

All the Notes I Ever Took in French I

- Paris is in the northern central area of France.
- Paris is divided into (for administrative reasons) Arrondissements.
 - There are 20 of them.
 - These are how Parisians will describe where they live in the city.
 - The numbering is in a clockwise circling pattern starting with the first one at the centre of the city.
- Paris lies on the Seine river (la Seine.)
- The two Islands are Île de la Cité and Île St. Louis.
- The Cathédrale de Notre Dame is located on the Île de la Cité.
- Notre Dame has gargoyles.
- On the Seine, there are Bateau Mouches (sightseeing boats.) During the winter they are closed, and during the Summer they are open.
- The Left Bank and Right Bank (lower and upper respectively) refer to the sides of the river.
- The left bank has the Sorbonne. The Latin Quarter, called so because Latin used to be the language of the academics.
- Le Louvre—
 - Contains the Mona Lisa, the Venus de Milo, Winged Victory of Samothrace.
 - Louvre was once a palace of the French Kings in Paris.
 - Tuileris was the other big palace in Paris.
 - The pyramid is a recent (40 years old-ish) addition and is the modern entrance to the museum.
 - Place de la Concorde, a big open square.
 - Obelisk, a four-sided pillar of stone topped with a pyramid. It was stolen from Egypt by Napoleon, nicknamed Cleopatra's needle.

- Place de la Concorde used to be Place de Louis XV. Translates to place of peace. Was renamed place de la revolution.
- Further down the Champs Elysées is the Arc de Triomphe.
- Hôtel de Ville is the city hall of a city. Not a hotel.
- Le Centre Pompidou, named after a previous French President. AKA Beauborg.
- Place de la Bastille. Bastille used to be a fortress/prison. In 1789 it was stormed as a symbol against the king (and as a way to get weapons.)
- French call Bastille Day "La Fête Nationale."
- Sacre Cœur