

In this edition:
dealing with
money and
banking matters

Lesson 27

Notes

Je dois changer de l'argent

I need to change some money

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.

Language Notes

l'argent	money	<i>argent</i> is also the word for 'silver'
de l'argent	some money	
changer	to change	
retirer	to withdraw (money)	
signer	to sign	
je voudrais changer de l'argent s'il vous plaît	I would like to change some money please	
je veux	I want	As <i>je voudrais...</i> this is followed by the infinitive
je veux changer de l'argent	I want to change some money	
je dois	I must..., I have to..., I need to...	Note that literally <i>je dois</i> means "I owe", and that it can be used with money, eg. <i>je te dois de l'argent</i> , "I owe you some money"
je dois changer de l'argent	I must change some money; I have to change some money; I need to change some money	
pouvoir	to be able to	Another modal verb, followed by an infinitive
je peux vous aider?	can I help you?	
je voudrais changer de l'argent s'il vous plaît	I would like to change some money, please	
je veux changer de l'argent	I want to change some money	
combien voulez-vous changer?	how much do you want to change?	
combien voudriez-vous changer?	how much would you like to change?	Note the difference between <i>voulez</i> (want) and <i>voudriez</i> (would like)

Language Notes

je voudrais changer cent dollars en euros	I would like to change one hundred dollars into euros	
un dollar	dollar	
une livre	pound (sterling)	*See below
un euro	euro	
un franc (suisse)	(Swiss) franc	
je voudrais changer cinq cents dollars en francs suisses	I would like to change \$500 into Swiss francs	
je voudrais deux cents livres en euros	I would like to change £200 into euros	
les chèques de voyage	travellers' cheques	
je voudrais changer des chèques de voyage	I would like to change some travellers' cheques	
ces	these	
je voudrais changer ces chèques de voyage	I would like to change these travellers' cheques	
je voudrais retirer deux cents euros	I would like to withdraw €200	
où est-ce que je dois signer?	where must I sign?	
je dois signer où?	where must I sign?	
où dois-je signer où?	where must I sign?	
signez ici, s'il vous plaît	sign here, please	
un distributeur	distributor, vending machine	
un distributeur de billets	ATM, cash machine	
une piece	coin	
un billet	banknote	Note that <i>billet</i> also means "ticket"
est-ce qu'il y a un distributeur de billets près d'ici?	is there an ATM near here?	
avaler	to swallow	
le distributeur de billets a avalé ma carte	the ATM has swallowed my card	

Additional vocabulary

j'ai oublié mon code	I have forgotten my PIN number	
mon numéro de compte est ...	my account number is ...	
déposer de l'argent	to pay some money in	
je peux avoir de la monnaie	can I have some change?	
est-ce que je peux retirer de l'argent avec ma carte de crédit?	can I take out some money with my credit card?	

Modal verb examples (1-3 in main podcast; 4-8 in bonus podcast)

1	je voudrais parler français	I would like to speak French
2	je veux chanter une chanson	I want to sing a song
3	je dois aller au marché	I must / have to go to the market
4	je voudrais danser avec toi	I would like to dance with you
5	je veux manger une pizza	I want to eat a pizza
6	je peux jouer au tennis avec Nicole?	Can I play tennis with Nicole?
7	je dois lire ces livres	I must read these books
8	je veux apprendre le français	I want to learn French



CoffeeBreak
French

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*Note that in the original version of the recording of this episode, *livre* was mistakenly given as a masculine noun. The word is masculine when it means “book”, but is feminine when it means “pound”. This mistake will be rectified as soon as possible.

