

Definite articles

CHAPITRE 2

In English The definite article **the** introduces a specific noun. **The** is used with all nouns: both singular and plural nouns, nouns that refer to the masculine gender (like *man*), nouns that are clearly feminine (like *actress*), and those that have no gender (like *table*, *car*, and most nouns in English).

- I went to **the** party with Paul. (*party* is a singular noun with no gender)
- The** girl ran a good race. (*girl* is a singular noun with feminine gender)
- I gave **the** boys a snack. (*boys* is a plural noun with masculine gender)
- She returned **the** books to Marion. (*books* is a plural noun with no gender)

A Circle the definite article in each sentence and underline the noun that the article introduces. Then check the appropriate boxes to indicate whether each noun you underlined is singular (S) or plural (P) and whether it can be classified as masculine (M), feminine (F), or whether it has no gender.

1. They bought the house next door.
2. She made cookies for the boys.
3. The businesswoman is wearing earrings.
4. The ship sailed to Martinique.
5. John painted the chairs in one day.
6. The girls love to play with my cat.

S	P	M	F	no gender
✓				✓

In French There are four forms of the definite article: **le**, **la**, **l'**, and **les**. The form that is used depends on the gender (masculine or feminine) and the number (singular or plural) of the noun it introduces. While only some nouns in English have a gender, all French nouns are either masculine or feminine.

- Use **la** with feminine nouns: **la** musique **la** glace
- Use **le** with masculine nouns: **le** chocolat **le** roman
- Use **l'** with any singular noun
that begins with a vowel whether
the noun is masculine or feminine: **l'**école (*feminine*) **l'**anglais (*masculine*)
- Use **les** with all plural nouns
whether masculine or feminine: **les** filles (*feminine*) **les** garçons (*masculine*)

When you say that you like something, you must always use the definite article before the noun.

J'aime **la** musique. (*I love music.*)

DEFINITE ARTICLES

CHAPITRE 2

B Circle the definite article in each sentence and underline the noun that the article introduces. Then check the appropriate boxes to indicate whether each noun you underlined is singular (S) or plural (P), masculine (M) or feminine (F).

1. Sophie adore la glace.
2. Ils aiment bien l'école.
3. Tu n'aimes pas les mathématiques?
4. Je déteste le chocolat.
5. J'aime bien les animaux.
6. Vous aimez la voiture de sport?
7. Alexandre adore les romans.

S	P	M	F
✓			✓

C Complete the following conversation with the correct definite articles.

Antoine Tu aimes _____ **l'** _____ école?

Monique J'aime _____ maths, mais je n'aime pas _____ anglais. Et toi?

Antoine Moi, j'adore _____ classe de musique. M. Panier est _____ professeur et il est super.

Monique Moi aussi, j'aime bien _____ musique, mais je préfère _____ vacances!

D Write four sentences telling what you like, using **J'aime**. Circle the definite article in each sentence and explain why you chose that form.

1. **J'aime regarder** la télé.

Télé is a singular, feminine noun.

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

-er verbs**CHAPITRE 2**

In English Verbs are words that express actions or states of being. The endings of most present-tense verbs do not change unless the subject, or doer of the action, is *he, she, it*, or a proper name like *Pierre*. With these subjects, an **-s** is added at the end of the verb.

I	sing	we	sing
you	sing	you	sing
he, she, it	sings	they	sing

A Underline the subject and the verb in each sentence. Two of the verbs end in **-s**. Circle those two endings.

1. We ride our bikes to school sometimes.
2. Gary rides his bike to school always.
3. Jeannette and Sandra like football.
4. Sandra likes tennis, too.
5. You and Peter go to the movies on Fridays.
6. I play sports after school.

In French French verb forms vary much more than English verb forms, but they follow predictable patterns. Once you learn the pattern of a group of verbs, you'll know how to form other verbs within that group. For example, to form regular verbs that end in **-er**, drop the **-er** and add the appropriate ending that goes with each subject as shown below.

aimer (to like)			
j'	aime	nous	aimons
tu	aimes	vous	aimez
il, elle, on	aime	ils, elles	aiment

Ils téléphonent à des amis.

Nous ne regardons pas la télé.

B Underline the subject and the verb in each sentence. Then go back and circle the ending of each verb.

1. Tu aimes bien l'école?
2. Micheline adore l'anglais.
3. Les amis surfent sur Internet.
4. J'étudie les maths.
5. Nous adorons les vacances.
6. M. et Mme Blanchard, vous regardez la télé?

-ER VERBS

CHAPITRE 2

C Circle the subject that matches the verb form in the following sentences.

1. (Tu / Elle / Nous) adore surfer sur Internet.
2. (Paul / Vous / Ils) aimez étudier le français?
3. (J' / Tu / Nous) écoute de la musique moderne.
4. (Mathieu / Elles / Tu) détestes la glace?
5. (Je / Marie et Jade / Nous) préfère lire des magazines.
6. (Mes amis / Vous / Agnès) aiment écouter la radio.
7. (Je / Nous / Elles) parlons anglais et français.
8. (Tu / Claudie / Vous) dessines aussi.

D Complete the following sentences with the correct form of the **-er** verb in parentheses.

1. Oui, j' _____ **adore** _____ (adorer) les maths.
2. Ils _____ (regarder) la télé.
3. Tu _____ (écouter) de la musique classique?
4. Nous _____ (téléphoner) à des amis.
5. Paul et Sandrine, vous _____ (étudier) le français.
6. Mme Bertrand _____ (aimer) envoyer des e-mails.
7. Tu _____ (adorer) dessiner?
8. Elle _____ (détester) dormir.
9. Tu _____ (préférer) les romans?
10. Non, je ne _____ (travailler) pas.
11. Est-ce que vous _____ (aimer) la musique moderne?
12. Hélène et moi, nous _____ (chanter) bien.

E Explain how you would know what form an **-er** verb has even if you're not sure of its meaning. Use the verb **penser** and the subject **nous** as an example.

Irregular plurals

CHAPITRE 2

In English The plural of most nouns is formed by adding **-s** to the singular form: book → books. However, there are some nouns that have unusual or **irregular plurals**.

Some nouns that end in **-f** or **-fe** change to **-ves** in the plural.

calf → calves knife → knives

Some nouns change the vowel sound in the plural.

foot → feet man → men

Some nouns do not change at all to form the plural.

deer → deer sheep → sheep

A Circle the plural noun in each sentence. Then check the appropriate column to indicate whether it is a regular or irregular plural.

1. The firemen came fast.
2. How many scarves do you have?
3. The school will buy new computers.
4. Canadian geese migrate every year.
5. Please buy two loaves of bread.
6. I am reading about pioneer women.
7. Do you recycle newspapers?
8. Gray wolves are still endangered.

Regular	Irregular
	✓

In French To form the plural of most nouns, you add **-s** to the end of the singular form: le magazine → les magazines. Some nouns have **irregular plurals** that are formed differently.

If the singular noun ends in **-eau** or **-eu**, add **-x** to form the plural. The pronunciation of the word does not change.

le tableau → les tableaux le jeu (game) → les jeux

If the singular noun ends in **-al**, replace **-al** with **-aux**.

le journal → les journaux l'animal → les animaux

The singular and plural forms of some nouns are the same.

le CD → les CD le DVD → les DVD

IRREGULAR PLURALS

CHAPITRE 2

B Circle the plural noun in each sentence. Then check the appropriate column to indicate whether it is a regular or irregular plural.

1. Il y a deux tableaux dans la classe.
2. J'aime lire les journaux.
3. Georges préfère lire des magazines.
4. Est-ce que tu aimes les animaux?
5. Nous n'aimons pas les bandes dessinées.
6. J'ai trente-six DVD.
7. Il n'y a pas de bureaux dans la classe?
8. Mon ami a des CD de musique classique.

Regular	Irregular
	✓

C Complete the following sentences with the plural form of the noun in parentheses.

1. Les garçons aiment les jeux (jeu).
2. Vous avez des _____ (bureau) dans la classe?
3. Samir n'a pas de _____ (journal). Moi non plus.
4. Est-ce qu'il y a des _____ (animal)?
5. Moi, j'aime bien les _____ (CD) de musique classique.
6. Il y a des cartes et des _____ (tableau) dans la classe.

D Rewrite the following sentences, changing the underlined words with the cues in parentheses.

1. Il y a une élève dans la classe. (dix-neuf)
Il y a dix-neuf élèves dans la classe. _____
2. Il y a un animal dans la classe. (trois)

3. Il y a un bureau dans la classe. (deux)

4. Il y a un journal dans la classe. (vingt)

5. Il y a quatre tableaux dans la classe. (un)

Contractions with à

CHAPITRE 2

In English A **contraction** is a shortened form of a group of words: we will → we'll. In English, contractions are usually negations or combinations of pronouns with helping verbs. They always include an apostrophe in place of the missing letter or letters.

don't isn't I'm he's they've

Contractions are optional and rarely used in formal writing.

You're coming to the party, **aren't** you?

A Circle the contraction in each sentence. Then rewrite the contraction as a group of individual words.

1. This isn't my backpack. _____ **is not** _____
2. You don't like to dance? _____
3. How come she's always late? _____
4. How's it going, Bob? _____
5. We've come a long way. _____
6. Sam, you're a great friend. _____
7. I haven't done my homework. _____

In French A **contraction** is also the formation of a new word from two or more individual words. While contractions in English are optional, in French, contractions are required. The preposition **à** (*to, at*) never appears in combination with the articles **le** and **les**. Instead, the contractions **au** and **aux** occur.

à + le → au J'aime aller **au** cinéma.

à + les → aux Tu aimes parler **aux** professeurs?

However, contractions do not occur when the preposition **à** is used before the articles **la** and **l'**.

à + la → à la J'aime aller **à la** piscine.

à + l' → à l' Tu aimes aller **à l'**école?

B Circle the contraction in each sentence. Then write the two words that make up the contraction.

1. M. Baubeau travaille à l'école. _____ **à + l'** _____
2. Jacques adore aller au cinéma. _____
3. Abdul n'aime pas aller au café. _____
4. Tu aimes jouer aux cartes? _____
5. Nous allons au parc souvent. _____

CONTRACTIONS WITH À

CHAPITRE 2

C Check the correct box to tell which preposition completes each sentence.

1. Mes amis jouent _____ base-ball.
2. Nous aimons aller _____ piscine.
3. Zoe travaille _____ café.
4. Tu étudies _____ école.
5. Je n'aime pas jouer _____ échecs.
6. Vous allez _____ stade?
7. Jean et Célia dansent _____ MJC.

au	aux	à la	à l'
✓			

D Write four sentences using one item from each of the boxes below. Be sure to include the correct preposition in each sentence.

Je/J'	travaille	école
Tu	manges	piscine
Nous	aimons aller	échecs
Camille	aime aller	parc
Mes amis	jouent	café

1. **J'aime aller à la piscine.**
2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

E Explain two differences between English contractions and French contractions with à.

Est-ce que

CHAPITRE 2

In English You can change a statement into a yes-no question by adding **do, does,** or **did** to the beginning of the question. With the verb “to be” or helping verbs, you can change a statement into a yes-no question by reversing the order of the subject and verb.

Statements	Questions
She skates.	Does she skate?
I like baseball.	Do you like baseball?
He is French.	Is he French?

You can also ask a question by raising the pitch of your voice. Asking a question in this way can express surprise or doubt.

She’s leaving for Paris. She’s leaving for Paris?

A Rewrite the following statements as yes-no questions.

- You’re going to lunch at noon.
_____ **Are you going to lunch at noon?** _____
- Bernard likes ice skating and skiing.

- It’s cold outside.

- They live in Miami, Florida.

- You will play tennis with me.

- Simone likes to go to the movies.

In French You can change a statement into a yes-no question by raising the pitch of your voice at the end of a sentence. You can also add **Est-ce que** (or **Est-ce qu’** before a vowel sound) to the beginning of a statement.

Statements	Questions
Tu aimes sortir.	Est-ce que tu aimes sortir?
Ils aiment nager.	Est-ce qu’ils aiment nager?
Odette joue aux cartes.	Est-ce qu’Odette joue aux cartes?

B Rewrite the following statements as yes-no questions with **est-ce que**.

1. Tu aimes lire.

_____ **Est-ce que tu aimes lire?** _____

2. Océane aime faire du sport.

3. Lucie joue au golf.

4. Ils écoutent de la musique.

5. Vous aimez faire la fête.

6. Tu préfères discuter avec des amis.

7. Elles regardent la télé.

8. Bruno parle anglais.

C How is question formation similar in French and English? How is it different?

Similarities: _____

Differences: _____

CHAPITRE 2

Definite articles

- A**
1. They bought **the** house next door. (S, no gender)
 2. She made a chocolate cake for **the** boys. (P, M)
 3. **The** businesswoman is wearing a wig. (S, F)
 4. **The** ship sailed to Martinique. (S, no gender)
 5. John painted **the** chairs in one day. (P, no gender)
 6. **The** girls love to play with my cat. (P, F)
- B**
1. Sophie adore **la** glace. (S, F)
 2. Ils aiment bien **l'**école. (S, F)
 3. Tu n'aimes pas **les** mathématiques? (P, F)
 4. Je déteste **le** chocolat. (S, M)
 5. J'aime bien **les** animaux. (P, M)
 6. Vous aimez **la** voiture de sport? (S, F)
 7. Alexandre adore **les** romans. (P, M)

C Antoine Tu aimes **l'**école?

Monique J'aime **les** maths mais je n'aime pas **l'**anglais. Et toi?

Antoine Moi, j'adore **la** classe de musique. M. Panier est **le** professeur et il est super.

Monique Moi aussi, j'aime bien **la** musique mais je préfère **les** vacances!

D Answers will vary. Sample answers:

1. **J'aime regarder** **la** télé. **Télé** is a singular, feminine noun.
2. J'aime **la** glace. **Glace** is a singular, feminine noun.
3. J'aime **les** mathématiques. **Mathématiques** is a plural, feminine noun.
4. J'aime **les** animaux. **Animaux** is a plural, masculine noun.
5. J'aime **la** classe de français. **Classe** is a singular, feminine noun.

-er verbs

- A**
1. **We** ride our bikes to school sometimes.
 2. **Gary** rides his bike to school always.
 3. **Jeannette and Sandra** like football.
 4. **Sandra** likes tennis, too.
 5. **You and Peter** go to the movies on Fridays.
 6. **I** play sports after school.
- B**
1. **Tu** aimes bien l'école?
 2. **Micheline** adore l'anglais.
 3. **Les amis** surfent sur Internet.
 4. **J'**étudie les maths.
 5. **Nous** adorons les vacances.
 6. M. et Mme Blanchard, **vous** regardez la télé?
- C**
1. (Tu / **Elle** / Nous) adore surfer sur Internet.
 2. (Paul / **Vous** / Ils) aimez étudier le français?
 3. (**J'** / Tu / Nous) écoute de la musique moderne.
 4. (Mathieu / Elles / **Tu**) détestes la glace?
 5. (**Je** / Marie et Jade / Nous) préfère lire des magazines.
 6. (**Mes amis** / Vous / Agnès) aiment écouter la radio.
 7. (Je / **Nous** / Elles) parlons anglais et français.
 8. (**Tu** / Claudie / Vous) dessines aussi.
- D**
1. Oui, j'**adore** les maths.
 2. Ils **regardent** la télé.
 3. Tu **écoutes** de la musique classique?
 4. Nous **téléphonons** des amis.
 5. Paul et Sandrine, vous **étudiez** le français.
 6. Mme Bertrand **aime** envoyer des e-mails.
 7. Tu **adores** dessiner?
 8. Elle **déteste** dormir.
 9. Tu **préfères** les romans?
 10. Non, je ne **travaille** pas.
 11. Est-ce que vous **aimez** la musique moderne?

ANSWER KEY

12. Hélène et moi, nous **chantons** bien.

E You follow its pattern with the new verb. For example, for **penser** and **nous**, you drop the **-er** (pens-) and add the ending for **nous** (-ons): **pensons**.

Irregular plurals

- A**
1. The **firemen** came fast. (irregular)
 2. How many **scarves** do you have? (irregular)
 3. The school will buy new **computers**. (regular)
 4. Canadian **geese** migrate every year. (irregular)
 5. Please buy two **loaves** of bread. (irregular)
 6. I am reading about pioneer **women**. (irregular)
 7. Do you recycle **newspapers**? (regular)
 8. Gray **wolves** are still endangered. (irregular)

- B**
1. Il y a deux **tableaux** dans la classe. (irregular)
 2. J'aime lire les **journaux**. (irregular)
 3. Georges préfère lire des **magazines**. (regular)
 4. Est-ce que tu aimes les **animaux**? (irregular)
 5. Nous n'aimons pas les **bandes dessinées**. (regular)
 6. J'ai trente-six **DVD**. (irregular)
 7. Il n'y a pas de **bureaux** dans la classe? (irregular)
 8. Mon ami a des **CD** de musique classique. (irregular)

- C**
1. Les garçons aiment les **jeux**.
 2. Vous avez des **bureaux** dans la classe?
 3. Samir n'a pas de **journaux**. Moi non plus.
 4. Est-ce qu'il y a des **animaux**?
 5. Moi, j'aime bien les **CD** de musique classique.
 6. Il y a des cartes et des **tableaux** dans la classe.

- D**
1. **Il y a dix-neuf élèves dans la classe.**
 2. Il y a trois animaux dans la classe.
 3. Il y a deux bureaux dans la classe.
 4. Il y a vingt journaux dans la classe.
 5. Il y a un tableau dans la classe.

Contractions with à

- A**
1. This **isn't** my backpack. (**is not**)
 2. You **don't** you like to dance? (do not)
 3. How come **she's** always late? (she is)
 4. **How's** it going, Bob? (How is)
 5. **We've** come a long way. (We have)
 6. Sam, **you're** a great friend. (you are)
 7. I **haven't** done my homework. (have not)

- B**
1. M. Baubeau travaille **à l'**école. (**à + l'**)
 2. Jacques adore aller **au** cinéma. (**à + le**)
 3. Abdul n'aime pas aller **au** café. (**à + le**)
 4. Tu aimes jouer **aux** cartes? (**à + les**)
 5. Nous allons **au** parc souvent. (**à + le**)

- C**
1. Mes amis jouent **au** base-ball.
 2. Nous aimons aller **à la** piscine.
 3. Zoe travaille **au** café.
 4. Tu étudies **à l'**école.
 5. Je n'aime pas jouer **aux** échecs.
 6. Vous allez **au** stade?
 7. Jean et Célia dansent **à la** MJC.

- D** Answers may vary. Possible answers:
1. **J'aime aller à la piscine.**
 2. Tu manges au café.
 3. Nous aimons aller au parc.
 4. Camille travaille à l'école.
 5. Mes amis jouent aux échecs.

E Answers will vary. Possible answer:
English contractions are optional, but French contractions are required. English contractions consist of an apostrophe in place of the missing letters. French contractions may consist of new words, such as **aux**.

ANSWER KEY

Est-ce que

A 1. **Are you going to lunch at noon?**

2. Does Bernard like ice skating and skiing?
3. Is it cold outside?
4. Do they live in Miami, Florida?
5. Will you play tennis with me?
6. Does Simone like to go to the movies?

B 1. **Est-ce que tu aimes lire?**

2. Est-ce qu'Océane aime faire du sport?
3. Est-ce que Lucie joue au golf?
4. Est-ce qu'ils écoutent de la musique?
5. Est-ce que vous aimez faire la fête?
6. Est-ce que tu préfères discuter avec des amis?
7. Est-ce qu'elles regardent la télé?
8. Est-ce que Bruno parle anglais?

C Answers will vary. Possible answer:

Similarities: In both languages, you can raise the pitch of your voice to change a statement into a question.

Differences: In French, you can add **est-ce que**; in English, you can add **do** or **does**.