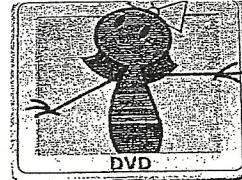


Grammaire à l'œuvre



Grammavision



The partitive

- 1 To say that you want *part of* or *some* of an item, use de with the definite article that goes with the item. This is called the partitive.

MASCULINE SINGULAR	FEMININE SINGULAR	SINGULAR NOUN BEGINNING WITH A VOWEL	PLURAL
du bacon	de la confiture	de l'omelette	des céréales

Tu veux du beurre?

Do you want some butter?

Je veux des œufs.

I want some eggs.

- 2 In French, you always need to include the article, even though it is omitted in some cases in English.

Je prends des toasts et de la confiture.

I'm having toast and jam. (some is implied and can be omitted)

- 3 To say that you want a whole item (or several whole items), use the indefinite articles un, une, and des. Remember that in a negative sentence, un, une, and des become de.

Je veux un croissant. *I want a croissant.*

Je ne veux pas de croissant. *I don't want a croissant.*

Vocabulaire et grammaire pp. 64-65
Cahier d'activités pp. 51-53

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-ir verbs



You've already learned about -er and -re verbs. A third category of verbs ends in -ir. These are the forms of regular -ir verbs.

More regular -ir verbs:

choisir	<i>to choose</i>
grossir	<i>to gain weight</i>
maigrir	<i>to lose weight</i>
grandir	<i>to grow</i>
réussir (à)	<i>to pass, to succeed</i>

finir (to finish)

je finis	nous finissons
tu finis	vous finissez
il/elle/on finit	ils/elles finissent

Éliane finit ses devoirs.

Ils grossissent parce qu'ils mangent beaucoup.

Vocabulaire et grammaire pp. 64-65
Cahier d'activités pp. 51-53

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The verb *prendre*

The verb *prendre* is irregular. Notice the spelling changes in the stem of the verb for the plural forms.

prendre (*to take, to have food or drink*)

je prends	nous prenons
tu prends	vous prenez
il/elle/on prend	ils/elles prennent

—Qu'est-ce que vous prenez?

—Nous prenons du pain et un chocolat chaud.

Verbs like *prendre*:

apprendre	<i>to learn</i>
comprendre	<i>to understand</i>
reprendre	<i>to have more (food or drink)</i>

Vocabulaire et grammaire, pp. 70–71
Cahier d'activités, pp. 55–57

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The imperative



- 1 To form the imperative or the command forms, use the *tu*, *nous*, or *vous* form of the present tense of the verb without the subject. Notice that for -er verbs, including *aller*, you drop the -s at the end of the *tu* form.

Tu écoutes Paul. → Écoute Paul!
Listen to Paul!

Nous écoutons Paul. → Écoutons Paul!
Let's listen to Paul!

Vous écoutez Paul. → Écoutez Paul!
Listen to Paul! (plural)

- 2 For -ir and -re verbs and verbs that aren't regular -er verbs, the spellings of the command forms don't change.

Tu fais tes devoirs. → Fais tes devoirs!

Nous attendons le bus. → Attendons le bus!

Vous finissez votre dîner. → Finissez votre dîner!

- 3 To make a command negative, put *ne* before the verb and *pas* after it.

Regarde la télé! → Ne regarde pas la télé!

Vocabulaire et grammaire, pp. 70–71
Cahier d'activités, pp. 55–57

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