

Leçon 3

Ça va?

Objectives

- To exchange greetings
- To tell time in minutes
- To talk about one's studies



Students and faculty meet in front of the Université de Paris-Jussieu.

LUC: Salut, Thomas.
THOMAS: Salut! Ça va?
LUC: Ça va! Et toi?
THOMAS: Ça va bien, merci.



CÉLINE: Salut, Léa. Comment vas-tu?
LÉA: Ça va mal.
CÉLINE: Ah bon°? Pourquoi°?
LÉA: J'ai° un examen dans° dix minutes!
CÉLINE: Alors°, salut!
LÉA: Au revoir.



M. DORVAL: Bonjour, madame.
Comment allez-vous?
MME RÉMY: Je vais bien, merci.
Et vous, monsieur?
M. DORVAL: Ça va! Merci.



°Ah bon Really Pourquoi Why J'ai I have dans in Alors Well then

Pour communiquer: Ça va?

⇒ How to exchange greetings

informally

Comment vas-tu?

How are you?

Ça va!

I'm fine.

Ça va bien, merci.

I'm fine, thanks.

Et toi?

And you?

formally

Comment allez-vous?

Je vais bien.

Je vais bien, merci.

Et vous?

Ça va?

How are things going?

Ça va...



bien (*well*)

très bien (*very well*)

pas mal (*not so bad, quite well*)

comme ci, comme ça (*so-so*)



mal (*badly*)

très mal (*very badly*)

► Depending on their relationship, French people use two different forms of address:

- familiar **tu** or **toi**
- the formal **vous**

In general, young people, family members, and close friends address one another as **tu**. Other people are addressed as **vous**.

1 Salut! Ça va?

Your partner will say hello and ask how you are. Say how you feel.

★ (*You feel great.*)

— **Salut! Ça va?**

— **Oui, ça va très bien!**

1. (*You have a headache.*)

2. (*You are going to the dentist.*)

3. (*You got a B on your exam.*)

4. (*It's your birthday.*)

5. (*You lost your wallet.*)

6. (*You won a trip to France.*)

7. (*You had an argument with your roommate.*)

8. (*You are going out on a date.*)

Note culturelle

Les salutations (*Greetings*)

In France, the formal way of greeting people is to shake hands. Young people and close friends are much less formal when they greet one another. Depending on the circumstances, male friends may shake hands, tap each other lightly on the shoulder, or even hug. Female friends exchange kisses on both cheeks. This is called **la bise**. Men and women who are on friendly terms also greet one another with **la bise**.

Pour communiquer: Les études

⇒ *How to talk about your studies*

Qu'est-ce que tu étudies? *What are you studying?*

J'étudie... *I am studying . . .*

le français

la biologie

les maths

l'espagnol (*Spanish*)

l'informatique (*computer science*)

les sciences

J'ai... *I have . . .*

un cours (*a class*)

un cours de français (*a French class*)

un examen (*an exam*)

un examen d'histoire (*a history exam*)

► The names of school subjects may be masculine or feminine, singular or plural. After **j'étudie**, they are introduced by **le** (masculine singular), **la** (feminine singular), or **les** (plural).



Prononciation: L'élision

The final letter “e” of a few short words, such as **je**, **de**, and **le**, and the final “a” of **la** are dropped when the next word begins with a vowel—**a**, **e**, **i**, **o**, **u**—or a “mute **h**” (as in **heure** and **histoire**). This is called ELISION.

Répétez:

	no elision	elision
je → j'	Je suis français.	J' ai un examen.
le, la → l'	le chinois, la philo	L' italien, l' histoire
de → d'	un cours de maths	un cours d' informatique
	un examen de français	un examen d' anglais

NOTE: As you can see in the chart below, many school subjects are cognates. French students, like American students, often shorten the names of their classes.

Arts et lettres
les langues°
l'anglais
l'espagnol
le français
l'italien
le chinois
la littérature
la philosophie (la philo)

Sciences
la chimie°
la physique
la biologie (la bio)
les mathématiques (les maths)

Sciences sociales
l'histoire
l'économie
les sciences politiques
la psychologie (la psycho)
la sociologie

Études professionnelles
le commerce°
la finance
le marketing
l'informatique°

les langues *languages* la chimie *chemistry* le commerce *business* l'informatique *computer science*

2 À l'université

List a few subjects that you are studying. Your partner will do the same. Then describe your courses to each other. Which subjects do you have in common?

Études	
•	•
•	•

- ★ — *J'étudie la biologie.*
- *Moi, j'étudie la physique.*

3 À l'hôtel en France

French telephone numbers contain ten digits, which are given two digits at a time. Ask the operator at your hotel in Nice to connect you to the following numbers. Begin your request with **S'il vous plaît** (*Please*).

☀ 04.31.22.57.12

S'il vous plaît, le zéro quatre, trente et un, vingt-deux, cinquante-sept, douze.

01.42.21.18.60

03.15.52.35.18

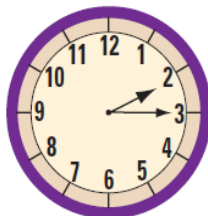
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05.36.08.46.11

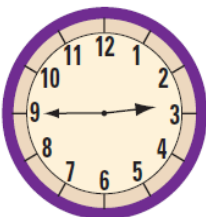
4 L'heure

Give the time according to the clocks below.

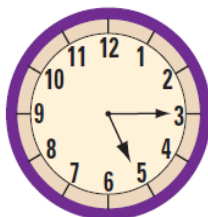
☀ *Il est deux heures et quart.*



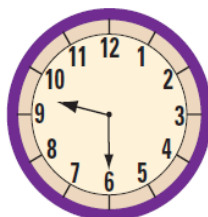
1.



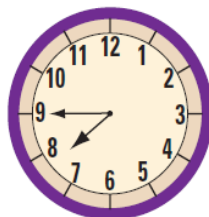
2.



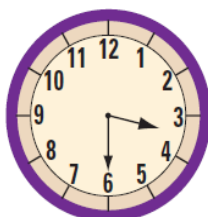
3.



4.



5.



5 À quelle heure?

Ask your partner at what time the following activities are scheduled.

☀ — À quelle heure est le film?

— Le film est à neuf heures vingt.

☀ 9 h 20 le film

1. 6 h 30 le concert

2. 1 h 25 le match de baseball

3. 10 h 40 le match de tennis

4. 4 h 50 le récital

5. 7 h 20 le dîner

Conversation dirigée

- Say hello.
- Greet each other.
- Find out what each of you is studying.
- Ask the time.
- Say you have a class in (**dans**) ten minutes.