

# French 2

## Chapter 8 Grammar Review

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### The Subjunctive

1. **DEFINED:** The Subjunctive Mood is generally used to with *expressions of necessity*, among many others (ex: want, need, desire, doubt, etc.). It is **ONLY** found in a subordinate clause, meaning a clause followed by the word *that (que)*, which could not be a sentence on it's own:

Ex: It's important *that* he **be** on time today! → Correct: **he be**      Incorrect: *he is*  
 Ex: It's necessary *that* she **go** to the front! → Correct: **she go**      Incorrect: *she goes*

2. **FORMATION:** Like English, the Subjunctive Mood is **ONLY** found in subordinate clauses followed by *que (that)*. To form the Subjunctive Mood in French, drop the **-ent** ending of the present "ils" form of the verb and add the following endings:

|                      | <b>PARLER</b>     | <b>FINIR</b>       | <b>VENDRE</b>    |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| <i>que je/j'</i>     | par <u>l</u> e    | finis <u>s</u> e   | vend <u>e</u>    |
| <i>que tu</i>        | par <u>l</u> es   | finis <u>s</u> es  | vend <u>e</u> s  |
| <i>qu'il/elle/on</i> | par <u>l</u> e    | finis <u>s</u> e   | vend <u>e</u>    |
| <i>que nous</i>      | par <u>l</u> ions | finiss <u>ions</u> | vend <u>ions</u> |
| <i>que vous</i>      | par <u>l</u> iez  | finiss <u>iez</u>  | vend <u>iez</u>  |
| <i>qu'ils/elles</i>  | par <u>l</u> ent  | finiss <u>ent</u>  | vend <u>ent</u>  |

Ex: Il est important *que* vous **finissiez** vos médicaments!

Ex: Il faut *que* tu te **mettes** au lit!

### The Subjunctive with Irregular Forms

1. **NOUS & VOUS FORMS:** The *nous* and *vous* forms of all *subjunctive* verbs must **ALWAYS** be identical to the *imparfait* form. Therefore, some verbs are not able to follow the above conjugations in order to be identical to the *imparfait* conjugation.

Ex: ...*que* je **boive** (*normal conjugation*) → ... *que nous* **buviions** (*must match imparfait*)

Ex: ...*que* je **doive** (*normal conjugation*) → ... *que vous* **deviez** (*must match imparfait*)

2. **IRREGULARS:** The following verbs have irregular subjunctive conjugations in all forms:

|                      | <b>ALLER</b> | <b>ÊTRE</b> | <b>AVOIR</b> | <b>FAIRE</b> |
|----------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>que je/j'</i>     | aille        | sois        | aie          | fasse        |
| <i>que tu</i>        | ailles       | sois        | aies         | fasses       |
| <i>qu'il/elle/on</i> | aille        | soit        | ait          | fasse        |
| <i>que nous</i>      | allions      | soyons      | ayons        | fassions     |
| <i>que vous</i>      | alliez       | soyez       | ayez         | fassiez      |
| <i>qu'ils/elles</i>  | aillent      | soient      | aient        | fassent      |

## Additional Subjunctive Triggers

1. As stated above, the Subjunctive Mood is used with expressions of necessity (*il faut que, important que, nécessaire que*). It is also used with the following expressions:

Ex: Je (ne) veux (pas) que tu grossisses. → I (*don't*) want you to gain weight.  
 Ex: Je suis content(e)/triste que tu sois en forme. → I'm *happy/sad* that you're well.  
 Ex: Il est bon que tu maigrisses → It's *good* that you're losing weight.

## The Conditional

1. **DEFINED:** The Conditional Tense tells what *would* happen if certain *conditions* were met. It is also used to make your sentences sound more *polite*.  
 Ex: If I were sick, I *would eat* better → “*would eat*” is the condition to a hypothetical situation  
 Ex: I would like more please? → “*would like*” is a more polite than “*want*”.
2. **FORMATION:** To form the Conditional Tense, use the *infinitive* form of the verb. For **-RE** verbs, drop the last **-e**. Then add the following endings:

|                      | <b>PARLER</b>       | <b>FINIR</b>       | <b>VENDRE</b>      |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <i>que je/j'</i>     | parler <u>ais</u>   | finir <u>ais</u>   | vendr <u>ais</u>   |
| <i>que tu</i>        | parler <u>ais</u>   | finir <u>ais</u>   | vendr <u>ais</u>   |
| <i>qu'il/elle/on</i> | parler <u>ait</u>   | finir <u>ait</u>   | vendr <u>ait</u>   |
| <i>que nous</i>      | parler <u>ions</u>  | finir <u>ions</u>  | vendr <u>ions</u>  |
| <i>que vous</i>      | parler <u>iez</u>   | finir <u>iez</u>   | vendr <u>iez</u>   |
| <i>qu'ils/elles</i>  | parler <u>aient</u> | finir <u>aient</u> | vendr <u>aient</u> |

Ex: Je *prendrais* mes vitamines. → I *would take* my vitamins.

2. **IRREGULAR STEMS:** There are a few verbs with irregular stems, such as the following:

|               |              |                |                |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>aller</b>  | <i>ir-</i>   | <b>pouvoir</b> | <i>pourr-</i>  |
| <b>avoir</b>  | <i>aur-</i>  | <b>savoir</b>  | <i>saur-</i>   |
| <b>devoir</b> | <i>devr-</i> | <b>venir</b>   | <i>viendr-</i> |
| <b>être</b>   | <i>ser-</i>  | <b>voir</b>    | <i>verr-</i>   |
| <b>faire</b>  | <i>fer-</i>  | <b>vouloir</b> | <i>vourdr-</i> |

Ex: Je *pourrais/devrais* aussi faire du yoga. → I *could/should* also do some yoga.

## Si Clauses

1. **IF / THEN CLAUSES:** To say what someone *would* do *if* things were different, use two clauses, an “*if*” clause and the “*result*” clause. The “*if*” clause is **imparfait**, and the “*result*” clause is **conditional**.  
 Ex: *Si tu voulais* être en bonne santé, tu *ferais* de l'exercice.  
*If you wanted to be in good health, you would exercise.*
2. **HOW ABOUT?:** To invite someone to something, such as “*how about,*” use *si + on + imparfait*  
 Ex: *Si on faisait* des pompes? → *How about* doing some push-ups?