as irregular verbs. There are three main categories of French regular verbs,

- regular verbs with an **infinitive ending in -er**, such as manger,
- regular verbs with an **infinitive in -ir**, such as finir,
- regular verbs with an **infinitive in -re**, such as vendre.

REGULAR **PRESENT TENSE**

	-ER	-IR	-RE
Je	e	is	s
Tu	es	is	s
Il/Elle/On	e	it	
Nous	ons	issons	ons
Vous	ez	issez	ez
Ils/Elles	ent	issent	ent

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NEGATION

Changing your Tomorrow ▲

In French, a negative is generally made up of two parts. The negative may or may not include the word *non* (no).

Par exemple...

Nous sommes prêts.

> Nous **ne** sommes **pas** prêts.

We're ready.

> We're **not** ready.

J'aime le café.

> Je **n'**aime **pas** le café.

I like coffee.

> I **don't** like coffee.