

French 1

Chapter 4 Grammar Review

-RE Verbs

- To conjugate an –RE verb, drop the –RE to get the “*Verb Stem*.”
Ex: *répondre* → -re → *répond* (the “*Verb Stem*”)

- Below is a sample conjugation of the –RE verb *RÉPONDRE* with the appropriate **Verb Endings**:

RÉPONDRE			
SINGULAR		PLURAL	
je	<i>répond<u>s</u></i>	nous	<i>répond<u>ons</u></i>
tu	<i>répond<u>s</u></i>	vous	<i>répond<u>ez</u></i>
il/elle/on*	<i>répond</i>	ils / elles	<i>répond<u>ent</u></i>

- NOTICE:** The plural endings are the same as the –ER Verb plural endings. Also notice that that 3rd person singular does NOT take an ending. *However if the Stem ends in a vowel, add a **-t**.
Ex: il + *répondre* = il répond (he answers) → No ending for 3rd person singular
Ex: il + *lire* = il lit (he reads) → Add a **-t** since the stem “li-” ends in a vowel.
- REMEMBER:** The negations (**ne ... pas**) ONLY go around the *conjugated* verb.
Ex: Je *réponds* au prof. → Je **ne** *réponds* **pas** au prof.

-GER and -CER Verbs

- Verbs ending in –GER and –CER conjugate just like –ER Verbs in every form except the *nous* form.
- GER Verbs:** Add an “e” between the *Stem* and the **Verb Ending** to keep the [j] sound before the [o]. Below is a sample conjugation of the –GER verb *NAGER* with changes to the *nous* form:

NAGER			
SINGULAR		PLURAL	
je	nage	nous	nage <u>ons</u>
tu	nages	vous	nage <u>z</u>
il/elle/on	nage	ils / elles	nage <u>nt</u>

- CER verbs:** Change the [c] to [ç] to keep the [s] sound before the [o]. Below is a sample conjugation of the –CER verb *PRONONCER* with the appropriate change to the *nous* form:

PRONONCER			
SINGULAR		PLURAL	
je	prononce	nous	pronon <u>çons</u>
tu	prononces	vous	prononce <u>z</u>
il/elle/on	prononce	ils / elles	prononcent

Stem Changing Verbs (é/e → è)

1. Stem changing verbs have a slightly different pattern than regular –ER verbs. The last [e] or [é] in the verb *Stem* changes to [è].
2. The *Stem* change signified a change in pronunciation for the letter [e]. These *Stem* changes occur in all forms **EXCEPT** the *nous* and *vous* forms.
3. Below is an example of a *Stem* change from [é] to [è] with the verb *PRÉFÉRER*:

PRÉFÉRER			
SINGULAR		PLURAL	
je	préfère	nous	préférons
tu	préfères	vous	préférez
il/elle/on	préfère	ils / elles	préfèrent

4. Below is an example of a *Stem* change from [e] to [è] with the verb *ACHETER*:

ACHETER			
SINGULAR		PLURAL	
je	achète	nous	achetons
tu	achètes	vous	achetez
il/elle/on*	achète	ils / elles	achètent

Adjectives as Nouns

1. To avoid repeating the noun you're describing, simply drop the noun and leave the article (le, la, les) and the adjective. This translates roughly to the English word "one".
Ex: J'aime **le** tee-shirt **rouge**. → J'aime **le rouge** (*I like the red one*)
2. The article and the adjective still **MUST AGREE** with the noun that's been dropped.
Ex: Tu aimes **la** gomme **bleue** (*f.s.*) → Tu aimes **la bleue** (*Do you like the blue one?*)
Ex: Il a **les** calculatrices **vertes** (*f.pl.*) → Il a **les vertes** (*He has the green ones*)
Ex: J'aime **les** cahiers **blancs** (*m.pl.*) → J'aime **les blancs** (*I like the white ones*)

Number Agreement

1. The number "quatre-vingts" (80) does **NOT** take an "s" with another number:
Ex: quatre-vingts (80) → quatre-vingt-un (81) (*The "s" is removed!*)
2. The number "cent" (100) **MUST** take an "s" with its multiples:
Ex: cent (100) → deux cents (200) → trois cents (300) (*Add an "s"*)
3. The number "un" (1) changes to "une" when describing feminine things:
Ex: Il y a vingt et **un** livres (*m.*) → Il y a vingt et **une** règles (*f.*)