Section: bcf-6-0125

Beginning Conversational French

Lesson 9: Shopping

Lesson 9 Introduction

Learning Objectives

Learning Objectives

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

1. Identify and apply French vocabulary related to shopping.
2. Name common articles of clothing in French.
3. List common colors in French.
4. Describe various store types and the goods they sell in French.
5. Demonstrate adjective agreement and position.

Introduction

Shopping

When you're traveling, it is always fun to see what the shops have to offer. In fact, you might even want to take an empty suitcase with you to hold all your purchases!

In this lesson, you're going to learn how to talk about shopping in French. First, you'll learn words like *cashier* and *receipt* that are used in all stores. Then we'll talk about souvenirs. You can't go on a trip without buying souvenirs! You'll even learn what *souvenir* means in French!

In chapter 3, you'll learn words for clothes. France is famous for designer clothes. Now you'll be able to buy exactly what you want. You'll also learn colors in chapter 3. During our grammar stop, we will talk about adjectives and where they go in the sentence and how they agree with the noun that they are describing.

You'll learn names for lots of different kinds of stores in chapter 4, as well as common items you'll find in the stores, and of course you'll use the words in dialogues! You'll also learn how to ask for a very popular item: chocolate!

Finally, you'll learn some tips about shopping, including when small-town stores are closed. You might be surprised!

Are you ready to shop? Remember the magic words: credit card! *La carte de crédit!*

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Lesson 9 Audio Files (https://lo-ed2go-cdn.learn.ed2go.com/Resources/bcf-6/audio/L09_audio.zip)

Download

Lesson 9 Vocabulary List (https://lo-ed2go-cdn.learn.ed2go.com/Resources/bcf-6/L09_vocab_list.zip)

Chapter 1: General Information

Shopping Vocabulary and Dialogues

General Information

Shopping in France is fabulous! If you like small specialty shops, you'll find plenty. If big department stores are your style, don't worry. You'll find them too!

In France, taxes are figured into the prices on the tags. You'll pay exactly what you see. No surprises at the cash register!

First, let's talk about some shopping etiquette. When you enter a store, be sure to greet the clerk with a hearty "Bonjour Monsieur/Madame!" If you do not, you will be considered rude and may set a very bad first impression, which can taint the rest of your time in the store. If the clerk is busy, a nod of the head or smile is acceptable. When you leave, be sure to say "Merci, au revoir!"

Now let's learn some words that you'll use wherever you're shopping. Be sure to learn this important word: discount!

Shopping Vocabulary

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
faire ses achats	{fayr-say-zah-shah} Play audio	to shop
le magasin	{luh-mag-ah-zin} Play audio	shop
le marchand	{luh-mahr-shan} Play audio	shopkeeper (male)
la marchande	{lah-mahr-shand} Play audio	shopkeeper (female)
le grand magasin	{luh-gran-mag-ah-zin} Play audio	department store
la caisse	{lah-kehs} Play audio	cash register
le caissier	{luh-kah-syay} Play audio	cashier
le reçu	{luh-ruh-soo} Play audio	receipt
la cabine d'essayage	{lah-kah-been-deh-say-ahzh} Play audio	fitting room

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
le sac	{luh-sahk} Play audio	bag
en solde	{an-sohld} Play audio	on sale
la remise	{lah-ruh-meez} Play audio	discount
la vente	{lah-vant} Play audio	sale

Translations

Here are some verbs you will want to know as you shop:

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
vendre	{vandr} Play audio	to sell
acheter	{ash-uh-tay} Play audio	to buy
payer	{pay-ay} Play audio	to pay
essayer	{eh-say-ay} Play audio	to try on
renvoyer	{ran-voy-yay} Play audio	to return

Translations

Here are some questions that you may want to ask the salesclerk.

Text equivalent start.

Topic	Information	
Est-ce que vous vendez... {ehs-kuh-voo-van-day}	Play audio	Do you sell..?
Avez-vous... {ah-vay-voo}	Play audio	Do you have... ?
Combien? {con-byen}	Play audio	How much?

Read the topic in the first column. Then read the second column for the information.

Text equivalent stop.

And here are some things that you might want to say in a store:

Text equivalent start.

Topic	Information	
Je voudrais acheter... {juh-voo-dray-ah-shuh-tay}...	Play audio	I would like to buy.
Je regarde seulement. {juh-ruh-gard-suh-luh-man}	Play audio	I'm only looking.
Je le prendrai. {juh-luh-pran-dray}	Play audio	I will take it.

Read the topic in the first column. Then read the second column for the information.

Text equivalent stop.

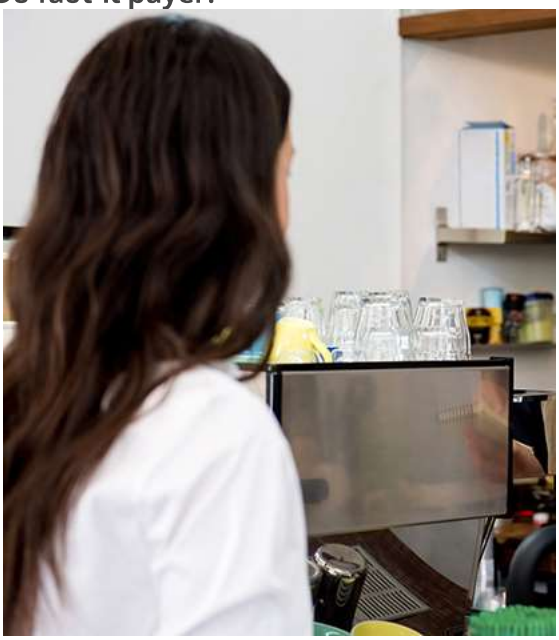
Let's use these words in a few conversations!

Shopping Dialogues

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Female:

Où faut-il payer?



Play audio

Pronounciation: *oo-foh-teel-pay-ay?*

Translate

Where do I pay?

Male:

Au cassier près de la porte.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *oh-kah-syay-pray-duh-lah-pohrt*

Translate

At the cashier near the door.

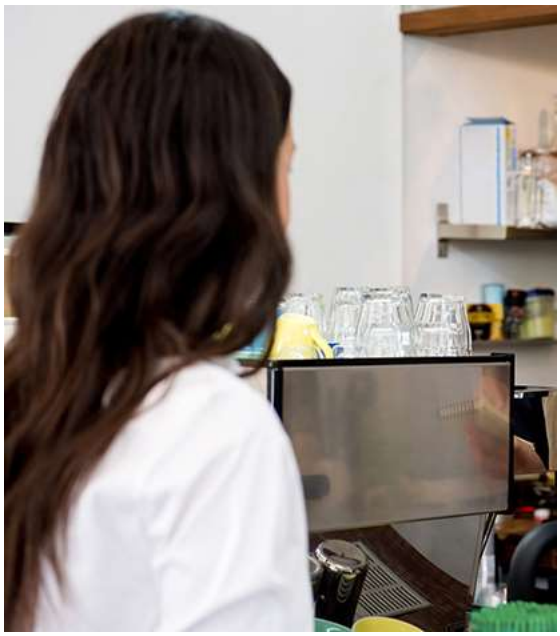
Dialogue One: Shopping

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

Slideshow Slide 2 starts here

Female:

Merci



Play audio

Pronounciation: *mehr-see!*

Translate

Thanks!

Dialogue One: Shopping

Slideshow Slide 2 ends here

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Male:

Vous désirez?

Play audio

Pronounciation: *voo-day-see-ray?*

Translate

Can I help you?

Female:

Combien coûte cette robe?

Play audio

Pronounciation: *kon-byen-koot-seht-rohb?*

Translate

How much is this dress?

Dialogue Two: Shopping

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

Slideshow Slide 2 starts here

Male:

C'est trente-cinq euros.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *seh-trant-sink-oe-roh*

Translate

It's thirty-five euros.

Female:

D'accord. Je le prendrai.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *dah-kohr.* ***juh-luh-pran-dray}***

Translate

OK. I'll take it

Dialogue Two: Shopping

Slideshow Slide 2 ends here

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Female:

Voulez-vous l'essayer?

Play audio

Pronounciation: *voo-lay-voo-leh-say-ay?*

Translate

Would you like to try that on?

Male:

Oui, s'il vous plaît

Play audio

Pronounciation: *wee-seel-voo-play*

Translate

Yes, please

Dialogue Three: Shopping

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

Slideshow Slide 2 starts here

Female:

Suivez-moi.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *swee-vay-mwah*

Translate

Follow me.

Dialogue Three: Shopping

Slideshow Slide 2 ends here

Now it's your turn to practice. You can use the voice recorder feature to improve your pronunciation! This is a common question that you might want to ask a sales clerk. (If you need some help you can find its pronunciation on this page above the shopping dialogs).

Say: **Est-ce que vous vendez... {ehs-kuh-voo-van-day}**

Record Audio

Souvenir Vocabulary and Dialogues

Souvenirs

Some people love souvenirs, some people hate them. Either way, most people end up buying inexpensive gifts for friends and family members.

Did you know souvenir is a French word? It literally means "to remember."

Let's learn French words for common souvenirs!

Souvenir Vocabulary

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
le souvenir	{luh-soo-vuh-neer} ▶ Play audio	souvenir
les cartes postales	{lay-kahrt-poh-stahl} ▶ Play audio	postcards

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
le guide	{luh-geed} Play audio	guide book
l'affiche	{lah-feesh} Play audio	poster
les bibelots	{lay-bee-buh-loh} Play audio	trinkets
le tee-shirt	{luh-tee-shayrt} Play audio	T-shirt
les shorts	{lay-shohrt} Play audio	shorts
le sac	{luh-sahk} Play audio	bag
le porte-clefs	{luh-pohrt-klay} Play audio	key ring
l'auto-collant	{loh-toh-koh-lan} Play audio	sticker
la cuiller	{lah-kwee-ay} Play audio	spoon
l'assiette	{lah-syeht} Play audio	plate
l'aimant	{lay-man} Play audio	magnet

Translations

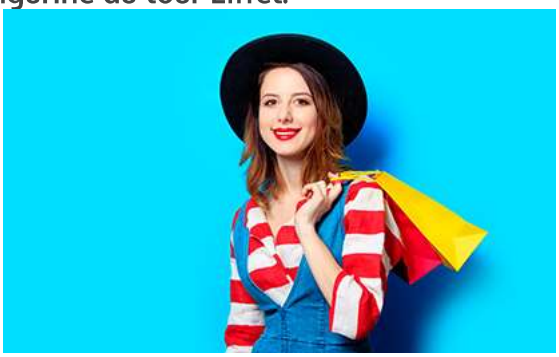
Time to talk about souvenirs! Hey, everybody needs a little statue of the Eiffel Tower!

Souvenir Dialogue

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Madame:

Je voudrais acheter une très petite figurine du tour Eiffel.



Play audio

Pronounciation: *juh-voo-dray-ah-shuh-tay-oon-tray-puh-teet-fee-goo-reen-doo-toor-ay-fehl*

Translate

I want to buy a tiny statue of the Eiffel Tower.

Monsieur:

Nous avons deux à côté de comptoir.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *noo-zhah-von-duh-ah-koh-tay-duh-kon-twahr*

Translate

We have a couple by the counter.

Dialogue Four: Souvenir

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

If you have children in your family, you'll probably buy toys for souvenirs. Some of us even buy toys for grown-ups in our families. We all have a little kid in us somewhere!

Time to learn words for toys!

Toy Vocabulary

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
le magasin de jouets	{luh-mag-ah-zin-duh-joo-ay} Play audio	toy store
le jouet	{luh-joo-ay} Play audio	toy
la poupée	{lah-poo-pay} Play audio	doll
la voiture	{lah-vwah-toor} Play audio	car
le camion	{luh-kam-yon} Play audio	truck
le jeu de société	{luh-juh-duh-soh-syay-tay} Play audio	board game
le jeu de vidéo	{luh-juh-duh-vee-day-oh} Play audio	video game
les cubes	{lay- koob} Play audio	blocks
le casse-tête	{luh-kahs-teht} Play audio	puzzle
le pastel	{luh-pah-stehl} Play audio	crayon

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
l'ours en peluche	{loor-zan-puh-loosh}	teddy bear

Play audio

Translations

Ready for more dialogues?

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Madame:

Je veux acheter une poupée pour ma fille.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *juh-vuh-ah-shuh-tay-oon-poo-pay-poor-mah-feey*

Translate

I want to buy a doll for my daughter.

Monsieur:

Quelle age a-t-elle?

Play audio

Pronounciation: *kehl-ahzh-ah-tehl?*

Translate

How old is she?

Dialogue Five: Souvenir

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

Slideshow Slide 2 starts here

Madame:

Elle a quatre ans.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *ehl-ah-katr-an*

Translate

She's four.

Monsieur:

Je vous montrai quelques.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *dah-kohr.* ***juh-voo-mon-tray-kehl-kuh***

Translate

I'll show you a few.

Dialogue Five: Souvenir

Slideshow Slide 2 ends here

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Madame:

Est-ce qu'on s'occupe de vous?

▶ Play audio

Pronounciation: *ehs-kon-soh-koop-duh-voo?*

Translate

Are you being helped?

Monsieur:

Non. Mon fils veut un jeu de vidéo.

▶ Play audio

Pronounciation: *noh. mon-fees-vuh-an-juh-duh-vee-day-oh*

Translate

No. My son wants a video game.

Dialogue Six: Souvenir

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

Slideshow Slide 2 starts here

Madame:

Quel sort?

▶ Play audio

Pronounciation: *kehl-sohr?*

Translate

What kind?

Monsieur:

Un jeu au football.

▶ Play audio

Pronounciation: *dah-kohr.* ***an-juh-oh-foot-bahl***

Translate

A soccer game.

Dialogue Six: Souvenir

Slideshow Slide 2 ends here

Slideshow Slide 3 starts here

Madame:

J'en ai certaines.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *jan-ay-sehr-tin*

Translate

I have some

Dialogue Six: Souvenir

Slideshow Slide 3 ends here

In the next chapter, we're going to talk about clothes. France is famous for designer clothes.

Chapter 2: Clothing

Clothing

Clothing

Lots of people think about fashion when they think about France.

Here are a few fascinating fashion facts.

Fashion Facts

Denim originated in Nimes, France, which is also where it got its name "de Nimes" = from Nimes. So be sure to thank the French, the next time you pull on your favorite pair of jeans.

The French designer Coco Chanel popularized the little black dress.

Here are some words for common clothing items.

Clothing Vocabulary

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
les vêtements	{lay-veht-man} Play audio	clothes
la chemise	{lah-shuh-meez} Play audio	shirt
le pantalons	{luh-pin-tah-lon} Play audio	pants
les chaussettes	{lay-shoh-seht} Play audio	socks
les chaussures	{lay-shoh-soor} Play audio	shoes
la jupe	{lah-joop} Play audio	skirt
la robe	{lah-rohb} Play audio	dress
le chapeau	{luh-shah-poh} Play audio	hat

Translations

Let's talk about clothes!

Clothing Dialogues

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Madame:

Je dois acheter un chapeau.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *juh-dwah-ah-shuh-tay-an-shah-poh*

Translate

I need to buy a hat.

Monsieur:

Tu n'as pas apporté le tien?

Play audio

Pronounciation: *too-nah-pah-ah-pohr-tay-luh-tyehn?*

Translate

Didn't you bring yours?

Dialogue Seven: Clothing

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

Slideshow Slide 2 starts here

Madame:

Non. Je l'ai oublié.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *noh. juh-lay-oo-blee-ay.*

Translate

No. I forgot it.

Monsieur:

Cherchons un magasin.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *shehr-shon-an-mag-ah-zin*

Translate

Let's find a store.

Dialogue Seven: Clothing

Slideshow Slide 2 ends here

Color

La couleur Vocabulary

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
la couleur	{lah koo-lur} ▶ Play audio	color
rouge	{roozh} ▶ Play audio	red
orange	{oh-ranzh} ▶ Play audio	orange
jaune	{john} ▶ Play audio	yellow

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
bleu	{bluh} Play audio	blue
vert	{vehr} Play audio	green
violet	{vee-oh-lay} Play audio	purple
rose	{rohz} Play audio	pink
brun	{bran} Play audio	brown

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
noir	{nwahr} Play audio	black
blanc	{blan} Play audio	white
gris	{gree} Play audio	gray
beige	{bayzh} Play audio	beige

Translations

Are you ready for a few colorful dialogues? Here we go!

Useful Phrases and Sizing Information

Clothing Dialogues

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Madame:

Je cherche des chaussures violettes de daim.

▶ Play audio

Pronounciation: *juh-shersh-day-shoh-soor-vee-oh-leht-duh-din*

Translate

I'm looking for purple suede shoes.

Monsieur:

Nous n'avons que des chaussures blues de daim.

▶ Play audio

Pronounciation: *noo-nah-von-kuh-day-shoh-soor-bluh-duh-din*

Translate

We only have blue suede shoes.

Dialogue Eight: Clothing

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

Slideshow Slide 2 starts here

Madame:

D'accord. J'essaie à côté.

▶ Play audio

Pronounciation: *dah-kor. jeh-say-ah-koh-tay.*

Translate

OK. I'll try next door.

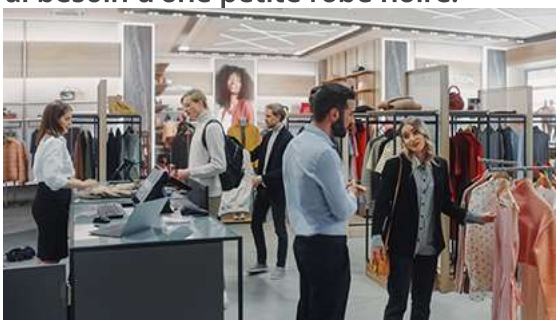
Dialogue Eight: Clothing

Slideshow Slide 2 ends here

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Madame:

J'ai besoin d'une petite robe noire.



Play audio

Pronounciation: *jay-buh-zwan-doon-puh-teet-rohb-nwahr*

Translate

I need a little black dress

Monsieur:

Courte ou longue?

Play audio

Pronounciation: *koort-oo-long?*

Translate

Short or long?

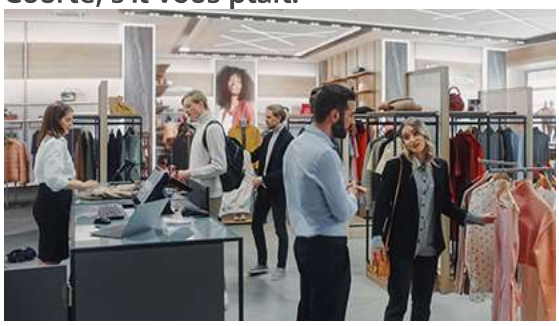
Dialogue Nine: Clothing

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

Slideshow Slide 2 starts here

Madame:

Courte, s'il vous plaît.



Play audio

Pronounciation: *koort-seel-voo-play*

Translate

Short, please.

Monsieur:

Par ici.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *pahr-ee-see*

Translate

Right this way.

Dialogue Nine: Clothing

Slideshow Slide 2 ends here

Clothing in France is sized with metric numbers. If you're unfamiliar with your metric size, you should try something on and see how it fits. After a while, you'll learn what size you need. If you're in an upscale store, you might get a salesclerk to measure you.

Clothing Size Vocabulary

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
la taille	{lah-tiy} Play audio	size
la pointure	{lah-pwin-toor} Play audio	size (for shoes)
très petit	{tray-puh-tee} Play audio	extra small

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
petit	{puh-tee}	small
	▶ Play audio	
moyen	{moy-yan}	medium
	▶ Play audio	
grand	{gran}	large
	▶ Play audio	
très grand	{tray-gran}	extra large
	▶ Play audio	

Translations

Let's talk about sizes!

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Madame:

Quelle pointure portez-vous?

▶ Play audio

Pronounciation: *kehl-pwan-toor-por-tay-voo?*

Translate

What size shoe do you wear?

Monsieur:

Je ne sais pas.

▶ Play audio

Pronounciation: *juh-nuh-say-pah*

Translate

I don't know.

Dialogue Ten: Sizes

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

Slideshow Slide 2 starts here

Madame:

Je vais vous mesurer.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *juh-vay-voo-muh-soo-ray*

Translate

I'll measure you

Monsieur:

Merci.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *mehr-see*

Translate

Thanks.

Dialogue Ten: Sizes

Slideshow Slide 2 ends here

Slideshow Slide 3 starts here

Madame:

Vous portez trente-sept.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *voo-por-tay-trant-seht*

Translate

You wear size thirty-seven.

Dialogue Ten: Sizes

Slideshow Slide 3 ends here

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Madame:

Excusez-moi, est-ce que ce pull se fait en la taille quarante-deux?

Play audio

Pronounciation: *ehk-skoo-zay-mwah-ehs-kuh-suh-pool-suh-fay-tan-lah-tihy-kay-rant-duh?*

Translate

Excuse me, does this sweater come in size forty-two?

Monsieur:

Bien sûr. Il est à la deuxième étagère.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *byen-soor. eel-eh-tah-lah-duh-zyehm-ay-tah-zhehr*

Translate

Of course. It's on the second shelf.

Dialogue Eleven: Sizes

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

Slideshow Slide 2 starts here

Madame:

Merci.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *mehr-see*

Translate

Thanks.

Dialogue Eleven: Sizes

Slideshow Slide 2 ends here

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Madame:

Cette chemise est trop étroite.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *seht-shuh-meez-eh-troh-ay-twaht*

Translate

This shirt is too tight.

Monsieur:

J'apporterai une taille plus grande.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *jah-por-tay-ray-oon-tihy-ploo-grand*

Translate

I'll bring a bigger size.

Dialogue Twelve: Sizes

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

Slideshow Slide 2 starts here

Madame:

Ceci va mieux

Play audio

Pronounciation: *suh-see-vah-myuh*

Translate

This one fits better.

Monsieur:

Elle vous va très bien.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *ehl-voo-vah-tray-byen*

Translate

It looks good on you.

Dialogue Twelve: Sizes

Slideshow Slide 2 ends here

Adjectives

Grammar Stop: Adjectives

It would be a dull world if we didn't have adjectives to describe things. In English, we usually just put the adjective in front of the noun that it's describing and call it a day. The adjective will be the same if we have one beautiful plant or fifty beautiful plants. It gets a little more complicated in French. In French, most adjectives are placed after the noun they describe, but not always. The spelling of many adjectives also changes depending on if the noun is masculine, feminine, and/or plural.

The good news is that if you make a mistake and put the adjective in the wrong place or use the wrong form, the native French person that you are speaking to will still understand you, so don't be afraid to get out there and try!

Three things you will want to remember when using adjectives in French:

- They usually come after the noun.
- If they fall into a category in the BANGS acronym (beauty, age, number, goodness, and size), they will usually come before the noun.
- The spelling changes depending on the number and gender of the noun that it is describing.

Adjective Examples

Let's look at some examples:

Le chat noir = the black cat

You will notice that the cat is masculine, so noir is the masculine form. Colors always come after the noun, so here noir is after chat.

Les chats noirs = the black cats

Here we have plural cats, so noir adds an s to make it plural.

La voiture noire = the black car

The car is a feminine noun, so noire adds an e.

Les voitures noires = the black cars

Here we have plural cars and they are feminine, so noires adds an es.

Learning Check-Adjective Agreement

Now you try a few:

Vert= green

Text equivalent start.

Question	Choices	Answer
Some green skirts = des jupes_____**(blank)**	a. vertes b. vert c. verts d. verte	vertes
A green skirt = une jupe _____**(blank)**	a. vertes b. verte c. vert d. verts	verte
Some green hats = des chapeaux_____**(blank)**	a. vertes b. verte c. verts d. vert	verts
A green hat = un chapeau _____**(blank)**	a. verts b. vertes c. vert d. verte	vert

Instructions: Read the question in the first column, and consider which response from the second column completes the blank in the sentence best. Then read the third column to find out whether you were right.

Text equivalent stop.

Adjectives That End in -e

If an adjective ends in an e, as many colors do: rouge, orange, jaune, etc., the masculine and feminine forms are the same

Une robe rouge (feminine)

Un camion rouge (masculine)

If an adjective ends in an s, like gris or gros (fat), then the masculine singular and plural will stay the same when it describes a masculine noun:

Le jouet gris

Les jouets gris

When it describes a feminine noun, it will add an e for a singular noun and an es for a plural noun.

La jupe grise

Les jupes grises

We've spent this time to discuss colors used as adjectives, but the same rules apply to all adjectives.

In the next chapter, you'll learn about other kinds of stores.

Chapter 3: Stores, Shops and Still More Stores

Book Stores

For this chapter, we'll look at various kinds of stores. You'll learn their names and vocabulary for some of the items that they sell. Then you'll get to try a couple of dialogues about the stores.

First, we'll talk about bookstores. The French word for bookstore looks a lot like the English word library. Don't confuse these words! A library is *la bibliothèque* in French.

Book Store Vocabulary

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
la librairie	{lah-lee-bray-ree}	bookstore
	Play audio	
le livre	{luh-leevr}	book
	Play audio	
le roman	{luh-roh-man}	novel
	Play audio	
la revue	{lah-ruh-voo}	magazine
	Play audio	
le signet	{luh-sih-nay}	bookmark
	Play audio	

Translations

Everybody wants a big book full of colorful pictures of places they visit. Here's how to ask for one!

Bookstore Dialogue

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Madame:

Je cherche un grand livre de belles photos de France.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *zhuh-shehrsh-an-gran-leevr-duh-behl-foh-toh-duh-frahns*

Translate

I'm looking for a large book with nice pictures of France in it.

Monsieur:

J'ai quelques près de la porte.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *zhay-kehl-kuh-pray-duh-lah-pohrt*

Translate

I have a few by the door.

Dialogue Thirteen: Bookstore

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

Slideshow Slide 2 starts here

Madame:

Merci!

▶ Play audio

Pronounciation: *mehr-see!*

Translate

Thanks!

Dialogue Thirteen: Bookstore

Slideshow Slide 2 ends here

Slideshow Slide 3 starts here

Madame:

Avez-vous des revues en anglais?

▶ Play audio

Pronounciation: *ah-vay-voo-day-ruh-voo-an-an-glay?*

Translate

Do you have any English magazines?

Monsieur:

Oui. J'ai des romans en anglais aussi.

▶ Play audio

Pronounciation: *wee. zhay-day-roh-man-an-an-glay-oh-see.*

Translate

Yes. I also have English novels.

Dialogue Thirteen: Bookstore

Slideshow Slide 3 ends here

Slideshow Slide 4 starts here

Madame:

Excellente!

Play audio

Pronounciation: *ehk-say-lant!*

Translate

Excellent!

Dialogue Thirteen: Bookstore

Slideshow Slide 4 ends here

Conjugation Corner:

Acheter = to buy

Since we are in the shopping lesson, it makes sense to learn how to conjugate the verb **acheter**, which means to buy. Acheter conjugates like a regular -er verb, with a small exception: the e changes to è when before a syllable with a silent e. Let 's take a look:

Text equivalent start.

J'achète

Nous achetons

Tu achètes

Vous achetez

Il/elle achète

Ils/elles achètent

Text equivalent stop.

Verbs like ***acheter*** are sometimes called boot verbs because when you circle the parts that have stem changes, you make the shape of a boot.

Here are a few examples:

J'achète un livre sur la tour Eiffel. {zhah-sheht-an-leevr-soor-lah-tor-Ay-fehl}= I'm buying a book about the Eiffel Tower.

Nous achetons des bonbons au chocolat. {noo-ah-shuh-ton-day-bon-bon-oh-shoh-coh-lah} = We are buying chocolate bonbons.

Travel Journal

Julie's Travel Journal

One of the things that was a pleasant surprise for me when I went on my first shopping excursion was that in France, all prices include the tax. Therefore, what is marked on the tag is exactly what you pay at the register. This really helped me at the beginning of my time in Paris because I could think about what my total would be before I went up to the register and practice those numbers in my head. It helped me to know what money to give the clerk before he asked and to know how much change I should be receiving.

Another thing you will want to keep in mind is that most stores charge a small fee for a shopping bag. So, either carry a reusable bag or be prepared to pay a little bit extra.

Jewelry Stores, Florists and Candy Shops!

Now let's talk about a place you want to visit if you are looking for a nice souvenir to mark a special occasion or just remember your trip—jewelry stores!

Jewelry Store Vocabulary

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
la bijouterie	{lah-bee-zhoo-tuh-ree} ▶ Play audio	jewelry store
les bijoux	{lay-bee-zhoo} ▶ Play audio	jewelry

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
les boucles d'oreille	{lay-bookl-doh-rayy} Play audio	earrings
le bracelet	{luh-brah-suh-lay} Play audio	bracelet
le collier	{luh-koh-lee-yay} Play audio	necklace
la bague	{lah-bahg} Play audio	ring

Translations

Let's talk about jewelry!

Jewelry Dialogues

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Monsieur:

Je veux acheter un collier pour ma nouvelle mariée.

▶ Play audio

Pronounciation: *zhuh-vuh-ah-shuh-tay-an-koh-lee-yay-poor-mah-noo-vehl-mah-ree-ay*

Translate

I want to buy a necklace for my bride.

Madame:

Est-ce que vous faites votre voyage de noces?

▶ Play audio

Pronounciation: *ehs-kuh-voo-feht-vohtr-voy-yahzh-duh-nohs?*

Translate

Are you on your honeymoon?

Dialogue Fourteen: Jewelry

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

Slideshow Slide 2 starts here

Monsieur:

Oui. Nous sommes mariés depuis trois jours.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *wee. noo-som-mah-ree-ay-duh-pwee-twah-zhoor*

Translate

Yes. We've been married three days.

Madame:

Félicitations!

Play audio

Pronounciation: *fay-lee-see-tah-syon!*

Translate

Congratulations!

Dialogue Fourteen: Jewelry

Slideshow Slide 2 ends here

While we're on the topic of romantic gifts, let's talk about flowers!

Floral Vocabulary

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
le fleuriste	{luh-flur-eest}	florist
	Play audio	
la fleur	{lah-flur}	flower
	Play audio	
le bouquet	{luh-boo-kay}	bouquet
	Play audio	

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
la rose	{lah-rohz} Play audio	rose
le lys	{luh-lees} Play audio	lily
la plante	{lah-plant} Play audio	plant
le vase	{luh-vahz} Play audio	vase
frais	{fray} Play audio	fresh
de soie	{duh-swah} Play audio	silk

Translations

Can you think of someone special to buy flowers for? Now you'll be able to ask for them in French!

Floral Dialogues

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Monsieur:

Je veux acheter des fleurs pour ma mariée.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *zhuh-vuh-ah-shuh-tay-day-flur-poor-mah-mah-ree-ay*

Translate

I want to buy flowers for my wife.

Madame:

C'est une occasion spéciale?

Play audio

Pronounciation: *seh-toon-oh-kah-zyon-spay-see-ahl?*

Translate

Is it a special occasion?

Dialogue Fifteen: Floral

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

Slideshow Slide 2 starts here

Monsieur:

C'est notre anniversaire de mariage.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *seh-nohtr-ah-nee-vehr-sayr-duh-mah-ree-ahzh*

Translate

It's our anniversary.

Madame:

Combien d'années?

Play audio

Pronounciation: *kon-byehn-dah-nay?*

Translate

How many years?

Slideshow Slide 2 ends here

Slideshow Slide 3 starts here

Monsieur:

Dix

Play audio

Pronounciation: *dees*

Translate

Ten.

Slideshow Slide 3 ends here

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Monsieur:

Avez-vous une douzaine de roses dans une vase?

Play audio

Pronounciation: *ah-vay-voo-oon-doo-zan-duh-rohz-dan-zoon-vahz?*

Translate

Do you have a dozen roses in a vase?

Madame:

Oui.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *wee*

Translate

Yes.

Dialogue Sixteen: Floral

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

Slideshow Slide 2 starts here

Monsieur:

Combien ça coûte?

Play audio

Pronounciation: *kon-byehn-sah-koot?*

Translate

How much do they cost?

Madame:

Cinquante euros.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *sin-kant-oe-roh*

Translate

Fifty euros.

Dialogue Sixteen: Floral

Slideshow Slide 2 ends here

Slideshow Slide 3 starts here

Monsieur:

Je les prends.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *zhuh-lay-pran*

Translate

I'll take them

Dialogue Sixteen: Floral

Slideshow Slide 3 ends here

You can't buy flowers without buying chocolate!

Candy Vocabulary

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
le chocolatier	{luh-shoh-koh-lah-tee-ay} Play audio	chocolate shop
le chocolat	{luh-shoh-koh-lah} Play audio	chocolate

Word	Pronunciation	Translation
le fondant	{luh-fon-dan} Play audio	fudge
la confiserie	{lah-kon-fee-zuh-ree} Play audio	candy store
les bonbons	{lay-bon-bon} Play audio	candy
la sucette	{lah-soo-seht} Play audio	lollipop
la dragée à la gelée de sucre	{lah-drah-zhay-ah-lah-zheh-lay-duh-sookr} Play audio	jellybean
le chewing-gum	{luh-shoo-een-guhm} Play audio	chewing gum

Translations

Slideshow Slide 1 starts here

Madame:

Je veux acheter un kilo de truffes.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *zhuh-vuh-ah-shuh-tay-an-kee-loh-duh-troof*

Translate

I want to buy a kilo of truffles.

Monsieur:

Le chocolat au lait ou le chocolate noir?

Play audio

Pronounciation: *luh-shoh-koh-lah-oh-lay-oo-luh-shoh-koh-lah-nwahr?*

Translate

Milk or dark chocolate?

Dialogue Seventeen: Chocolates

Slideshow Slide 1 ends here

Slideshow Slide 2 starts here

Madame:

Avez-vous le chocolat blanc?

Play audio

Pronounciation: *ah-vay-voo-luh-shoh-koh-lah-blan?*

Translate

Do you have white chocolate?

Monsieur:

Oui.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *wee*

Translate

Yes.

Dialogue Seventeen: Chocolates

Slideshow Slide 2 ends here

Slideshow Slide 3 starts here

Madame:

Chouette. J'aimerais un assortiment.

Play audio

Pronounciation: *shweht. zham-ray-an-ah-sohr-tee-man.*

Translate

Great. I'd like an assortment.

Dialogue Seventeen: Chocolates

Slideshow Slide 3 ends here

Are you ready to hop on a plane and go shopping?

Keep up the hard work!

Lesson 9 Review

Review

Let's Review!

You learned French words for shopping. You learned general words that you'll use in any kind of store. You learned words for clothes, and you learned lots of different kinds of stores!

You learned a whole bunch of French words in this lesson. Try your best to remember them, but don't panic if you forget some. Store clerks want to sell you their wares. They'll work with you to get you what you want.

Pay attention to signs and store policies if you think you might need to return something. Most stores require receipts for returns. Some small stores may not allow any returns.

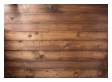
Be sure to keep your receipts for everything you buy. You may need them when you return home and go through customs. You'll also be able to compare them with your credit card statement to see what exchange rate your bank gave you.

If you're visiting small towns, be aware that stores often close at lunchtime for an hour or two. Restaurants generally stay open, so it's a good idea to plan your lunch when stores close.

In the next lesson, you're going to learn about entertainment. Get ready to have some fun!

Lesson 9 Assignment
Color Matching

Text equivalent start.

Item to Match	Matching Choices	Correct Match
	• bleu • orange • rouge • brun	• bleu
	• blanc • orange • rose • gris	• orange
	• gris • brun • rose • blanc	• rose
	• brun • vert • gris • orange	• brun

Item to Match	Matching Choices	Correct Match
	• violet • vert • jaune • gris	• violet
	• brun • bleu • jaune • vert	• vert
	• noir • orange • brun • vert	• noir
	• bleu • blanc • noir • rouge	• blanc
	• rouge • gris • brun • violet	• rouge
	• gris • orange • rouge • beige	• gris
	• jaune • bleu • gris • rose	• jaune
	• beige • rose • violet • brun	• beige

Instructions: Read the item in the first column and consider which choice(s) it matches to in the second column. Read the third column to find out if you are correct.

Text equivalent stop.

Lesson 9 Discussion Area

General Discussion

Please feel free to use the Discussion Area for this lesson to ask any questions that may have come to mind as you reviewed the lesson content or completed your assignment.

Discussion Activity

Please visit one of the sites in the Resources for Further Learning. Share an interesting fact or favorite attraction that is related to this lesson. Please include which site you visited.

Lesson 9 Quiz

6 correct out of 6 questions

February 23, 2025 8:04 PM

1. Which word is French for a "shop"?

✓ A. le magasin

Correct!

B. la mère

C. le cassier

D. la remise

2. How do you say "clothes" in French?

A. la chemise

B. le livre

C. la parapluie

✓ D. les vêtements

Correct!

3. Which word is French for "shoe size"?

A. la taile

✓ B. la pointure

Correct!

C. le roman

D. la cuiller

4. How do you say "green" in French?

✓ A. vert

Correct!

B. noir

C. rose

D. rouge

5. Which store sells books?

✓ A. la librairie

Correct!

B. la bibliotheque

C. la bijouterie

D. la fleuriste

6. Which of these statements is true about French adjectives?

A. Adjectives are always the same, regardless of the gender of the noun.

✓ B. Adjectives always agree with the noun they are describing?

Correct!

C. Adjectives always agree with the subject of the sentence.

D. Adjectives are always the same, regardless of whether the noun is singular or plural.

Lesson 9 Resources for Further Learning

Theme Parks In France: 11 Best Places Reviewed (happywayfarer.com) (https://happywayfarer.com/theme-parks-in-france/#:~:text=French%20Theme%20Parks%20You%20Would%20Love%20To%20Visit,8%208.%20Parc%20Du%20Futuroscope%20...%20More%20items)

https://happywayfarer.com/theme-parks-in-france/#:~:text=French%20Theme%20Parks%20You%20Would%20Love%20To%20Visit,8%208.%20Parc%20Du%20Futuroscope%20...%20More%20items

In case you're ready to visit a theme park in France...

Tourist Spots (http://www.paris.org)

http://www.paris.org

Shows places in France to visit. In English.

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10 Best Places to Visit in France (https://www.touropia.com/best-places-to-visit-in-france/)

https://www.touropia.com/best-places-to-visit-in-france/

Get your passport ready! I like this site because not only is it full of beautiful places to go, it also includes links for places to stay and sites to visit while you are there.

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