

SOME USEFUL VOCABULARY IN FRENCH

Goal: By the end of this lesson, you should be able to

- a): describe physically a human body in French
- b): make a mental/moral description of a person in French
- c): name in French the different types of clothes people usually wear
- d): name in French some common colors

A – Le Corps Humain / The Human Body / El Cuerpo Humano

La tête -> the head -> la cabeza

Le visage (La face) -> The face -> la cara

Les cheveux (plur.) Le cheveu -> hair -> el pelo [*cheveux* is almost always used in the plural form]

Une moustache -> a moustache -> un bigote

La barbe -> the beard -> la barba

Les yeux (plur.) L'œil (singular)-> the eyes -> Los ojos

Le nez -> the nose -> la nariz

Les oreilles (plur.) L'oreille (sing.) -> the ears -> Las orejas

La bouche -> the mouth -> la boca

Les lèvres (plur.) La lèvre (sing.) -> The lips -> Los labios

Les dents (plur.) La dent (sing.) -> the teeth -> Los dientes

Le cou -> the neck -> el cuello

Les épaules (plur.) L'épaule -> the shoulders -> los hombros

Le dos -> the back -> la espalda

Le ventre (L'estomac) -> the belly (the stomach) -> la barriga (el estomago)

Les bras (plur.) Le bras (sing.) -> the arms -> los brazos

Les mains (plur.) La main (sing.) -> the hands -> las manos

Les doigts (plur.) Le doigt (sing.) -> the fingers -> los dedos

Les jambes (plur.) La jambe (sing.) -> the legs -> las piernas

Les pieds (plur.) Le pied (sing.) -> the feet -> los pies

Les ongles (plur.) L'ongle (sing.) -> the nails -> las uñas

Les orteils (plur.) L'orteil (sing.) -> the toes -> los dedos del pie

Description Physique/ Physical Description/ La Descripción Física

Etre + ... -> To be + ...

Grand (e) -> tall

Petit (e) -> short

De taille moyenne -> of medium height

Mince -> thin

Gros (osse) -> fat

Beau/belle -> handsome/pretty

Laid (e) -> ugly

Jeune -> young

Vieux*/vieille -> old [*Careful here*!!! The feminine of *vieux* is NOT *vieuse*. It's an exception]

Well, now you know many different ways to describe a friend (or yourself) in French ☺.

Since we are now learning the different parts of the human body, I think it will be interesting to know how to tell your doctor that your back, or stomach, or your feet hurt in French. The perfect French expression for this is **Avoir mal à...**

Formula: Subject +Avoir mal à + definite article + body part that's hurting.

I have a headache, doctor = **J'ai mal à la tête, docteur** = Me duele la cabeza, doctor

She has a toothache = **Elle a mal à la dent** = Le duele el diente a ella.

But what happens when the definite article in our formula is masculine (LE) or plural (LES)?

Let's select a body part that uses a masculine def. article. *Pied* (foot) will be fine...Le pied.

My foot hurts = **J'ai mal au (=à+le) pied** (sing.) = Me duele el pie.

My feet hurt = **J'ai mal aux (=à+les) pieds** (plur.) = Me duelen los pies.

My teeth hurt = **J'ai mal aux (=à+les) dents** (plur.)= Me duelen los dientes.

Au and **Aux** are called contracted definite articles. In order to obtain them, you need to combine the preposition "à" + the definite articles "le" or "les". There is another contracted article that we have not yet studied -> du = de + le, where de is a preposition. I'll provide more detailed explanations about it when we study the prepositions next week.

B – 20 Qualités Morales/ 20 Moral Qualities / 20 Qualidades Morales

Add these to the ones we already learned a couple weeks ago (heureux- amoureux- triste- déprimé, etc)

Intelligent (e) -> Intelligent -> Inteligente

Stupide -> stupid -> estúpido/a

Réservé (e)-> quiet -> callado/a

Timide -> shy -> tímido/a

Bavard (e)-> talkative -> hablador/a

Gai -> joyful -> divertido/a

Généreux (euse) -> generous -> generoso/a

Egoïste -> selfish -> egoista

Sympathique -> nice/likable -> simpático/a

Antipathique -> disagreeable/antipathetic -> Antipático/a

Idéaliste -> Idealist -> idealista

Réaliste -> Realist -> realista

Menteur (euse)-> liar -> mentiroso

Sincère -> sincere -> sincero

Impulsif* (ive)->impulsive -> impulsivo/a

Calme -> quiet -> callado

Pessimiste -> pessimist -> pesimista

Optimiste -> optimist -> optimista

Courageux -> courageous / brave -> valeroso/valiente

Lâche -> coward -> cobarde

* I just remembered that the feminine form of words ending in **-IF** is **-IVE** as in *impulsif (impulsive)*, *productif (productive)*, *nocif (nocive)*. So you may want to add it to the Week 4 – Leçon 2.

Well, there are hundreds of adjectives like that which describe the moral qualities of a person. Please, feel free to use a dictionary.

C – Les Vêtements/Clothes/la Ropa

Un manteau -> a coat -> un abrigo
Un chemisier -Une blouse -> a blouse -> una blusa
Des bottes -> boots -> bottas
Une chemise -> a shirt -> una camisa
Un tricot (un tee-shirt) -> a T-shirt -> una camiseta
Une cravate -> a tie -> una corbata
Une jupe -> a skirt -> una falda
Un pantalon -> pants -> pantalones
Un short -> shorts -> pantalones cortos
Une veste -> a jacket -> una chaqueta
Un chapeau -> a hat -> un sombrero
Un pull -> a sweater -> un suéter
Un habit -> an outfit/ a costume/a dress-> un traje
Une robe -> a woman's dress/ a gown -> un vestido
Un vêtement -> a dress/ a garment/outfit -> un vestido
Les chaussures -> shoes -> los zapatos.
Des lunettes (de soleil) ->(sun) glasses -> gafas (de sol)

In French, the verb **Porter** [which belongs to the *premier groupe*] is very frequently employed and = **to be wearing**. For example:

You are wearing a jacket = Tu **portes** une veste.

We are wearing glasses = Nous **portons** des lunettes. (Verbs of the 1st group are so easy to conjugate☺)

D – Les Couleurs/Colors/Los Colores

Jaune -> Yellow -> Amarillo/a

Bleu (e) -> Blue -> Azul

Marron -> Brown -> Color café

Gris -> Gray -> Gris

Violet -> Purple -> Morado/a

Noir -> Black -> Negro/a

Rouge -→ Red -→ rojo/a

Vert -→ Green -→ verde

Rose -→ pink -→ Rosado/a

Blanc (che) -→ White -→ Blanco/a

Les Couleurs de cheveux/The Colors of hair/ Los Colores del Pelo.

Cheveux **bruns**= Brown hair = el pelo castaño

Cheveux **blonds** = Blond hair = el pelo rubio