Bonjour, madame.
Comment allez-vous, monsieur?
Assez bien, merci.
Comment vous appelez-vous?
Je m'appelle Jacques.
Où habitez-vous?
J'habite à San Francisco.
Puis-je vous aider?
Oui, s'il vous plaît.
Où sont les toilettes?
Là-bas à gauche.
En face du cinéma.
Comment dit-on on the right en français?
On dit à droite.
À bientôt.
À demain.
Au revoir.

Good morning, ma’am.
How are you, sir?
Fairly well, thank you.
What’s your name?
My name is Jack.
Where do you live?
I live in San Francisco.
May I help you?
Yes, please.
Where are the restrooms?
Over there to the left.
In front of the movie theater.
How do you say on the right in French?
We say à droite.
See you soon.
See you tomorrow.
Goodbye.

PRACTICE THE FOLLOWING EXPRESSIONS

1. How do you say Good morning in French? _______________.
2. How do you say My name is? _______________.
3. How do you say Where do you live? _______________.
4. How do you reply to Comment allez-vous? _______________.
5. How do you reply to Où sont les toilettes? _______________.
6. How do you say to the left? _______________.
7. What is the opposite of à droite? ________________.
8. How do you say please? ________________.
9. À bientôt is translated into English as ________________.
11. Two ways of answering to au revoir are ________________ and ________________.
12. À demain is translated into English as ________________.

**MOTS NOUVEAUX (New Words)**

Try to memorize these words. They will be repeated in exercises and future lessons. Pronounce each word aloud.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>après</td>
<td>after</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l’arbre (masc.)</td>
<td>(the) tree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l’arc-en-ciel</td>
<td>rainbow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aujourd’hui</td>
<td>today</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>avant</td>
<td>before</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la bougie</td>
<td>candle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la chaise</td>
<td>chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le chat</td>
<td>cat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le chien</td>
<td>dog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la couleur</td>
<td>color</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le crayon</td>
<td>pencil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>demain</td>
<td>tomorrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l’enfant</td>
<td>child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la famille</td>
<td>family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la femme</td>
<td>woman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la fille</td>
<td>girl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le frère</td>
<td>brother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le garçon</td>
<td>boy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le goût</td>
<td>taste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hier</td>
<td>yesterday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l’homme (masc.)</td>
<td>man</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le jour</td>
<td>day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la leçon</td>
<td>lesson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le livre</td>
<td>book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la lumière</td>
<td>light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le lundi</td>
<td>Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la maison</td>
<td>house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le matin</td>
<td>morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la mer</td>
<td>sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la mère</td>
<td>mother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le mot</td>
<td>word</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la nuit</td>
<td>night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l’oiseau (masc.)</td>
<td>bird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le papier</td>
<td>paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le parapluie</td>
<td>umbrella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le soleil</td>
<td>sun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le stylo</td>
<td>pen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le temps</td>
<td>time; weather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la tête</td>
<td>head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la vérité</td>
<td>truth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PRACTICE THE VOCABULARY**

Match the two columns by writing the appropriate letters in the spaces provided.

*Example:* 1. F

1. _____ arbre A. pen
2. _____ chaise B. head
3. _____ papier C. chair
|----------------|------------------|----------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-----------|------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|

**GRAMMAR I  Definite Articles • Gender of Nouns**

A. The definite article *the* is translated into French by *le*, *la*, *les*, and *l’*. We use *le* before masculine singular nouns, *la* with feminine singular nouns, and *les* with plural nouns, both masculine and feminine. *L’* is the contraction of *le* and *la* when followed by a noun starting with a vowel or a mute *h* as in: *l’homme, l’avion*, and *l’hôtel*.

B. In French, *nouns* are either masculine or feminine. There is no neuter gender of nouns as in English. Articles in French must agree with the nouns they precede, as in: *la table, le garçon, la chaise, la maison, le matin, le stylo, le père, and la mère.*
C. Although there is no way to know the gender of a noun without memorizing it, there are patterns that will help you distinguish the feminine nouns from the masculine nouns. Be aware, however, that these are patterns only, with numerous exceptions; there are no hard and fast rules. The only sure way to know the gender of each noun is to memorize.

1. Females are always feminine, and males are always masculine.

   EXAMPLE:  
   l'homme (the man) masc.  
   la femme (the woman) fem.  
   le garçon (the boy) masc.  
   la fille (the girl) fem.

2. Most nouns ending in *on, in, o, ier, al,* and *ot* are masculine, as in: *le bouillon, le matin, le métro, le papier, le cheval* (the horse), and *le gigot* (the leg of lamb).

3. Most nouns ending in *ion, eur, ance, ence, te, ie,* and *ude* are feminine, as in: *l'aviation, la passion, la grandeur, la chance, la présence, la bonté, la biologie,* and *la latitude.*

**NOTE:**
About 2 percent of the nouns contained in this book do not belong to the preceding categories. The following is a small sample of those nouns: *le livre (the book), le soleil (the sun), le parapluie (the umbrella), l'ordinateur (masc., the computer), le chat (male cat), la chatte (female cat), le chien (male dog), la chienne (female dog).*

**PRACTICE THE ARTICLES**

1. List four translations of *the* _____________.
2. Things in French are either _____________ or _____________.
3. List two masculine definite articles___________________.
4. What does *l'* stand for? _____________ and when? _____________.
5. What is the definite article for _____________ splendeur (the splendor)?  
   _____________ santé (the health)?
6. What are two feminine definite articles? _____________.
7. Write the definite articles of _____________ arbre (the tree) ____________,  
   *homme (the man), _____________ papier (the paper).*
8. Write the definite articles of _____________ location (the rent, the rental),  
   _____________ patience (the patience), _____________ zoologie (the zoology),  
   _____________ attitude (the attitude), _____________ longueur (the length).
EXERCISE

Fill in the correct article *le, la, or l*. Then say each word aloud.

1. _______ matin 7. _______ femme 13. _______ hôtel
2. _______ professeur 8. _______ garçon 14. _______ papier
3. _______ bonté 9. _______ homme 15. _______ bougie
4. _______ vérité 10. _______ crayon 16. _______ arc-en-ciel
5. _______ fille 11. _______ grandeur 17. _______ parapluie
6. _______ journal 12. _______ avion 18. _______ chance

GRAMMAR II  Indefinite Articles

A. The indefinite articles in French are *un* for masculine singular nouns and *une* for feminine singular nouns—for example, *un garçon* (a boy) and *une fille* (a girl). Both indefinite and definite articles must agree in gender with the nouns they precede. All nouns are either masculine or feminine, even when they are objects or things.

B. The neuter gender *it*, used with things and objects in English, does not exist in French.

C. In French, every effort is made to avoid the “hiatus” or the juxtaposition of two consecutive vowels, one at the end of a word followed by another at the beginning of the next word. (A silent *h* is considered a vowel in such a case.) One of the largest exceptions to this rule occurs with *une*, the indefinite feminine article. Thus, there is no problem with saying *une addition, une abréviation, une histoire, une altitude*, etc.

PRACTICE THE INDEFINITE ARTICLES

1. What are the indefinite articles in French?_______________.
2. What is the gender of *un*?_______________.
3. What is the gender of *une*?_______________.
4. What is the gender of *un garçon*?_______________.
5. Which nouns are always masculine?_______________.
6. Which nouns are always feminine?_______________.
7. What is the meaning of “hiatus”?_______________.
8. Are there neuter nouns in French?_______________.
9. Objects in French are either_______________.
10. What is a major exception to the hiatus?_______________.
EXERCISE

Write the appropriate indefinite article (un or une) before each noun. Then say each combination aloud.

1. _______ action 7. _______ chat 13. _______ tête
2. _______ jour 8. _______ crayon 14. _______ oiseau
3. _______ livre 9. _______ couleur 15. _______ chaise
4. _______ garçon 10. _______ matin 16. _______ goût
5. _______ papier 11. _______ soleil 17. _______ mot
6. _______ chien 12. _______ nuit 18. _______ parapluie

GRAMMAR III  Subject Pronouns and the Verbs être and avoir • The Interrogative

A. Memorize the verbs être (to be) and avoir (to have).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Être</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>To Be</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>je</td>
<td>suis</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tu (sing. familiar)</td>
<td>es</td>
<td>you</td>
<td>are</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>il (masc.), elle (fem.), on</td>
<td>est</td>
<td>he, she, it, one</td>
<td>is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nous</td>
<td>sommes</td>
<td>we</td>
<td>are</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vous</td>
<td>êtes</td>
<td>you</td>
<td>are</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ils (masc. pl.), elles (fem. pl.)</td>
<td>sont</td>
<td>they</td>
<td>are</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Avoir</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>To Have</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>je = j’</td>
<td>ai</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>have, am having, do have</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tu (familiar)</td>
<td>as</td>
<td>you</td>
<td>have</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>il (masc.), elle (fem.), on</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>he, she, it, one</td>
<td>has</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nous</td>
<td>avons</td>
<td>we</td>
<td>have</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vous</td>
<td>avez</td>
<td>you</td>
<td>have</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ils (masc. pl.), elles (fem. pl.)</td>
<td>ont</td>
<td>they</td>
<td>have</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. The interrogative form, or question, in French is expressed in two ways. The first is by beginning the question with the phrase est-ce-que.

EXAMPLE: Est-ce que tu es un garçon? (Are you a boy?)
          Est-ce que vous avez des stylos? (Do you have pens?)

The second way is by inverting the pronoun subject and verb as in English, except that French adds a hyphen between the words.
EXAMPLE:  
Es-tu un garçon?  (Are you a boy?)
Avez-vous des stylos?  (Do you have pens?)

Note that French adds the letter -t- between two vowels in the interrogative form in order to avoid the “hiatus.”

EXAMPLE:  
A-t-il?  Has he?
A-t-elle?  Has she?
Mange-t-on?  Are we eating? (Does one eat?)
Aide-t-elle?  Is she helping?
Commande-t-il?  Is he ordering?

NOTES:
1. In French, je is not capitalized as is the English I; tu (you, singular) is used with friends and relatives and in informal situations.
2. Vous (you) is used in formal situations when speaking with one person and in formal and informal situations when speaking with more than one person.
   EXAMPLE:  
   Monsieur, vous mangez bien.
   Mesdames et messieurs, vous mangez bien.
3. Il is the masculine singular (he), and elle is the feminine singular (she).
4. Ils is used for they (plural masculine) and elles for they (plural feminine). Ils and elles have the same sound as il and elle: the last consonant (s) is mute.
   EXAMPLE:  
   Ils (les garçons) sont ici.
   Elles (les filles) sont ici.
5. Ils refers also to a mixed group of people, people in general, as in ils (les garçons et les filles) sont ici. Il is also used in what is called “impersonal expressions” such as il fait chaud (it is warm) and il fait froid (it is cold). This is the only time we encounter the impersonal equivalent of the English it. French also has another third-person singular construction, which is on. This on translates as the English one, as in on dit (one says, we say, people say), on fait (one does, we do, people do).
6. Il, elle, ils, and elles also refer to animals and to things that are either masculine or feminine, singular or plural. Le chat est blanc (the cat is white), il est blanc (he is white); la table est grande (the table is big), elle est grande (it is big).
7. Note that j’ai can convey the equivalent of the English expressions “I have,” “I’m having,” or “I do have.”

PRACTICE THE SUBJECT PRONOUNS

1. Which pronoun is always capitalized in English and not in French?______________.
2. The pronoun you has two equivalents in French. What are they?______________.
3. The pronoun tu is used in______________.
4. What is the singular formal equivalent of you? __________.
5. What is the plural formal equivalent of you? __________.
6. What are two ways in which il is used? __________.
7. What is the feminine form of il? __________.
8. What is the plural of elle? __________.
9. What are two uses of ils (they)? __________.
10. How do you say it is cold in French? __________.
11. When is the impersonal it used in French? __________.
12. Write the English for il fait chaud. __________.

EXERCISES

A. Write the French pronouns with the correct form of être (to be).

   Example: you are—vous êtes

1. you (formal) are ________
2. you (familiar sing.) are ________
3. I am ________
4. we are ________
5. you (pl.) are ________
6. they (masc. pl.) are ________
7. they (fem. pl.) are ________
8. he is ________
9. she is ________
10. they (all females) are ________
11. they (mixed male and female) are ________
12. they (things in general) are ________
13. they (people in general) are ________
14. they (animals in general) are ________

B. Write the correct form of the verb for each pronoun.

   Example: 1. Je suis (to be) une fille. 2. Nous avons (to have) le temps aujourd'hui.

1. J (e) ________ (to have) une maison.
2. Ils ________ (to have) deux frères.
3. Je ________ (to be) une fille.
4. Elles ________ (to have) des crayons.
5. Vous ________ (to be) une mère.
6. Ils ________ (to have) le temps aujourd'hui.
7. Tu ________ (to be) le père.
8. Vous ________ (to have) des bougies.
9. Elles ________ (to be) des chattes.
10. Tu ________ (to have) des stylos.

C. Change the following to the interrogative (question) form, as in avez-vous?
   Remember to add the -t- when necessary to avoid the hiatus.

1. vous avez ________
2. il a ________
3. il est ________
4. nous avons ________
5. nous sommes ________
6. vous êtes ________
7. ils sont ________
8. vous étudiez ________
9. elles ont ________
10. nous parlons ________