

French 2

Chapter 1.1 Grammar Review

The Verbs *Être* and *Avoir*

1. The verbs *Être* and *Avoir* are irregular and mean “to be” and “to have” respectively.

ÊTRE			
SINGULAR		PLURAL	
je	suis	nous	sommes
tu	es	vous	êtes
il / elle / on	est	ils / elles	sont

AVOIR			
SINGULAR		PLURAL	
je	ai	nous	avons
tu	as	vous	avez
il / elle / on	a	ils / elles	ont

2. **NEGATIONS:** To make a sentence negative, add **ne** and **pas** around the conjugated verb.

Ex: Je suis créatif → Je **ne suis pas** créatif.

Ex: J’ai des chats → Je **n’ai pas** de chats*

* Don’t forget that **un, une** and **des** become **de** in negative sentences.

Possessive Adjectives

1. Possessive Adjectives show ownership and like all adjectives must agree in **gender** and **number** with the **thing that is being possessed**. Use the masculine form in the possessive adjective comes before a singular noun beginning with a vowel. The following are the Possessive Adjectives:

	Masculine Singular	Feminine Singular	Plural
my	<i>mon</i>	<i>ma</i>	<i>mes</i>
your (<i>tu</i>)	<i>ton</i>	<i>ta</i>	<i>tes</i>
his / her / its	<i>son</i>	<i>sa</i>	<i>ses</i>
our	<i>notre</i>	<i>notre</i>	<i>nos</i>
your (<i>vous</i>)	<i>votre</i>	<i>votre</i>	<i>vos</i>
their	<i>leur</i>	<i>leur</i>	<i>leurs</i>

Ex: *Leur sœur* est petite → *Leurs sœurs* sont petites

Ex: *Mon oncle* Charles → *Mes oncles* Charles et Jacques

Adjective Agreement

1. Adjectives must **ALWAYS** agree in **gender** (*masculine/feminine*) and **number** (*singular/plural*), with the noun they describe. All adjectives are already in the masculine singular form.

2. **GENDER & NUMBER:** To make an adjective feminine, you usually add an “-e” to the end of the adjective UNLESS it already ends in an “-e.” Unless it’s singular form already ends in an “s” (like *gros*), to make an adjective plural, add an “-s”. Below is an example of the adjective “blue” (*bleu*).

	MASCULINE	FEMININE
SINGULAR ⁺	bleu	bleu <u>e</u>
PLURAL*	bleu <u>s</u>	bleu <u>es</u>

⁺REMEMBER: Don’t add another “-e” if it already ends in one

*REMEMBER: If it already ends in an “s”- there’s no change

3. Adjectives that end in “-eux” change to “-euse” in the feminine form. And those that end in “-if” change to “-ive” in the feminine form.

Ex: Ils sont paresseux → Elles sont paresseuses

Ex: Il est créatif → Elle est créative

4. **IRREGULAR** feminine forms. These must be memorized. For example:

long → longe gros → grosse blanc → blance
gentil → gentille bon → bonne mignon → mignonne

5. **B.A.G.S.:** A few adjectives come **BEFORE** the noun, like in English. These adjectives generally describe beauty, age, goodness, or size (**B.A.G.S.**):

<i>bon</i>	<i>mauvais</i>	<i>gentil</i>	<i>jeune</i>	<i>vieux</i>	<i>gross</i>
<i>petit</i>	<i>grand</i>	<i>beau</i>	<i>joli</i>	<i>nouveau</i>	

Ex: John est un **bon** *ami* → John is a **good** *friend*

6. **INVARIABLES:** Some adjectives never change their form, whether feminine or plural. Examples of these words are: *cool, chic, orange, and marron.*

Ex: Les filles blondes sont *chic* (notice that “*chic*” does not add an “e” or an “s”)

7. **HIGHLY IRREGULARS:** The adjectives **beau** (*beautiful*), **nouveau** (*new*), **vieux** (*old*), and **fou** (*crazy*) are highly irregular. They go before the noun, their feminine forms are irregular, and the masculine singular form changes before a vowel. Make note of the changes below:

Masculine Singular	Masculine Singular (before a vowel)	Masculine Plural	Feminine Singular	Feminine Plural
beau	bel	beaux	belle	belles
nouveau	nouvel	nouveaux	nouvelle	nouvelles
vieux	vieil	vieux	vieille	vieilles
fou	fol	foux	folle	folles

Ex: Vous avez un **beau** *prof* (You have a beautiful teacher)

Ex: J’ai une **belle** *voiture* de sport (I have a beautiful sports car)

Ex: Je suis un **bel** *étudiant*. (I am a beautiful student)

Ex: Nous sommes de **beaux** *étudiants*. (We are beautiful students)

Ex: Il y a de **belles** *filles* dans la classe. (There are beautiful girls in the class)