



French QuickChat

French is one of the most widely taught languages in the world – chances are you already know a few phrases. Thanks to an invasion of England in the 11th century, it's also been a major contributor to the vocabulary of English (so if you missed out on the French lessons, you're still sure to know many French words). After enjoying the practical advantages of speaking French (being told of a cosy vineyard way off the tourist track, discovering that there's little merit in the clichéd reference to the French being rude), you'll find the reasons to speak French just keep growing.

QUESTION WORDS

How?	Comment?	ko-mon
What?	Quoi?	kwa
When?	Quand?	kon
Where?	Où?	oo
Who?	Qui?	kee
Why?	Pourquoi?	poor-kwa

CONVERSATION & ESSENTIALS

Hello	Bonjour	bon-zhoor
Goodbye	Au revoir	o-rer-vwa
Yes	Oui	wee
No	Non	no
Please	S'il vous plaît	seel voo play
Thank you	Merci	mair-see
You're welcome	Je vous en prie	zher voo-zon pree
	De rien (inf)	der ree-en
Excuse me	Excusez-moi	ek-skew-zay-mwa
I'm sorry	Pardon	par-don
What's your name?	Comment vous appelez-vous? (pol)	ko-mon voo -za-pay-lay voo
	Comment tu t'appelles? (inf)	ko-mon tew ta-pel
My name is ...	Je m'appelle ...	zher ma-pel ...
Where are you from?	De quel pays êtes-vous?	der kel pay-ee et-voo
	De quel pays es-tu? (inf)	der kel pay-ee e-tew
I'm from ...	Je viens de ...	zher vyen der ...
I like ...	J'aime ...	zhem ...
I don't like ...	Je n'aime pas ...	zher nem pa ...
Just a minute	Une minute.	ewn mee-newt

DIRECTIONS

Where is ...?	Où est ...?	oo e ...
Go straight ahead	Continuez tout droit	kon-teen-way too drwa
Turn left	Tournez à gauche	toor-nay a gosh
Turn right	Tournez à droite	toor-nay a drwat
at the corner/at traffic lights	au coin/aux feux	o kwun/o fer

LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES

Do you speak English?	Parlez-vous anglais?	par-lay-voo ong-lay
How do you say ... in French?	Comment est-ce qu'on dit ... en français?	ko-mon es-kon dee ... on fron-say
What does ... mean?	Que veut dire ...?	ker ver deer ...
I don't understand	Je ne comprends pas	zher ner kom-pron pa

TIME & DATES

What time is it?	Quelle heure est-il?	kel er e til
in the morning	du matin	dew ma-tun
in the afternoon	de l'après-midi	der la-pray-mee-dee
in the evening	du soir	dew swar
today	aujourd'hui	o-zhoor-dwee
tomorrow	demain	der-mun
yesterday	hier	yair
Monday	lundi	lun-dee
Tuesday	mardi	mar-dee
Wednesday	mercredi	mair-krer-dee
Thursday	jeudi	zher-dee
Friday	vendredi	von-drer-dee
Saturday	samedi	sam-dee
Sunday	dimanche	dee-monsh

SHOPPING & SERVICES

I'd like to buy ...	Je voudrais acheter ...	zher voo-drax ash-tay ...
How much is it?	C'est combien?	say kom-byun
I don't like it	Cela ne me plaît pas	ser-la ner mer play pa
May I look at it?	Est-ce que je peux le voir?	es-ker zher per ler vwar
I'm just looking	Je regarde	zher rer-gard
It's cheap	Ce n'est pas cher	ser nay pa shair
It's too expensive	C'est trop cher	say tro shair
I'll take it	Je le prends	zher ler pron
Can I pay by credit card?	Est-ce que je peux payer avec ma carte de crédit?	es-ker zher per pay-yay a-vek ma kart der kray-dee

PLACES

the church	l'église	lay-gleez
the embassy	l'ambassade de ...	lam-ba-sahd der ...
the market	le marché	ler mar-shay
the museum	le musée	ler mew-zay
old city (town)	la vieille ville	la vyay veel
the post office	le bureau de poste	ler bew-ra der post
a public toilet	les toilettes	lay twa-let
the tourist office	l'office de lo-fees der	tourisme too-rees-mer

TRANSPORT

What time does ... leave/arrive?	À quelle heure part/arrive ...?	a kel er par/a-reev ...
boat	le bateau	ler ba-to
bus	le bus	ler bews
plane	l'avion	la-vyon
train	le train	ler trun
I'd like a ticket	Je voudrais un billet	zher voo-drax un bee-yay
I want to go to ...	Je voudrais aller à ...	zher voo-drax a-lay a ...
The train has been delayed	Le train est en retard	ler trun et on rer-tar
The train has been cancelled	Le train a été annulé	ler trun a ay-tay a-new-lay
platform	de quai	der kay
ticket office	le guichet	ler gee-shay
timetable	l'horaire	lo-rair
train station	la gare	la gar

EMERGENCIES

Help!	Au secours!	o skoor
I'm lost	Je me suis égaré/e (m/f)	zhe me swee-zay-ga-ray
Leave me alone!	Fichez-moi la paix!	fee-shay-mwa la pay
Call ...!	Appelez ...!	a-play ...
a doctor	un médecin	un mayd-sun
the police	la police	la po-lees

SIGNS

Entrance	Entrée
Exit	Sortie
Information	Renseignements
Open	Ouvert
Closed	Fermé
Prohibited	Interdit
Rooms Available	Chambres Libres
Full/No Vacancies	Complet
Police Station	Commissariat de Police
Toilets	Toilettes/WC
Men	Hommes
Women	Femmes