

French 1

Chapter 6.1 Grammar Review

The Partitive

- The partitive is used to express *a part of a whole* and uses “de” plus the definite article.
Ex: Je veux **le** gâteau (I want *the* cake) vs. Je veux **du** (*de+le*) gâteau (I want *some* cake)

- The followings shows contractions made with “de” to form the partitive:

| MASCULINE SINGULAR | FEMININE SINGULAR | SINGULAR W/ VOWEL SOUND | PLURAL |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------|
| du | de la | de l’ | des |

- IMPORTANT:** Where we often omit the partitive in English, it **MUST** be present in French.
Ex: Je prends **des** toasts avec **du** beurre → I’m having toast with butter (**some** toast & butter).
- IMPORTANT:** To say you want a whole item, use the indefinite articles: “un”, “une”, and “des”.
Ex: Je veux **un** gâteau (*the whole thing*) vs. Je veux **du** gâteau (*a part of it*)

-IR Verbs

- To conjugate an –IR verb, drop the –IR to get the “*Verb Stem*.”
Ex: *choisir* → **-ir** → *chois* (the “*Verb Stem*”)
- Below is a sample conjugation of the –IR verb *FINIR* with the appropriate **Verb Endings**:

| FINIR | | | |
|----------------|--------------|-------------|------------------|
| SINGULAR | | PLURAL | |
| je | <i>finis</i> | nous | <i>finissons</i> |
| tu | <i>finis</i> | vous | <i>finissez</i> |
| il / elle / on | <i>finit</i> | ils / elles | <i>finissent</i> |

The Verb “Vouloir”

- “Vouloir” is an irregular boot verb. It must be memorized. It means to want. Notice the stem changes between “*veu*” and “*vou*” The conjugation is below:

| VOULOIR | | | |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| je | <i>veux</i> | nous | <i>voulons</i> |
| tu | <i>veux</i> | vous | <i>voulez</i> |
| il / elle / on | <i>veut</i> | ils / elles | <i>veulent</i> |