

# French 1

## Chapter 3.1 Grammar Review

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### The Verb *Être*

- Être* is an irregular verb meaning “to be”. Like *Avoir*, it does not follow a regular pattern and therefore its conjugations must be memorized.

<b>Être</b>			
<b>SINGULAR</b>		<b>PLURAL</b>	
je	<b>suis</b>	nous	<b>sommes</b>
tu	<b>es</b>	vous	<b>êtes</b>
il / elle / on	<b>est</b>	ils / elles	<b>sont</b>

### Adjective Agreement

- 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.
- GENDER:** Unless an adjective already ends in an unaccented “-e”, then you add an “-e” to the end of the adjective to make it feminine. This means that the “e” is now the final letter and any silent letter before it must now be pronounced.
  - Ex: Il est timide → Elle est timide (no change: already ends in an unaccented “e”)
  - Ex: Il est blond → Elle est blonde (add an “e” to make it feminine)
- NUMBER:** 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*).

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

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

- 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
- Some adjectives have **IRREGULAR** *feminine* forms. These must be memorized. For example:
  - long → longe      gros → grosse      blanc → blanche
  - gentil → gentille      bon → bonne      mignon → mignonne

## Adjective Placement

- The vast majority of adjectives come **AFTER** the noun they modify. This is different from English:  
Ex: Il est un *étudiant sérieux* → He is a **serious student**.
- A few adjectives come **BEFORE** the noun, like in English. These generally describe **beauty, age, goodness, or size (BAGS)**. Their placement must be memorized. For example:  
Ex: Il est un **bon ami** → He is a **good friend**
- The following adjectives are a sample of the most common adjectives that come **BEFORE** the noun:

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

- PLURALS:** “*Des*” becomes “*de*” when the plural adjective comes **BEFORE** the noun:  
Ex: Il y **de** bons étudiants dans la class → There are (some) good students in the class.

## Irregular Adjectives

- 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”)  
Ex: Il a les yeux *marron* (notice that “*marron*” does not add an “s”)
- 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:

<b>Masculine Singular</b>	<b>Masculine Singular</b> <i>(before a vowel)</i>	<b>Masculine Plural</b>	<b>Feminine Singular</b>	<b>Feminine Plural</b>
beau	bel	beaux	belle	belles
nouveau	nouvel	nouveaux	nouvelle	nouvelles
vieux	vieil	vieux	vieille	Vieilles
fou	fol	foux	folle	folles

- 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: Vous avez un **beau** prof (You have a beautiful teacher)  
 Ex: Il y a *de belles* filles dans la classe. (There are beautiful girls in the class)