





# SCIENCE FRENCH COURSE

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## Science French Course

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## PREFACE

THE title of this book sufficiently indicates its purpose, namely to provide students who have to read French books on scientific subjects with the necessary minimum of grammar and a selection of extracts from which a little preliminary practice may be obtained.

The method followed will readily be seen from a glance at the Table of Contents. It may here be explained that Part I contains what must be learnt at the start and during the reading of the *Premières Lectures*, while Part II can be learnt later or kept for reference.

The Author's thanks are due to several teachers who have given him the benefit of their experience in the preparation of this book.

## NOTE TO THE THIRD EDITION

IN preparing the third edition, certain parts of the Grammar Section have been omitted; the object has been to retain sufficient matter to enable the science student or practising scientist to read technical matter in French, without devoting too much space to the niceties of translation into French. In particular, the paragraphs dealing with the uses of the subjunctive have been greatly condensed.

The *Premières Lectures*, consisting of fairly simple reading matter, have been retained unchanged, but the remainder of the extracts have been replaced by more modern material,

taken mainly from papers in scientific journals. A wide range of subjects is covered, and the material used is of the type which the scientist is often called upon to read.

The Reviser's thanks are due to the publishers of the journals from which the extracts have been selected, and to the Senate of the University of London for their kind permission to reproduce extracts from B.Sc. examination papers.

### **NOTE TO THE FOURTH EDITION**

OPPORTUNITY has been taken to include in the Vocabulary some one hundred and fifty additional words, and thanks are due to all those who have made helpful suggestions in this connection.

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# SCIENCE FRENCH COURSE

## PART I

### ELEMENTS OF GRAMMAR

#### SUBSTANTIVES, ADJECTIVES, AND ARTICLE

##### GENDER

1. The gender of a French substantive must be clearly distinguished from the sex of the object which it denotes. Whether this object is a person or a thing, the substantive is either masculine or feminine: there are no neuter substantives.

Certain general rules for ascertaining the gender of French substantives according to their meaning or form can be given, but they are subject to numerous exceptions and are of little use to the beginner whose object is to learn to read the language.

##### PLURAL OF SUBSTANTIVES

2. The regular method of forming the plural of a French substantive is to add **-s** to the singular.

<i>arbre, tree</i>	<i>arbres, trees</i>
<i>fleur, flower</i>	<i>fleurs, flowers</i>

For exceptions see §§ 195-9.

##### AGREEMENT

3. An adjective generally assumes different forms according as the substantive to which it refers is masculine or feminine, singular or plural. The regular method of forming the feminine singular of an adjective, *i.e.* the form to be used with a feminine singular substantive, is to add **-e** to the masculine singular. The plural of each gender is regularly formed by the addition of **-s** to the singular. Thus, with

**arbre** (masc.) and **fleur** (fem.) the forms of the adjective **petit**, *little*, are—

Sing.	<b>petit arbre</b>	<b>petite fleur</b>
Pl.	<b>petits arbres</b>	<b>petites fleurs</b>

*Obs.* In the case of some adjectives the feminine has the same form as the masculine (§ 206), and in others the masculine plural has the same form as the masculine singular (§ 196). For other irregularities see §§ 195-8, 206-11.

#### THE ARTICLE: DEFINITE, INDEFINITE, AND PARTITIVE

4. This principle of agreement applies not only to adjectives of quality, but also to pronominal adjectives, including the article.

The forms of the article, definite and indefinite, are—

		Masc.	Fem.	Masc.	Fem.
Sing.	{ Before a consonant	le	la	}	un une
	{ Before a vowel or <i>h</i> mute	l'	l'		
Plural		les	les		(§ 6)

Thus—

	Masc.	Fem.
Sing.	<b>le rocher</b> , <i>the rock</i>	<b>la pierre</b> , <i>the stone</i>
Pl.	<b>les rochers</b> , <i>the rocks</i>	<b>les pierres</b> , <i>the stones</i>
Sing.	<b>l'été</b> , <i>the summer</i>	<b>l'eau</b> , <i>the water</i>
	<b>l'hiver</b> , <i>the winter</i>	
Sing.	<b>un jour</b> , <i>a day</i>	<b>une heure</b> , <i>an hour</i>

5. The prepositions **à**, *to, at*, and **de**, *of, from*, coalesce with the masculine singular and with the plural of the definite article thus—

Sing.	for <b>à le</b>	<b>au</b>	for <b>de le</b>	<b>du</b>
Pl.	for <b>à les</b>	<b>aux</b>	for <b>de les</b>	<b>des</b>
	<b>au signe</b> , <i>to the sign</i>		<b>du livre</b> , <i>of the book</i>	
	<b>aux signes</b> , <i>to the signs</i>		<b>des livres</b> , <i>of the books</i>	

*Obs.* 1. Before the feminine singular, however, and when the definite article becomes *l'* by elision, **à** and **de** remain separate words and do not contract; *e.g. de la semaine, of the week; à l'or, to the gold.*

*Obs.* 2. Before a word beginning with a vowel, **de** becomes *d'*.

**d'un arbre**, *of a tree*      **d'anciens livres**, *of ancient books*

6. The preposition **de** followed by the definite article—**du, de la, de l', des**—is used before substantives with the sense of *some, any* (expressed or implied), and is then known as the partitive article.

**J'ai du pain, de la viande, de l'eau et des œufs**      *I have (some) bread, meat, water, and eggs*

7. The article is repeated in French even where it would not be repeated in English. The same rule applies not only to the definite, indefinite, and partitive article, but also to the demonstrative (§ 91) and possessive (§ 86) adjectives, and to the prepositions **à, de, and en**.

**Il me faut une aiguille et du fil**      *I want a needle and cotton*

**Ses frères et ses sœurs sont arrivés**      *His brothers and sisters have come*

**L'argent et l'or se trouvent en Australie et en Amérique**      *Silver and gold are found in Australia and America*

**Il a étudié aux universités de Paris et de Londres**      *He has studied at the Universities of Paris and London*

## PERSONAL PRONOUNS

8. Personal and relative pronouns are in French, as in English, the only words which vary in form according to the case in which they stand. Thus—

*First Person*

	Sing.	Plur.
Nom. (subject)	<b>je, I</b>	<b>nous, we</b>
Acc. (direct object)	<b>me, me</b>	<b>nous, us</b>
Dat. (indirect object)	<b>me, (to) me</b>	<b>nous, (to) us</b>

*Second Person*

	Sing.	Plur.
Nom. (subject)	<b>tu, thou</b>	<b>vous, ye, you</b>
Acc. (direct object)	<b>te, thee</b>	<b>vous, you</b>
Dat. (indirect object)	<b>te, (to) thee</b>	<b>vous, (to) you</b>

*Third Person Masc.*

	Sing.	Plur.
Nom. (subject)	<b>il, he, it</b>	<b>ils, they</b>
Acc. (direct object)	<b>*le, him, it</b>	<b>les, them</b>
Dat. (indirect object)	<b>lui, (to) him, (to) it</b>	<b>leur, (to) them</b>

\* There is also an invariable neuter pronoun **le** which often need not be translated, *e.g. comme on peut facilement le deviner, as we may easily guess.*

*Third Person Fem.*

	Sing.	Plur.
Nom. (subject)	elle, <i>she</i>	elles, <i>they</i>
Acc. (direct object)	la, <i>her, it</i>	les, <i>them</i>
Dat. (indirect object)	lui, ( <i>to her, (to) it</i> )	leur, ( <i>to them</i> )

9. The third person reflexive pronoun, in both singular and plural, accusative and dative, is *se*. For the first and second persons *me*, *te*, *nous*, and *vous* are used as reflexive pronouns.

10. The plural *vous* is used like the English *you* in addressing a single person, and words agreeing with it are in the singular; e.g. *vous êtes très aimable, you are very kind*. *Tu* is used in addressing members of one's family or very intimate friends.

11. When the following word begins with a vowel, *je* is elided to *j'*, *me* to *m'*, *te* to *t'*, *le* and *la* to *l'*, *se* to *s'*.

For examples illustrating the use of the personal pronouns see §§ 20, 21.

## VERBS

12. The most important thing in French accidence is naturally the conjugation of verbs, regular and irregular. Of the former, four conjugations are recognised by grammarians according as the infinitive ends in (1) *-er*, (2) *-ir*, (3) *-oir*, (4) *-re*. Of the latter some are of such common occurrence that the beginner will do well to master them alongside of the regular verbs (p. 73).

13. The simple tenses of a French finite verb are—

<i>Indicative</i>	<i>Conditional</i>	<i>Subjunctive</i>	<i>Imperative</i>
Present	Present	Present	Present
Imperfect		Imperfect	
Past Definite			
Future			

14. A corresponding compound tense is formed by means of the appropriate tense of the auxiliary followed by the past participle. Thus—

<i>Indicative</i>	<i>Conditional</i>	<i>Subjunctive</i>
Past Indefinite	Perfect	Past Indefinite
Pluperfect		Pluperfect
Past Anterior		
Future Perfect		

There is also a perfect infinitive corresponding to the present infinitive, and a perfect participle corresponding to the present participle.

15. The passive voice (§ 57) is formed with the auxiliary *être, to be*. The only uncompound part of a French verb that is passive is the past participle of a transitive verb, exactly as in English. This participle has masculine and feminine forms, both singular and plural, like an adjective; *e.g.*

	Masc.	Fem.
Sing.	<b>porté</b>	<b>portée</b>
Pl.	<b>portés</b>	<b>portées</b>

16. Negation is most commonly expressed by **ne** (before a vowel **n'**) . . . **pas, ne** preceding the verb and **pas** following it. In compound tenses **pas** is placed between the auxiliary and the participle; *e.g. je ne viens pas, I do not come or I am not coming; je n'ai pas vu, I have not seen.* See further § 54.

17. The following is the arrangement of the regular conjugations in this book:—

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„ Past Definite	9
„ Future	11
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The conjugation of the two auxiliaries and of the six commonest irregular verbs is given tense by tense along with the regular verbs; for other irregular verbs see pp. 69-90.

## 18. INFINITIVE AND PARTICIPLES

	<i>have</i>	<i>be</i>	<i>carry</i>	<i>finish</i>	<i>receive</i>	<i>break</i>
PR. INF.	avoir	être	porter	finir	recevoir	rompre
PR. PART.	ay-ant	ét-ant	port-ant	fin-issant	re-cevant	romp-ant
PAST P.	eu	*été	port-é	fin-i	re-çu	romp-u

## CONJUGATION OF THE PRESENT INDICATIVE

je, j'	ai	suis	port-e	fin-is	re-çois	romp-s
tu	as	es	-es	-is	-çois	-s
il	a	est	-e	-it	-çoit	-t
nous	av-ons	sommes	-ons	-issons	-cevons	-ons
vous	av-ez	êtes	-ez	-issez	-cevez	-ez
ils	ont	sont	-ent	-issent	-çoivent	-ent

\* Invariable.

## INFINITIVE AND PARTICIPLES

	<i>go</i>	<i>come</i>	<i>be able</i>	<i>wish</i>	<i>know</i>	<i>make, do</i>
PR. INF.	aller	venir	pouvoir	vouloir	savoir	faire
PR. PART.	all-ant	ven-ant	pouv-ant	voul-ant	sach-ant	fais-ant
PAST P.	all-é	ven-u	pu	voul-u	su	fait

## CONJUGATION OF THE PRESENT INDICATIVE

je, j'	vais	viens	peux <i>or</i> puis	veux	sais	fais
tu	vas	viens	peux	veux	sais	fais
il	va	vient	peut	veut	sait	fait
nous	all-ons	ven-ons	pouv-ons	voul-ons	sav-ons	fais-ons
vous	all-ez	ven-ez	pouv-ez	voul-ez	sav-ez	faites
ils	vont	viennent	peuvent	veulent	sav-ent	font

PAST INDEFINITE.—The tense consists of the present tense of *avoir* (or *être*, § 60) followed by the past participle; e.g. *j'ai eu*, *I have had*; *j'ai été*, *I have been*; *j'ai porté*, *I have carried*; *je suis allé*, *I have gone*.



## POSITION OF THE PERSONAL PRONOUNS

19. The nominative pronouns (§ 8) normally stand before the verb, except in questions (§ 51).

20. The object, direct or indirect, is placed before the verb or, in a compound tense, before the auxiliary.

<b>Je leur parle</b>	<i>I am speaking to them</i>
<b>Je vous assure que le chien l'a mangé</b>	<i>I assure you that the dog has eaten it</i>

*Obs.* For the position of object pronouns when the verb is in the imperative see § 48.

21. If two object pronouns, one direct the other indirect, precede the verb, the direct object must be of the third person. The indirect object is placed first if it is of the first or second person, last if it is of the third.

<b>Ils me l'ont donné</b>	<i>They have given it to me</i>
<b>Je les lui apporte</b>	<i>I am bringing them to him or to her</i>

## THE PRESENT INDICATIVE

22. The present tense in French corresponds to two English forms, *I carry* and *I am carrying*.

<b>Il porte un verre d'eau</b>	<i>He is carrying a glass of water</i>
--------------------------------	--

23. The present in French is also used, as in English, to express the immediate future.

<b>Je vais demain au musée</b>	<i>I am going to the museum tomorrow</i>
--------------------------------	--

24. The present is used of an action or a state that has been going on for some time, though English idiomatically uses the present-perfect.

<b>Je vous attends depuis midi</b>	<i>I have been waiting for you since noon</i>
<b>J'étudie les mathématiques depuis longtemps</b>	<i>I have been studying mathematics for a long time</i>

## THE PAST INDEFINITE

25. The past indefinite corresponds to the English present-perfect (*I have carried*). It is also the tense used in conversation where in English the simple past tense would be used.

*J'ai fini mon thème ce matin*      *I finished my exercise this morning*

26. The past indefinite is formed by the addition of the past participle to the present of the verb **avoir** or, in the case of some intransitive verbs, to the present of the verb **être** (§ 60). The past participle of a transitive verb agrees in gender and number with the direct object *if that direct object precedes*.

*Nous les avons trouvés ici*      *We found them here*  
*Avez-vous fini la leçon ? Oui,*      *Have you finished the lesson?*  
*je l'ai finie*      *Yes, I have finished it*  
*Ont-ils reçu les lettres ? Oui,*      *Have they received the letters?*  
*ils les ont reçues*      *Yes, they have received them*

27. Intransitive verbs, however, especially those denoting motion, form their past indefinite by adding the past participle to the present of **être**. The commonest of these verbs are **aller** and **venir** (see also § 60).

*Il est allé voir le professeur*      *He went to see the lecturer*  
*Nous sommes venus vous trouver*      *We came to find you*

28. In this case the past participle is treated as an adjective and varies with the number and gender of the subject.

*Elles sont venues à Paris pour*      *They came (or have come) to*  
*assister aux conférences*      *Paris to attend the lectures*

Read *Premières Lectures*, No. 1, p. 92.

## 29. CONJUGATION OF THE IMPERFECT INDICATIVE

	<i>have</i>	<i>be</i>	<i>carry</i>	<i>finish</i>	<i>receive</i>	<i>break</i>
	<i>avoir</i>	<i>être</i>	<i>porter</i>	<i>finir</i>	<i>recevoir</i>	<i>rompre</i>
<i>je, j'</i>	<i>av-ais</i>	<i>ét-ais</i>	<i>port-ais</i>	<i>fin-issais</i>	<i>recev-ais</i>	<i>romp-ais</i>
<i>tu</i>	<i>-ais</i>	<i>-ais</i>	<i>-ais</i>	<i>-issais</i>	<i>-ais</i>	<i>-ais</i>
<i>il</i>	<i>-ait</i>	<i>-ait</i>	<i>-ait</i>	<i>-issait</i>	<i>-ait</i>	<i>-ait</i>
<i>nous</i>	<i>-ions</i>	<i>-ions</i>	<i>-ions</i>	<i>-issions</i>	<i>-ions</i>	<i>-ions</i>
<i>vous</i>	<i>-iez</i>	<i>-iez</i>	<i>-iez</i>	<i>-issiez</i>	<i>-iez</i>	<i>-iez</i>
<i>ils</i>	<i>-aient</i>	<i>-aient</i>	<i>-aient</i>	<i>-issaient</i>	<i>-aient</i>	<i>-aient</i>

	<i>go</i>	<i>come</i>	<i>be able</i>	<i>wish</i>	<i>know</i>	<i>make, do</i>
	aller	venir	pouvoir	vouloir	savoir	faire
je, j'	all-ais	ven-ais	pouv-ais	voul-ais	sav-ais	fais-ais
tu	-ais	-ais	-ais	-ais	-ais	-ais
il	-ait	-ait	-ait	-ait	-ait	-ait
nous	-ions	-ions	-ions	-ions	-ions	-ions
vous	-iez	-iez	-iez	-iez	-iez	-iez
ils	-aient	-aient	-aient	-aient	-aient	-aient

PLUPERFECT INDICATIVE.—The tense consists of the imperfect indicative of *avoir* (or *être*, § 60) followed by the past participle; e.g. *j'avais eu*, *I had had*; *j'avais été*, *I had been*; *j'avais porté*, *I had carried*; *j'étais allé*, *I had gone*.

*Obs.* The personal endings of the imperfect indicative are the same in all verbs, but in most verbs of the second conjugation *-iss-* is inserted before them.

## 30. CONJUGATION OF THE PAST DEFINITE INDICATIVE

	<i>have</i>	<i>be</i>	<i>carry</i>	<i>finish</i>	<i>receive</i>	<i>break</i>
	avoir	être	porter	finir	recevoir	rompre
je, j'	eus	fus	port-ai	fin-is	reç-us	romp-is
tu	eus	fus	-as	-is	-us	-is
il	eut	fut	-a	-it	-ut	-it
nous	eûmes	fûmes	-âmes	-îmes	-ûmes	-îmes
vous	eûtes	fûtes	-âtes	-îtes	-ûtes	-îtes
ils	eurent	furent	-èrent	-irent	-urent	-irent

---

	<i>go</i>	<i>come</i>	<i>be able</i>	<i>wish</i>	<i>know</i>	<i>make, do</i>
	aller	venir	pouvoir	vouloir	savoir	faire
je, j'	all-ai	vins	p-us	voul-us	s-us	f-is
tu	-as	vins	-us	-us	-us	-is
il	-a	vint	-ut	-ut	-ut	-it
nous	-âmes	vînmes	-ûmes	-ûmes	-ûmes	-îmes
vous	-âtes	vîntes	-ûtes	-ûtes	-ûtes	-îtes
ils	-èrent	vinrent	-urent	-urent	-urent	-irent

PAST ANTERIOR.—The tense consists of the past definite indicative of *avoir* (or *être*, § 60) followed by the past participle; e.g. *j'eus eu*, *I had had*; *j'eus été*, *I had been*; *j'eus porté*, *I had carried*; *je fus allé*, *I had gone*.

#### THE REMAINING PAST TENSES OF THE INDICATIVE

31. The imperfect corresponds to three English forms, e.g. *je portais* means *I carried*, *I was carrying*, and *I used to carry*. Hence the imperfect is used in descriptions: it represents an action as in progress, or expresses a continuous state or an habitual action.

<i>Je travaillais pendant que vous dormiez</i>	<i>I was working (or worked) while you were asleep</i>
<i>Les anciens Egyptiens embaumaient leurs morts</i>	<i>The ancient Egyptians used to embalm their dead</i>

32. The imperfect is used of an action or state that at a certain point in the past had already been going on for some time; cp. § 24.

<i>J'apprenais le français depuis deux ans quand j'allai à Paris</i>	<i>I had been learning French for two years when I went to Paris</i>
--	--

33. The past definite corresponds to the English past, e.g. *je vis*, *I saw*, *j'allai*, *I went*. It is the historic tense and describes successive actions fully completed.

<i>Une tuile lui tomba sur la tête et le tua</i>	<i>A tile fell on his head and killed him</i>
--	---

*Obs.* In conversation the past indefinite is used for the past definite.

34. In narratives the past definite *and* imperfect are often both employed, the former to give the successive events, the latter to describe attendant circumstances, details, etc.

Il parut devant Narva à la tête de cette grande armée le 1<sup>er</sup> octobre. Le czar qui, dans de pareilles saisons, faisait quelquefois quatre cents lieues en poste, à cheval, pour voir quelque mine ou quelque canal, n'épargnait pas plus ses troupes que lui-même: il savait d'ailleurs que les Suédois faisaient la guerre au cœur de l'hiver comme dans l'été. Ainsi le czar assiégeait Narva à trente degrés du pôle et Charles XII s'avancait pour la secourir. Le czar ne fut pas plus tôt arrivé devant la place, qu'il se hâta de mettre en pratique tout ce qu'il venait d'apprendre dans ses voyages: il traça son camp, le fit fortifier de tous côtés, éleva des redoutes et ouvrit lui-même la tranchée.

*Obs.* The beginner may postpone the study of the above passage for the present.\*

35. The pluperfect is used as in English.

**Ils avaient fait tout ce qu'ils**     *They had done all they could*  
**pouvaient**

36. The past anterior is only used in clauses beginning with **à peine**, *scarcely*, **aussitôt que**, *as soon as*, **lorsque**, *when*, and a few less common phrases.

**A peine furent-ils revenus qu'ils**     *Scarcely had they returned when*  
**virent le professeur**     *they saw the master*

*Obs.* 1. Note here the inversion of subject and verb (§ 52, *Obs.*).

*Obs.* 2. The past anterior is not used of habitual or repeated action.

Read *Premières Lectures*, No. 2, p. 92.

### 37. CONJUGATION OF THE FUTURE INDICATIVE

	<i>have</i>	<i>be</i>	<i>carry</i>	<i>finish</i>	<i>receive</i>	<i>break</i>
	avoir	être	porter	finir	recevoir	rompre
je, j'	aurai	serai	port-erai	fin-irai	recev-rai	romp-rai
tu	auras	seras	-eras	-iras	-ras	-ras
il	aura	sera	-era	-ira	-ra	-ra
nous	aurons	serons	-erons	-irons	-rons	-rons
vous	aurez	serez	-erez	-irez	-rez	-rez
ils	auront	seront	-eront	-iront	-ront	-ront

\* The translation is as follows:—

On October 1st he appeared before Narva at the head of this great army. The Tsar, who at such seasons would sometimes travel post or ride on horseback four hundred leagues in order to inspect some mine or some canal, spared his troops no more than he spared himself, for he knew that the Swedes were accustomed to make war in the depth of winter as well as in summer. So within thirty degrees of the Pole the Tsar was besieging Narva, and Charles XII was advancing to relieve it. No sooner had the Tsar arrived before the fortress, than he hastened to put into practice all that he had just learned in his travels: he marked out his encampment, had it fortified on all sides, erected redoubts, and himself worked at cutting the trenches.

	<i>go</i>	<i>come</i>	<i>be able</i>	<i>wish</i>	<i>know</i>	<i>make, do</i>
	aller	venir	pouvoir	vouloir	savoir	faire
je, j'	irai	viendrai	pourrai	voudrai	saurai	ferai
tu	iras	viendras	pourras	voudras	sauras	feras
il	ira	viendra	pourra	voudra	saura	fera
nous	irons	viendrons	pourrons	voudrons	saurons	ferons
vous	irez	viendrez	pourrez	voudrez	saurez	fererez
ils	iront	viendront	pourront	voudront	sauront	feront

**FUTURE-PERFECT.**—The tense consists of the future tense of *avoir* (or *être*, § 60) followed by the past participle; e.g. *j'aurai eu*, *I shall have had*; *j'aurai été*, *I shall have been*; *j'aurai porté*, *I shall have carried*; *je serai allé*, *I shall have gone*.

*Obs.* The personal endings of the future are the same in all verbs.

#### THE FUTURE

38. The future tense corresponds to two English forms; e.g. *je finirai* means *I shall finish* and *I shall be finishing*.

*Elle ira à l'école dans huit jours*      *She will be going to school in a week*

*Nous partirons jeudi*      *We shall leave on Thursday*

39. The future is used in dependent clauses (other than conditions) if future time is clearly referred to, though English idiomatically uses the present.

*Quand tu auras fini l'expérience, tu pourras partir*      *When you have finished the experiment, you will be able to go*

*Je viendrai aussitôt qu'il sera ici*      *I shall come as soon as he is here*

*Obs.* In conditional clauses referring to the future French idiom is the same as English; cp. the example in § 192.

#### THE FUTURE-PERFECT

40. The future-perfect refers to the time when an act still future will be completed, and its use is parallel to that of the future simple.

*Quand le facteur sera venu, je serai prêt à travailler*      *When the postman has come, I shall be ready to work*

Read *Premières Lectures*, No. 3, p. 93.

## 41. CONJUGATION OF THE PRESENT CONDITIONAL

	<i>have</i> avoir	<i>be</i> être	<i>carry</i> porter	<i>finish</i> finir	<i>receive</i> recevoir	<i>break</i> rompre
je, j'	aurais	serais	port-erais	fin-irais	recev-rais	romp-rais
tu	aurais	serais	-erais	-irais	-rais	-rais
il	aurait	serait	-erait	-irait	-rait	-rait
nous	aurions	serions	-erions	-irions	-rions	-rions
vous	auriez	seriez	-eriez	-iriez	-riez	-riez
ils	auraient	seraient	-eraient	-iraient	-raient	-raient

---

	<i>go</i> aller	<i>come</i> venir	<i>be able</i> pouvoir	<i>wish</i> vouloir	<i>know</i> savoir	<i>make, do</i> faire
je, j'	irais	viendrais	pourrais	voudrais	saurais	ferais
tu	irais	viendrais	pourrais	voudrais	saurais	ferais
il	irait	viendrait	pourrait	voudrait	saurait	ferait
nous	irions	viendrions	pourrions	voudrions	saurions	ferions
vous	iriez	viendriez	pourriez	voudriez	sauriez	feriez
ils	iraient	viendraient	pourraient	voudraient	sauraient	feraient

PERFECT CONDITIONAL.—The tense consists of the present conditional tense of *avoir* (or *être*, § 60) followed by the past participle; e.g. *j'aurais eu*, *I should have had*; *j'aurais été*, *I should have been*; *j'aurais porté*, *I should have carried*; *je serais allé*, *I should have gone*.

## THE CONDITIONAL MOOD

42. The present conditional corresponds to two English forms; e.g. *je recevrais* means *I should receive* or *I should be receiving*.

<i>Je le ferais encore, si j'avais à le faire</i>	<i>I should do it again if I had to do it</i>
<i>Si je faisais cela, je trahirais ma patrie</i>	<i>If I did that, I should be betraying my country</i>

43. The "modest" conditional expresses diffidence or hesitation: it makes a statement for the truth of which the speaker does not vouch.

<i>Cent personnes auraient péri dans le tremblement de terre</i>	<i>A hundred persons are said to have lost their lives in the earthquake</i>
<i>Les Norvégiens auraient découvert l'Amérique quelques siècles avant Colomb</i>	<i>The Norwegians are said to have discovered America some centuries before Columbus</i>

44. The use of the perfect conditional is the same as that of the corresponding tense in English.

Read *Premières Lectures*, No. 4, p. 94.

#### THE SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD

45. The subjunctive is much more widely used in French than in English. It is found chiefly in dependent clauses.

In principal sentences it expresses a wish and is generally preceded by the conjunction *que*, *that*.

Qu'il vive heureux !      *May he live happily!*  
Vive le roi !                *Long live the king!*

The second person present subjunctive of *vouloir* forms a polite imperative.

Veillez m'indiquer le chemin de      *Kindly tell me the way to the*  
la ville                                        *town*

#### 46. CONJUGATION OF THE PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE

	<i>have</i>	<i>be</i>	<i>carry</i>	<i>finish</i>	<i>receive</i>	<i>break</i>
	avoir	être	porter	finir	recevoir	rompre
je, j'	aie	sois	port-e	fin-isse	re-çoive	romp-e
tu	aies	sois	-es	-isses	-çoives	-es
il	ait	soit	-e	-isse	-çoive	-e
nous	ayons	soyons	-ions	-issions	-cevions	-ions
vous	ayez	soyez	-iez	-issiez	-ceviez	-iez
ils	aient	soient	-ent	-issent	-çoivent	-ent
<hr/>						
	<i>go</i>	<i>come</i>	<i>be able</i>	<i>wish</i>	<i>know</i>	<i>make, do</i>
	aller	venir	pouvoir	vouloir	savoir	faire
je, j'	aille	viene	puisse	veuille	sache	fasse
tu	ailles	viennes	puisses	veuilles	saches	fasses
il	aille	viene	puisse	veuille	sache	fasse
nous	allions	venions	puissions	voulions	sachions	fassions
vous	alliez	veniez	puissiez	vouliez	sachiez	fassiez
ils	aillent	viennent	puissent	veillent	sachent	fassent



PAST INDEFINITE SUBJUNCTIVE.—The tense consists of the present subjunctive of *avoir* (or *être*, § 60) followed by the past participle; *e.g.* *j'aie eu, j'aie été, j'aie porté, je sois allé.*

Read *Premières Lectures*, No. 5, p. 95.

#### 47. CONJUGATION OF THE IMPERFECT SUBJUNCTIVE

	<i>have</i>	<i>be</i>	<i>carry</i>	<i>finish</i>	<i>receive</i>	<i>break</i>
	<i>avoir</i>	<i>être</i>	<i>porter</i>	<i>finir</i>	<i>recevoir</i>	<i>rompre</i>
je, j'	eusse	fusse	port-asse	fin-isse	reç-usse	romp-isse
tu	eusses	fusses	-asses	-isses	-usses	-isses
il	eût	fût	-ât	-ît	-ût	-ît
nous	eussions	fussions	-assions	-issions	-ussions	-issions
vous	eussiez	fussiez	-assiez	-issiez	-ussiez	-issiez
ils	eussent	fussent	-assent	-issent	-ussent	-issent

---

	<i>go</i>	<i>come</i>	<i>be able</i>	<i>wish</i>	<i>know</i>	<i>make, do</i>
	<i>aller</i>	<i>venir</i>	<i>pouvoir</i>	<i>vouloir</i>	<i>savoir</i>	<i>faire</i>
je, j'	allasse	vinse	pusse	voulusse	susse	fisse
tu	allasses	vinsses	pusses	voulusses	susses	fisses
il	allât	vînt	pût	voulût	sût	fît
nous	allassions	vinssions	pussions	voulussions	sussions	fissions
vous	allassiez	vinssiez	pussiez	voulussiez	sussiez	fissiez
ils	allassent	vinssent	pussent	voulussent	sussent	fissent

PLUPERFECT SUBJUNCTIVE.—The tense consists of the imperfect subjunctive tense of *avoir* (or *être*, § 60) followed by the past participle; *e.g.* *j'eusse eu, j'eusse été, j'eusse porté, je fusse allé.*

#### THE IMPERATIVE MOOD

48. When the imperative (first person plural or second person) is used affirmatively, the governed pronouns *follow* it, though they precede all other forms of the verb, and the imperative also when it is used negatively. After an imperative an accusative pronoun always precedes a dative, and *moi* and *toi* take the place of *me* and *te*.

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