Grammaire



Grammavision



En anglais

In English, the subject pronoun *you* is used with anyone, regardless of their age or relationship to you.

Do you use the pronoun you to talk to one person, more than one person, or both?

In French, there are two different words for you. You'll learn the appropriate use of each word depending on the situation.

Subject pronouns

These are the subject pronouns in French.

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Je changes to j' before a verb beginning with a vowel sound.

J'ai quinze ans.

J am 15 years old.

The subject pronouns tu and vous both mean you. Either of these pronouns could be used to address one person depending on your relationship with him or her. Vous is used to address more than one person.

a friend, a family member or someone tune to the someone your own age

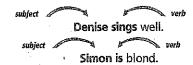
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The pronoun **on** has no direct equivalent in English. It can mean we, they as in people in general or one. The meaning of **on** will depend on the context.

En France, on parle français.
In France, they (people in general) speak French.

Subjects and verbs

In English, sentences have a subject and a verb. The subject is the person or thing that is doing the action or that is being described. The verb is the action word, like jump or sing, or a linking word, like are or is, that links the subject to a description.



French sentences also have a subject and verb.



Both English and French use nouns as subjects. Nouns can be replaced by pronouns. Some of the French pronouns you've already seen are je, tu, il, elle, and vous.

Denise is a friend. She is fifteen years old.

Denise est une amie. Elle a quinze ans.

- indefinite articles and plural of nouns
- the verb avoir and negation





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Indefinite articles and plural of nouns



In French, there are two words that mean a or an: un and une. Use un with masculine nouns and une with feminine nouns. Use des (some) with plural nouns. In general, to make a noun plural, add an "s" at the end of the word. The final "s" is not pronounced when you say the word.

un garçon

une fenêtre

des posters

Some nouns have plurals that are formed differently:

un tableau -> des tableaux

un bureau - des bureaux

un CD/DVD → des CD/DVD (no change)

un lecteur de CD/DVD → des lecteurs de CD/DVD

What nouns do we often refer to as he or she instead of it?

In French, all nouns have gender, whether they refer to people or inanimate objects. You'll have to learn a noun's gender as you learn its meaning.

En anglais

In English, most nouns do not have gender.

We use the pronoun

it for an object like a desk or a chair.

To say there aren't any of an item, remember to use II n'y a pas de.

Il y a des cartes dans la classe. → Il n'y a pas de cartes dans la classe.



The verb avoir and negation



Here are the forms of the verb avoir (to have):

	avoir	eriogia Santa de la companya
	ai no	uş ayons
tu		us avez
il/elle/on	a ils/ell	es ont

Noun subjects (for example, Suzanne or Pierre et Jean) use the same verb form as the pronouns you would use to replace them.

Pierre et Jean ont deux chaises. -> Ils ont deux chaises.

To make any sentence negative, add me... pas around the verb. Notice that me becomes m' before a verb that begins with a vowel sound.

Un, une, and des all change to de in a negative sentence.

Ça va. It's going fine.

Cléa a un poster.

Cléa has a poster.

Ça ne va pas. It's not going fine.

Cléa n'a pas de poster. Cléa doesn't have any posters.



In English, when you form a verb in the present tense, most subject pronouns take the same form except for the third person singular: e.g., I have, she has, we have, they have.

Can you think of a verb that has more than one different form in the present tense?

in French, verbs often have at least five different forms in a given tense.