

Chapter- 4

Vous êtes français ?

STUDY NOTES

In this chapter we will learn about-

1. Être verb
2. Les nationalities
3. Les Adjectifs (Masculine and Feminine)

ÊTRE VERB

The verb être in French is one of the most useful and critical verbs you will ever need. It's used to express a lot of concepts in the language. Just like the English verb "to be", être is probably one of the most used verbs in the French language.

Être is an irregular verb. Therefore, it doesn't follow the conjugation rules for regular verbs.

English has three conjugations of "to be", which are am, is, and are. Well, French has a few more of its equivalent, making a total of six. You can look at the conjugations of être below.

je suis	I am
tu es	you are (second person singular informal)
il/elle/on est	he/she is
nous sommes	we are
vous êtes	you are (second person singular formal or second person plural)
ils/elles sont	they are

Les Nationalities

To talk about nationalities, you have to know a few rules about the use of adjectives in French.

1- First, note that French nationality adjectives are not capitalized.

2- English adjectives are invariable, but French adjectives can change.

Thus, you have to pay attention to number and gender.

To get the plural form, you generally add an “s” at the end of the nationality adjective.

To find the feminine form of a nationality adjective, there are 4 different cases :

◊ Nationality adjectives that don't change

Ex : belge, croate, russe, suisse...

◊ You just add an “e” at the end of some nationality adjectives

Ex : allemand/allemande, américain/américaine, anglais/anglaise, français/française

◊ You add “ne” at the end of some nationality adjectives

Ex : brésilien/brésilienne, canadien/canadienne, indien/indienne

◊ Special cases

Ex : grec/grecque

Ex : turc/turque

Les Adjectifs

An adjective is a word that describes the noun (shape, color, size, ...). French adjectives have different masculine and feminine forms, depending on the noun they relate and they reflect it's gender and number.

Regular adjectives add **-E** for feminine and **-S** for plural.

Number	Gender	
	Masculine	Feminine
Singular	un livre vert a green book	Add -e une voiture verte a green car

Plural	Add -s des livres vert<u>s</u> green books	Add -es des voitures vert<u>es</u> green cars
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