

- the partitive
- the pronoun *y*

Grammaire

d'œuvre



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Révisions The partitive

Déjà vu!

The indefinite articles are **un**, **une**, and **des**. They mean *a*, *an*, or *some*. The definite articles are **le**, **la**, and **les**. They mean *the*. To say that you like something, use a definite article.

Ariane achète **une** tarte.
J'aime **les** fraises.

- 1 The partitive articles express the idea of *some* or *any*, or a *part/portion* of a whole item.

MASCULINE	FEMININE	SING WORD BEGINNING WITH A VOWEL	PLURAL
du sucre	de la farine	de l'huile	des petits pois

—Tu veux du gâteau ou de la tarte?

—Do you want (some) cake or (some) pie?

- 2 The forms of the partitive change to **de (d')** in a negative sentence and after words of quantity like **beaucoup**.

Il y a **de la farine**, mais il n'y a pas **d'ail**.

Karine mange beaucoup **de cerises**!

- 3 To talk about a whole item, use the indefinite article **un**, **une**, or **des**.

Nous achetons **une** tarte aux pommes.

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The pronoun *y*

- 1 To avoid repeating places and locations, use the pronoun *y*. It can be used to replace names of places that start with prepositions such as **à**, **dans**, **sur**, **en**, and **chez**.

—Tu peux aller **au supermarché**?

—Bien sûr. J'**y** vais tout de suite.

—Est-ce que le sucre est **dans la cuisine**?

—Oui, il **y** est.

- 2 The pronoun *y*, like many other pronouns you have learned, goes before the conjugated verb. If there is an infinitive, place *y* directly before the infinitive.

—Tu aimes aller **au café**?

—Je n'**y** vais pas souvent, mais de temps en temps, j'aime bien **y** aller.

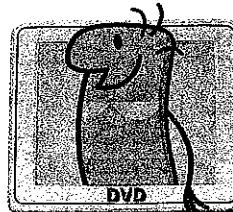
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Objectifs

- the pronoun *en*
- placement of object pronouns

Grammaire à l'œuvre



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The pronoun *en*

► You can replace a form of *de + noun* with *en*. It often translates as *some, any, of it, or of them*.

— Tu veux du yaourt? — *Would you like some yogurt?*
— Non, merci, je n'en veux pas. — *No thanks, I don't want any.*

► En can also replace nouns that follow **un, une, numbers, or expressions of quantity**. In this case, you normally still use **un, une, the number, or the expression of quantity** in the sentence with **en**.

— Tu manges beaucoup de sandwichs?
— Oui, j'en mange beaucoup. J'en prends souvent un à midi.
— Moi, j'en prends souvent deux!

► Place *en* before the infinitive in the sentence if there is one. Otherwise, place it before the conjugated verb.

Des crevettes? Je vais en acheter.



Placement of object pronouns

► You have learned that if you have a sentence with both direct and indirect object pronouns, you place the pronouns in a certain order. You can also combine the pronouns *y* and *en* with the object pronouns you have learned. Notice the position of these pronouns when used with other object pronouns.

me (m')	le			
te (t')	l'			
nous	la	lui		
vous	les	leur	y	en

► Place pronouns before the conjugated verb in a sentence or in front of the infinitive. This is also true when you use more than one pronoun at a time.

— Tu peux me donner des fraises?

— Bien sûr. Je t'en donne.

— Vous achetez les baguettes à la boulangerie?

— Oui, je les y achète.

► Y and en can be used together in the same sentence, although it is not common. They are used together with the following expression.

Il y a des cerises au marché?

Oui, il y en a.