

In this edition:  
numbers from  
11-1,000; days,  
months,  
seasons

# Lesson 12

## Notes

## Nous sommes le vingt avril

### Numbers, days and dates

#### Programme Notes

Welcome to Coffee Break French, the podcast aimed at independent learners of French. Our regular podcasts will introduce you to the French language in easy steps. These programme notes will help you get more out of each episode by explaining how words are written and giving you more information about each phrase along with some bonus vocabulary where appropriate.

If you have specific questions about the contents of each lesson, why not email us at [cbf@radiolingua.com](mailto:cbf@radiolingua.com) or phone our helpline on 0141 416 2600 (UK) or 408 540 6114 (US), or you can skype *radiolingua*. By recording your question on our voicemail line you may feature on our forthcoming phone-in show, *French Espresso*.

#### Language Notes

<b>onze</b>	eleven	
<b>douze</b>	twelve	
<b>treize</b>	thirteen	
<b>quatorze</b>	fourteen	
<b>quinze</b>	fifteen	
<b>seize</b>	sixteen	
<b>dix-sept</b>	seventeen	
<b>dix-huit</b>	eighteen	
<b>dix-neuf</b>	nineteen	
<b>vingt</b>	twenty	
<b>vingt et un</b>	twenty-one	Notice no hyphens
<b>vingt-deux</b>	twenty-two	
<b>vingt-trois</b>	twenty-three	
<b>trente</b>	thirty	
<b>quarante</b>	forty	
<b>cinquante</b>	fifty	
<b>soixante</b>	sixty	
<b>soixante-dix</b>	seventy	literally, "sixty-ten"
<b>soixante-onze</b>	seventy-one	literally, "sixty-eleven"
<b>soixante-douze</b>	seventy-two	
<b>quatre-vingts</b>	eighty	Literally, "four twenties". Notice the 's' on <i>vingts</i>

## Language Notes

<b>quatre-vingt-un</b>	eighty-one	Notice the 's' on <i>vingts</i> is dropped
<b>quatre-vingt-deux</b>	eighty-two	
<b>quatre-vingt-neuf</b>	eighty-nine	
<b>quatre-vingt-dix</b>	ninety	literally, "four twenties (+) ten"
<b>quatre-vingt-onze</b>	ninety-one	literally, "four twenties (+) eleven"
<b>quatre-vingt-douze</b>	ninety-two	
<b>cent</b>	one hundred	
<b>cent quarante-cinq</b>	one hundred and forty-five	
<b>deux cents</b>	two hundred	
<b>trois cents</b>	three hundred	
<b>mille</b>	one thousand	

## Days, months and seasons

<b>lundi</b>	Monday	
<b>mardi</b>	Tuesday	
<b>mercredi</b>	Wednesday	
<b>jeudi</b>	Thursday	
<b>vendredi</b>	Friday	
<b>samedi</b>	Saturday	
<b>dimanche</b>	Sunday	
<b>janvier</b>	January	
<b>février</b>	February	
<b>mars</b>	March	
<b>avril</b>	April	
<b>mai</b>	May	
<b>juin</b>	June	
<b>juillet</b>	July	
<b>août</b>	August	
<b>septembre</b>	September	
<b>octobre</b>	October	
<b>novembre</b>	November	
<b>décembre</b>	December	
<b>le printemps</b>	spring	
<b>l'été</b>	summer	
<b>l'automne</b>	autumn	
<b>l'hiver</b>	winter	

## Talking about the date in French

Consider the following examples for talking about the date in French. Notice the use of the word *le* and the format of the date.

**aujourd'hui nous sommes le vingt-trois janvier 2008**  
today it's the 23rd of January 2008

**aujourd'hui nous sommes le treize août 1988**  
today it's the 13th of August 1988

To say you were born on a particular date, use the phrase *je suis né* (masculine) or *je suis née* (feminine). You'll probably be familiar with the word *née* which is used in English to give a woman's maiden name. It literally means "born ...", eg. "Jane Thomson, née Dawson", literally meaning that Jane Thomson was "born" as Jane Dawson.

**je suis né le dix septembre 1967**  
I was born (masculine) on the 10th of September 1967

## Numbers in other French-speaking areas

If you travel in Belgium or Switzerland you may find that alternative numbers are used for the more complex numbers from 70-99. The list below should help to explain the words you may hear:

Days, months and seasons		
<b>septante</b>	seventy	
<b>septante-et-un</b>	seventy-one	
<b>octante / huitante</b>	eighty	
<b>octante-cinq / huitante-cinq</b>	eight-five	
<b>nonante</b>	ninety	
<b>nonante-neuf</b>	ninety-nine	

## Answers to the quiz

The answers to the test in the bonus podcast for episode 12 are listed below.

- 46
- 89
- 76
- 152
- 199
- 812
- 1779
- Saturday, 14 August 1954
- Sunday, 6 June 1993
- Tuesday, 20 October 1931