

Future Tense

In French, the future tense is expressed through the futur simple (simple future) and the futur proche (near future). The futur simple is used for predictions, plans, and hypothetical situations, while the futur proche emphasises actions that are about to happen or are certain to occur.

The future tense, specifically the simple future (le futur simple), generally follows the format of infinitive + [future endings]. The future endings are -ai, -as, -a, -ons, -ez, -ont, which are added to the infinitive form of the verb. For regular -re verbs, the final 'e' is dropped before adding the endings.

Formation:

1. **-er and -ir verbs:**

Use the full infinitive as the stem.

- Example: parler (to speak) becomes je parlerai, tu parleras, il parlera, nous parlerons, vous parlerez, ils parleront.

2. **-re verbs:**

Drop the final 'e' of the infinitive.

- Example: vendre (to sell) becomes je vendrai, tu vendras, il vendra, nous vendrons, vous vendrez, ils vendront.

Examples:

- Je mangerai des pommes. (I will eat apples.)
- Tu finiras tes devoirs. (You will finish your homework.)
- Il descendra la montagne. (He will descend the mountain.)
- Nous attenderons le bus. (We will wait for the bus.)
- Vous aurez le temps. (You will have time.)
- Ils partiront en vacances. (They will leave for vacation.)

Here are some more examples:

Futur Simple (Simple Future):

- **"Je jouerai au football demain."** - I will play football tomorrow.
- **"Elle finira ses devoirs ce soir."** - She will finish her homework this evening.
- **"Nous irons à la plage si le temps le permet."** - We will go to the beach if the weather permits.

- **"Ils chanteront une chanson à la fête."** - They will sing a song at the party.
- **"Vous regarderez le film plus tard."** - You will watch the movie later.

Futur Proche (Near Future):

- **"Je vais aller au cinéma ce soir."** - I am going to go to the movies tonight.
- **"Tu vas manger une pizza ?"** - Are you going to eat a pizza?
- **"Elle va voyager en Europe l'année prochaine."** - She is going to travel to Europe next year.
- **"Nous allons partir en vacances la semaine prochaine."** - We are going to leave for vacation next week.
- **"Ils vont commencer le cours de français la semaine prochaine."** - They are going to start the French course next week.

Additional points:

- **Regular verbs in the futur simple:** follow a pattern of adding specific endings to the infinitive form of the verb. For example, with "-er" verbs, you add "-ai", "-as", "-a", "-ons", "-ez", "-ont".
- **Irregular verbs:** in the futur simple have unique stems and endings.
- **The futur proche is formed using the present tense of the verb "aller" (to go) followed by the infinitive of the main verb .** For example, "Je vais..." (I am going to...), "Tu vas..." (You are going to...), etc.