
All Kinds of French Sentence Structures (with Examples)

♦ 1. Affirmative / Declarative Sentence

Used to state facts or opinions.

Structure:

Subject + Verb + (Object/Complement)

✓ *Je vais à l'école.*

→ I go to school.

✓ *Il aime la musique.*

→ He loves music.

♦ 2. Negative Sentence

Expresses denial or contradiction.

Structure:

Subject + ne + Verb + pas + (Object)

(ne...pas is the most common negative form)

✗ *Je ne mange pas de viande.*

→ I do not eat meat.

✗ *Elle ne regarde pas la télé.*

→ She doesn't watch TV.

♦ 3. Interrogative Sentence (Question)

a) With Est-ce que

Structure:

Est-ce que + Subject + Verb + Object

? *Est-ce que tu parles français ?*

→ Do you speak French?

? *Est-ce qu'il aime le sport ?*

→ Does he like sports?

b) Inversion (Formal)

Structure:

Verb + Subject Pronoun + Object

? *Parlez-vous anglais ?*

→ Do you speak English?

? *Aime-t-elle le chocolat ?*

→ Does she like chocolate?

c) Rising Intonation (Informal)

Structure:

Subject + Verb + Object ? (*said with rising tone*)

? *Tu viens ce soir ?*

→ Are you coming tonight?

? *Il est prêt ?*

→ Is he ready?

♦ 4. Imperative Sentence (Command)

Used to give orders or advice.

Structure:

(Verb in imperative form) + (Object)

(No subject pronoun used)

 *Écoute bien !*

 Listen well!

 *Prenez votre temps.*

 Take your time.

♦ 5. Exclamatory Sentence

Expresses strong emotion.

Structure:

Quel/Comme/Que + Subject + Verb...!

 *Quel beau jour !*

 What a beautiful day!

 *Comme tu es grand !*

 How tall you are!

♦ 6. Passive Voice Sentence

Focuses on the action, not the doer.

Structure:

Subject + être (conjugated) + past participle + par + agent

 *Le livre est lu par Marie.*

 The book is read by Marie.



La lettre a été écrite par Paul.



The letter was written by Paul.

♦ 7. Cleft Sentence (Emphasis)

Used to emphasize one part of the sentence.

Structure:

C'est/ Ce sont + (emphasized part) + que/qu'...



C'est moi qui ai gagné.



It's me who won.



Ce sont les enfants que j'ai vus.



It's the children that I saw.

♦ 8. Relative Clause Sentence

Adds more info using qui, que, où, etc.

Structure:

Main Clause + Relative Pronoun + Sub-Clause



L'homme qui parle est mon père.



The man who is speaking is my father.



Voici le livre que j'ai lu.



Here's the book that I read.

♦ 9. Infinitive Construction

Used after certain verbs or expressions.

Structure:

Verb/Expression + de/à + Infinitive



J'aime lire.



I like to read.



Il est important de manger sainement.



It is important to eat healthily.

♦ 10. Conditional Sentence (If... then...)

Used to talk about hypothetical situations.

Structure:

Si + Present, Future / Si + Imparfait, Conditionnel



Si tu étudies, tu réussiras.



If you study, you will succeed.



Si j'étais riche, je voyagerais.



If I were rich, I would travel.