

FRENCH LANGUAGE

Introduction to French Language and Culture

Lesson 1:1

16 and 23 Sept 2021

Greetings / se presenter

Background

- Greetings in French are both formal and informal just like in English 'hello' or 'hi'
- In general, the French are more formal than the English when first meeting or dealing with customers
- When meeting older/ more senior people add Monsieur, madame or mademoiselle after bonjour
- The surname is not usually added
- Madame is more frequent than mademoiselle which is only used for young unmarried women
- There is no equivalent in French for 'Ms'
- Bonsoir is usually used after about 6pm
- The French also say 'Bonne Nuit - good night. This is NOT a greeting, but goodbye/ goodnight.

Section A: Formal greetings for the morning

Listen to the pronunciation, then repeat after me:

1. Good morning - bonjour
2. To a man - bonjour Monsieur
3. To a woman - Bonjour Madame
4. To a young unmarried female - Bonjour Mademoiselle

Formal greeting for the afternoon/ evening

Listen to the pronunciation/ then repeat after me:

- Bonsoir
- To a male- bonsoir monsieur
- To a female - bonsoir madame
- To a young unmarried female - bonsoir mademoiselle

Dialogues

Listen to the dialogues

1. In the morning at 07:30

Personne A: Bonjour Monsieur

Personne B: Ah, Bonjour, Madame Legoff

2. At 13:50

Listen to the dialogue between 2 people A & B,

Personne A: Madame Gonthier?

Personne B: Oui. Mademoiselle Brown?

Personne A: Oui! Bonjour, Madame Gonthier

Personne B: Bonjour, Mademoiselle Brown

3. From 14:00 onwards

First Listen to the dialogue/ then repeat after me

Personne A: Bonsoir, Monsieur.

Personne B: : Bonsoir, Monsieur.

Section B: Informal greetings

Listen to the pronunciation:

Hi - Salut

Dialogue

Listen to young people meeting in a café:

Person 1: Salut Jean

Person 2: Salut Marie

Person 3: Salut, Paul

Everybody: Salut tout le monde- hi everyone

Background Information

- Shaking hands is more usual in France. You will often see colleagues shaking hands when greeting each other in the morning at work. Kissing on both cheeks largely depends on the relationship and social class. The safest approach is to respond when invited, but not take the initiative. The kiss on both cheeks is called 'la bise' or bisou

Section C

My name is Susan James - Je m'appelle Susan James

Vocabulary Listen to the pronunciation/ then repeat after me:

- **My name is/ I am called - je m'appelle**
- **And - et**
- **Pleased to meet you - enchanté (masc)/ enchantée (fem)**
- **I am - je suis**
- **You are- vous êtes**
- **Are you? - êtes- vous?**

Grammar: There are two ways to ask a question in French

- Rising intonation: raise your voice at the end: vous êtes Madame Gonthier?
- Or invert the subject and verb : êtes- vous Madame Gonthier?

Dialogue 1

Listen to the pronunciation:

Personne A: Bonjour, je m'appelle Susan James. Et vous êtes?

Personne B: Je suis Jacques Doucet

Role play

1. I am going to say my name and ask yours, so respond as Personne B
2. Now you are Personne A: say your name and ask mine

Dialogue 2

Listen to the pronunciation/ then repeat after me:

Personne A: Bonjour, je m'appelle Susan James. Et vous êtes?

Personne B: Enchanté, madame. Je m'appelle Christian Delacroix.

Personne A: Enchantée, monsieur.

Role play: Now it's your turn. You are meeting someone

First listen to me Personne A, then reply as Personne B as in the example:

1. Personne A Susan : Je suis Susan James
2. Personne B You say: ' pleased to meet you'
3. Personne A Susan: Bonjour, je suis Susan James. Et vous êtes?
4. Personne B You say: who you are, and say you are pleased to meet me

[A video on the Animated History of France](#) (click the link)

Section D: Welcome to - Bienvenue à

Vocabulary: Listen to the pronunciation/ then repeat after me:

1. happy/ pleased...heureux (masc)/ heureuse(fem)
2. Pleased to meet you..heureux
3. Heureuse de faire votre connaissance
4. The Mayor - monsieur, le Maire
5. Welcome to Paris - bienvenue à Paris

Listen to the following dialogue/then repeat:

Personne 1: Bonjour Madame. Je suis Jean Darant, Maire de Paris.

Personne 2: Je suis Susan James. Enchantée Monsieur le Maire.

Personne 1: Heureux de faire votre connaissance. Bienvenue à Paris, madame

Dialogue 2

Bonjour, Monsieur.Veronique.

Je suis Nigel.....?.....?.....

Dialogue 3

Je...?. Antoine Blondin. Et ...?.êtes?

Je m'appelle Monique Laborde...?.....

Je suis...?.....de faire votre connaissance

Free conversation with an imaginary friend

Introduce yourself to a person beside you using:

1. *Je m'appelle or je suis*
2. *Ask their name: et vous êtes?*
3. *Say you are pleased to meet them using heureux or heureuse de faire votre connaissance*

How are you?

Background

In French there is both a formal and informal way to say this

Vocabulary

Listen to the pronunciation/then repeat:

1. How are you? - comment allez-vous?
2. (Very) well - (tres) bien
3. And you (formal) - et vous?
4. And you (in formal) - et toi?
5. how are you (informal) - Ca va - ?
6. ok fine (informal response) - Ca va
7. Not too bad - pas trop mal
8. Thank you - merci
9. No - non

Dialogue 1

First Listen to the pronunciation/ then repeat:

A: Bonjour Monsieur.

B: Bonjour Madame.

A: Comment allez-vous?

B: Très bien, merci. Et vous?

A: bien merci

Role play

- *I am person A and you respond as person B, as in the example*
- *Change roles, now you are person A and I respond as person B*

Dialogue 2

Informal Listen to the pronunciation:

A: Salut! Ca va?

B: oui, ça va. Et toi?

Role play

- *I am person A and you respond as person B, as in the example*
- *Change roles, now you are person A and I respond as person B*

Dialogue 3

Vocabulaire/ grammaire

- Ca va - I am alright
- ne + verb + pas = not
- Ca NE va PAS - I am NOT alright

Listen to the pronunciation/ then repeat after me:

A:Madame Toutais?

B:Oui, bonjour, docteur.

A: Bonjour, madame. Comment allez-vous?

Oh ça ne va pas très bien, docteur.

Role play

- *I am person A and you respond as person B, as in the example*
- *Change roles, now you are person A and I respond as person B*
- *Try this with your imaginary friend*

QUIZ

In French,how do you say? En francais, comment dire?

- Hello in the morning?
- Hello in the evening?
- Goodnight
- My name is
- I am
- You are
- Are you?
- Pleased to meet you
- How are you?
- Very well thank you
- I am alright
- I am NOT alright

[A sing-a-long video on Numbers 1-10](#) (click the link)

Suggestions:

- Learn the vocabulary and expressions/ apprenez le vocabulaire et les expressions
- Have a good week/Passez une bonne semaine
- See you next week/A la semaine prochaine

Culture: Regions of France

Click on the resource links below to read more about the regions and culture of France and Bordeaux.

[Regions of France](#)

Culture: Wineries and Vineyards of Bordeaux

- [Bordeaux information resources](#)
- [Bordeaux first growth wine guide](#)
- [Bordeaux wine region map](#)
- **Top 10 must-see Châteaux in Bordeaux** [Top 10 des châteaux incontournables de Bordeaux](#)

Bordeaux Wines

- [How to read a wine label](#)
- [The meaning of 'Appellation'](#)
- [The difference between Grand Cru and Premier Cru](#)
- [The World's Best Bordeaux Wines](#)

Wine Name	Score	Ave Price
Château Margaux, Margaux	95	\$715
Chateau Mouton Rothschild, Pauillac	95	\$650
Château Cheval Blanc, Saint-Émilion Grand Cru	95	\$693
Château Lafite Rothschild, Pauillac	95	\$925

Reference: [Wine Searcher](#)

[A French drinking song: Il est des nôtres](#)

Suggestions:

- Learn the vocabulary and expressions/ apprenez le vocabulaire et expressions
- Open the links and read the information about Bordeaux, wine, the vineyards
- Think of something that you would like to know about France and let me know next week.
- Work on the drinking song for the pronunciation and rhythm of French

Have a good week :)
Passez une bonne semaine :)

See you next week:)
A la semaine prochaine:)