I'm not a robot



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76.8K Learning some French will offer you further insight into the French culture, mentality, and way of life. The ability to speak even un peu français (a little bit of French) and avoid making these French faux pas will enhance your travel experience and open the doors to unique connections with the locals. France is the world's top tourist
destination, attracting more than 79,5 million visitors a year! That's why French is the next language in my travel phrase guide series. Not only that, but speaking French also comes in handy when travelling to Africa, Switzerland, Canada, Monaco, French Polynesia, the Seychelles amongst other places. Why else should you learn French? Well, it
 makes learning other languages, especially Romance languages like Spanish, Italian, Portuguese and Romanian much easier. Travelling to France? Don't be treated like a tourist! Live your best travel experiences and learn France for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trap restaurant or a taxi driver who has "taken you for a ride". In addition to
my free French travel phrase guide, I've made it even easier for you to master the French language so you can create lifelong memories as you mingle with locals, get local tips, avoid tourist traps, and make new friends. Join my popular French language so you're a bit more clued up on its origin, use,
and vocabulary. I hope you enjoy this post as much as I enjoyed bringing it together. If you have any requests for other languages, let me know in the comments section! Where is French spoken? Did you know that more than 354 million people speak French on five continents? That's a lot of Bonjour-ing! French is the third most spoken language in
 Europe, after German and English and has official-language status in 29 countries, including: Belgium, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, the Ivory Coast, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, France, Haiti, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Monaco, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Switzerland,
Togo and Vanuatu. French is even one of six official languages of the United Nations. It seems like nearly everyone wants to learn French, it's the only language, alongside English, that is taught in every country in the world! And the best way to learn it? Well, France operates the biggest international network of cultural institutes, which run French-
 language courses close to a million learners. My two favourite ways to learn French is by attending language classes - so I'm not only held accountable but also for the social aspect - and going on language the language way back in 842 AD French first appeared in writing. Before then, Latin was the language
 used for literature throughout Europe. Later, during the 10th and 11th centuries, French appeared in a number of documents and religious writings. However, French and English languages have a pretty mixed-up history. Following the Norman Conquest of 1066,
 Norman French was adopted as the language of power on the British Isles. For the next 400 years, French was the language of the nobility and of most official documents. King Henry V put a stop to that when he went to war with France, but because the two languages existed in parallel for so long, the English language is peppered with words of
 French origin, many of which can be traced back to French roots. This means that you actually already know a lot of French even if you don't think you do. Now for the English alphabet, but there are a few key differences. There is a total of 26 letters in the French
alphabet. Standard French contains 13 oral vowels, and up to 4 nasal vowels, but there are 5 additional accented letters that can be applied to change the sound of a letter. Here are some helpful pronunciation tips: Using Liaisons One of the fundamental rules of pronouncing French (and many other Latin-based languages) is that everything has to
flow. That's one of the reasons why French sounds so beautiful. If you're speaking French correctly, everything should sound like a continuous melody. That's where liaisons come in. Liaisons are a phonetic link between two words that may sound awkward if left unconnected. Let's take a look at some examples where they are used when speaking:
After pronouns e.g. vous avez sounds like vooz-ah-vey not voo ah-vey Numbers and nouns e.g. deux amis sounds like derz-ah-mee not der ah-me One syllable prepositions e.g. deux amis sounds like vooz-ah-vey not voo ah-vey Numbers and nouns e.g. deux amis sounds like derz-ah-mee not der ah-me One syllable prepositions e.g. deux amis sounds like derz-ah-mee not der ah-me One syllable prepositions e.g. deux amis sounds like vooz-ah-vey not voo ah-vey Numbers and nouns e.g. deux amis sounds like derz-ah-mee not der ah-me One syllable prepositions e.g. deux amis sounds like vooz-ah-vey not voo ah-vey Numbers and nouns e.g. deux amis sounds like vooz-ah-vey not voo ah-vey Numbers and nouns e.g. deux amis sounds like vooz-ah-vey not voo ah-vey Numbers and nouns e.g. deux amis sounds like vooz-ah-vey not voo ah-vey Numbers and nouns e.g. deux amis sounds like vooz-ah-vey not voo ah-vey Numbers and nouns e.g. deux amis sounds like vooz-ah-vey not voo ah-vey Numbers and nouns e.g. deux amis sounds like vooz-ah-vey not voo ah-vey Numbers and nouns e.g. deux amis sounds like vooz-ah-vey not voo ah-vey Numbers and nouns e.g. deux amis sounds like vooz-ah-vey not voo ah-vey Numbers and nouns e.g. deux amis sounds like vooz-ah-vey not voo ah-vey Numbers and nouns e.g. deux amis sounds like vooz-ah-vey not vooz ah-vey not vooz ah-vey nounds like vooz-ah-vey nounds like 
they will become easier the more you listen to spoken French. After a while, you'll automatically be able to notice where a liaison is needed (and where it isn't) and how to make it sound natural when speaking. What Not to Pronounce in French Much like English, the French language isn't written phonetically. The same sound can be represented by
several different combinations of letters, and there are many cases of silent "e" and the silent "e" and the
pronounced an-ah-sep-tah-bil not an-ah-sep-t
pronounced oo-ver, will become ouverte in the feminine form and pronounced at the end of words. Don't worry, you'll get used to it! In French, silent letters, or lettres muettes, have
rules and exceptions just like many other linguistic concepts. In general, the final consonants of a word are usually silent in French except in some cases of the letters c, f, l or r. Just remember this simple rule, the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced. For example, Avec (with) is pronounced ah-vek Cinq (five) is pronounced saank
 Hiver (winter) is pronounced ee-ver The general rule regarding French word endings is that when in doubt, you probably don't pronounce it. But, French is full of exceptions! The Infamous "r" For many English speakers, the French "r" can be a source of frustration. To pronounce it, you'll need to use your throat and imagine you're trying to gargle.
The French "r" is pronounced in the same place as the English "k", but with your throat closed. The Silent "h" As you've probably noticed from every French speaker's failed attempt to say the word "hamburger" in English, the "h" in French is a silent letter no matter where it's located in a word. The only exception to this is when the preceding letter
is "c," in which case the "ch" combination makes a "sh" sound or "k" s
French is the one language in which many of us can at least utter a few words. Admittedly there are a few finicky grammar rules to learn, but generally speaking, English grammar corresponds relatively closely to French grammar rules to learn, but generally speaking, English that end with -ible and -able, these are the same in French, only the pronunciation changes.
So, the French word 'possible' sounds like poss-ee-bleh and 'comfortable' becomes kom-for-tah-bleh. Then we have English words ending in -ent and a important sounds like ahm-poor-tahnt. The 't' at the end is just
slightly sounded. Had enough? Ok, one more! Words in English ending in -ary like contrary become -aire in French. So, 'contrary' becomes contraire and sounds like kon-trair. There are so many rules like this, so you can see just how easy learning French can be. Here are top 10 French phrases for travel you SHOULD Know Top French Phrases for
travellers Want the infographic to take with you? Scroll to the bottom of the page. Greetings Essentials Questions Eating Out Getting Around Numbers Days Emergencies English French Pronunciation Hello Salut sah-loo Good morning Bonjour bohn-jur Good evening Bonsoir bohn-swah Good night Bonne nuit bohn nwee Goodbye Au revoir oh rev-
 war How are you? Comment allez-vous? kohm-mohn ahl-leh-voo I'm well, and you? Ça va bien, et vous? sa va byen, et vous Please S'il vous plaît sil voo pleh Thank you Merci mer-see You're welcome De rien deh ree-en Yes Oui wee No No noh Excuse me Pardonnez-moi par-don-eh-mwah I'm sorry
Je suis désolé jeh swee deh-zol-leh I don't understand Je ne comprends pas jehn kom-pron pah Do you speak English? Parlez-vous anglais? par-leh-voo on-gleh How much is...? Combien coûte? kohm-byen koot Where is...? Où c'est? oo seht? When? Quand? kohn May I please have...? Est-ce que je pourrais avoir...? es-kerh jeh poo-ray av-war Beer
 Bière byair Wine Vin vahn Water Eau oh I don't eat... Je ne mange pas de.... jehn monj pah I'm a vegetarian Je suis végétarienne (fem.) je swee ve-jeh-tair-ree-an / ve-jeh-tair-ree-an / ve-jeh-tair-ree-en the bill, please L'addition, s'il vous plaît lah-dee-zyon, sil voo pleh Left Gauche gawsh Right Droite drwah Straight ahead Tout droite too dwat Turn
left Tournez à gauche tor-ney ah gawsh Turn right Tournez à droite tor-ney ah drwat Bus stop Arrêt de bus ah-ret deh boos Train station Gare gaar Airport Aéroport ah-eh-ro-por Entrance Entrée ohn-treh Exit Sortie sor-tee 1 un uhn 2 deux durh 3 trois twah 4 quatre kahtre 5 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 20
vingt vahn 30 trente tront 40 quarante ka-ront 50 cinquante sank-ont 60 soixante swa-sont 70** guatre-vingt kahr-ra-vahn 90** quatre-vingt kahr-ra-vahn 90*
dee Saturday samedi sahm-dee Sunday Dimanche dee-mahnsh Help! À l'aide! ah led I need a doctor J'ai besoin d'un médicin jay bez-wahn dohn meh-deh-sahn I don't feel well Je ne me sens pas bien jeh neh meh sahn pah byen Call the police! Appelez la police! Appele
for the numbers 70 (septante) and 90 (nonante), such as Belgium and Switzerland. With the number 20, and the ones. For example, in French 80 is four 20s, 81 is four 20s plus 1, and so forth. (Unlike most French-speaking countries, Switzerland actually has a word for the number 80. It's huitante.) Want
more? Learn French with me, with Intrepid French! Travelling to France? Don't be treated like a tourist! Live your best travel experiences and learn France for less than the cost of eating at a tourist! Live your best travel experiences and learn France for less than the cost of eating at a tourist! Live your best travel experiences and learn France for less than the cost of eating at a tourist! Live your best travel experiences and learn France for less than the cost of eating at a tourist! Live your best travel experiences and learn France for less than the cost of eating at a tourist! Live your best travel experiences and learn France for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trape for less than the cost of eating at a tourist tr
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know random words I feel no more confident in actually speaking the language than I was when I started." - Basil Pereira Click here more details and get instant access! Have a laugh with these funny French? Check out these French
language guides Want to know more about learning languages? Start here! Don't miss my France Travel Guides Over to you! Which of these French phrases are the most useful? What other languages would you like a travel phrase guide for? Have you been to a French-speaking country? Let me know using the comments section below or join me on
social media to start a conversation. Thanks for reading and I hope you enjoyed this post. Like what you see? Subscribe using the form below to have all of my posts delivered directly to your email. 76.8K Learning some French will offer you further insight into the French culture, mentality, and way of life. The ability to speak even un peu français (a
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the social aspect - and going on language holiday too! A Brief History of the French Language Way back in 842 AD French first appeared in writing. Before then, Latin was the language used for literature throughout Europe. Later, during the 10th and 11th centuries, French appeared in a number of documents and religious writings. However,
French literature didn't start to take off until the late 12th and early 13th century. The French and English language of power on the British Isles. For the next 400 years, French was the language of the nobility and of most official
documents. King Henry V put a stop to that when he went to war with France, but because the two languages existed in parallel for so long, the English language is peppered with words of French, even if you don't think you do. Now
for the tricky stuff! French Pronunciation Tips The French alphabet looks very similar to the English alphabet, but there are a few key differences. There is a total of 26 letters in the French alphabet looks very similar to the English alphabet. Standard French contains 13 oral vowels, but there are 5 additional accented letters that can be applied to change the sound of
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prepositions e.g chez eux sounds like shez-uur not sheh uur And liaisons that are forbidden when speaking: When using full names e.g. After et (and) Liaisons may seem complicated at first, but they will become easier the more you listen to spoken French. After a while, you'll automatically be able to notice where a liaison is needed (and where it
isn't) and how to make it sound natural when speaking. What Not to Pronounce in French language isn't written phonetically. The same sound can be represented by several different combinations of letters, and there are many cases of silent French letters. Two of the most well known are the silent "e" and the silent
 "h." The Silent "e" The letter "e" is often silent in French, especially at the end of a word. Here are some examples: Rue (road/street) is pronounced an-ah-sep-tah-bil not an-
case of feminine adjectives and nouns, this typically means that the final consonant of the masculine form and pronounced oo-vert. The 'e' makes the final letter sounded. The Final Consonant As
you've probably already noticed, there are a tonne of French letters that simply aren't pronounced at the end of words. Don't worry, you'll get used to it! In French, silent letters, or lettres muettes, have rules and exceptions just like many other linguistic concepts. In general, the final consonants of a word are usually silent in French except in some
 cases of the letters c, f, l or r. Just remember this simple rule, the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced ee-ver The general rule regarding French word endings is that when in doubt, you probably don't pronounce it. But,
French is full of exceptions! The Infamous "r" For many English speakers, the French "r" can be a source of frustration. To pronounced in the same place as the English "k", but with your throat closed. The Silent "h" As you've probably noticed from
every French speaker's failed attempt to say the word "hamburger" in English, the "h" in French is a silent letter no matter where it's located in a word. The only exception to this is when the preceding letter is "c," in which case the "ch" combination makes a "sh" sound or "k" sound. Here are a few examples of the silent "h": Le haricot vert (French
bean) is pronounced leh ah-ree-coh ver Huit (eight) is pronounced weet Hiver (winter) is pronounced weet Hiver (winter) is pronounced weet Hiver afew words. Admittedly there are a few finicky grammar rules to learn, but
generally speaking, English grammar corresponds relatively closely to French grammar. Consider words in English that end with -ible and 'comfortable' becomes kom-for-tah-bleh. Then we have English words ending in -
ent and -ant which also come from French and have the same meaning. So, the word, différent sounds like ahm-poor-tahnt. The 't' at the end is just slightly sounded. Had enough? Ok, one more! Words in English ending in -ary like contrary become -aire in French. So, 'contrary' becomes
contraire and sounds like kon-trair. There are so many rules like this, so you can see just how easy learning French can be. Here are top 10 French phrases for travel you SHOULD Know Top French Phrases for 
Numbers Days Emergencies English French Pronunciation Hello Salut sah-loo Good morning Bonjour bohn-jur Good evening Bonsoir bohn-swah Good night Bonne nuit bohn nwee Goodbye Au revoir oh rev-war How are you? Ca va bien, et vous? sa va byen, eh voo Good, thanks Ça va
 bien, merci sa va byen, mer-see Please S'il vous plaît sil voo pleh Thank you Merci mer-see You're welcome De rien deh ree-en Yes Oui wee No No noh Excuse me Pardonnez-moi par-don-eh-mwah I'm sorry Je suis désolé jeh swee deh-zol-leh I don't understand Je ne comprends pas jehn kom-pron pah Do you speak English? Parlez-vous anglais? par-
leh-voo on-gleh How much is...? Combien coûte? kohm-byen koot Where is...? Où c'est? oo seht? When? Quand? kohn May I please have...? Est-ce que je pourrais avoir...? es-kerh jeh poo-ray av-war Beer Bière byair Wine Vin vahn Water Eau oh I don't eat... Je ne mange pas de.... jehn monj pah I'm a vegetarian Je suis végétarien (masc.) /
 végétarienne (fem.) je swee ve-jeh-tair-ree-an / ve-jeh-tair-ree-an / ve-jeh-tair-ree-en the bill, please L'addition, s'il vous plaît lah-dee-zyon, sil voo pleh Left Gauche gawsh Turn right Tournez à droite tor-ney ah drwat Bus stop Arrêt de bus ah-ret deh boos Train station
Gare gaar Airport Aéroport ah-eh-ro-por Entrance Entrée ohn-treh Exit Sortie sor-tee 1 un uhn 2 deux durh 3 trois twah 4 quatre kahre 5 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 20 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 40 quarante ka-ront 50 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 20 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 40 quarante ka-ront 50 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 20 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 40 quarante ka-ront 50 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 20 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 40 quarante ka-ront 50 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 20 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 40 quarante ka-ront 50 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 20 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 40 quarante ka-ront 50 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 20 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 40 quarante ka-ront 50 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 20 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 40 quarante ka-ront 50 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 20 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 40 quarante ka-ront 50 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 20 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 40 quarante ka-ront 50 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 20 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 50 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 20 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 50 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 20 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 50 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 20 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 50 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 80 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 50 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 80 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 50 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 80 vingt vahn 30 trent
vingt kahr-ra-vahn 90** quatre-vingt-dix kahr-ra-vahn-dee Thursday jeudi zhuh-dee Tuesday mardi mahr-dee Wednesday mercredi mehr-kruh-dee Friday vendredi vahn-druh-dee Saturday samedi sahm-dee Sunday Dimanche dee-mahnsh Help! A l'aide! ah led I need a doctor J'ai besoin d'un médicin jay bez-
wahn dohn meh-deh-sahn I don't feel well Je ne me sens pas bien jeh neh meh sahn pah byen Call the police! Appelez la police! ap-leh lah po-lees Fire! Au Feu! au fur **There are a few places that use unique words for the numbers 70 (septante) and 90 (nonante), such as Belgium and Switzerland. With the numbers 80 to 89, combine the number 4,
the number 20, and the ones. For example, in French 80 is four 20s, 81 is four
 make new friends. Join my popular French course here. Here's what my students are saying: Loved it, loved it it, loved it, loved it it is actually speaking the language than I was when I started." - Basil Pereira Click
 here more details and get instant access! Have a laugh with these funny French expressions Like it? Pin or download this French language guides Want to know more about learning languages? Start here! Don't miss my France Travel Guides Over to you! Which of
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 fall into the same old stagnant routine — especially when you're stuck at home with nowhere to go and nobody to see. But rather than allowing yourself to double down on bad habits and boredom, now's a great time to nurture your mind and enhance your creativity. One way to do so is by learning a new language. Of all the language-learning apps on
the market these days, Babbel is definitely a fan favourite. With over 10 million users worldwide, it's earned an impressive 4.5 out of 5 on the App Store and 4.6 out of 5 on the App Store and 4.6 out of 5 on the App Store and 4.6 out of 5 on the App Store. Students love its user-friendliness and short, yet valuable bite-sized lessons. It was even named Fast Company's "most innovative company in
 education" a few years back. So, what makes Babbel so beloved? First, you can choose from over a dozen different languages to learn at any given time, including Italian, French, Portuguese, Dutch, Polish, and Russian. And no matter how busy you are, you can dive in completely on your own time and fit the quick 10 to 15-minute lessons (from
beginner to advanced) into your schedule. Then, of course, there's the content itself. Babbel covers a lot of real-life topics (think transportation, dining, or directions) that you'll actually use if you ever travel abroad — you know, rather than a bunch of random vocabulary terms. It also uses speech recognition technology to ensure you're pronouncing
 words accurately, so you sound more like a local and don't embarrass yourself on your next vacay. Another helpful feature is offline accessibility. You can download your courses, lessons, and review items beforehand and access them later regardless of your WiFi situation. Mashable Deals Just in time for the new year, you can snag a lifetime
 subscription to Babbel's top-rated language-learning app for it's lowest price yet — £131.66 (normally £294). Joseph Green is the Global Shopping Editor for Mashable. He covers VPNs, headphones, fitness gear, dating sites, streaming, and shopping events like Black Friday and Prime Day. Joseph is also Executive Editor of Mashable's sister site,
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 used for literature throughout Europe. Later, during the 10th and 11th centuries, French appeared in a number of documents and religious writings. However, French literature didn't start to take off until the late 12th and early 13th century. The French and English languages have a pretty mixed-up history. Following the Norman Conquest of 1066,
 Norman French was adopted as the language of power on the British Isles. For the next 400 years, French was the language of the nobility and of most official documents. King Henry V put a stop to that when he went to war with France, but because the two languages existed in parallel for so long, the English language is peppered with words of
 French origin, many of which can be traced back to French roots. This means that you actually already know a lot of French, even if you don't think you do. Now for the English alphabet, but there are a few key differences. There is a total of 26 letters in the French alphabet looks very similar to the English alphabet, but there are a few key differences. There is a total of 26 letters in the French alphabet looks very similar to the English alphabet, but there are a few key differences. There is a total of 26 letters in the French alphabet looks very similar to the English alphabet, but there are a few key differences.
 alphabet. Standard French contains 13 oral vowels and up to 4 nasal vowels, but there are 5 additional accented letters that can be applied to change the sound of a letter. Here are some helpful pronunciation tips: Using Liaisons One of the fundamental rules of pronouncing French (and many other Latin-based languages) is that everything has to
 flow. That's one of the reasons why French sounds so beautiful. If you're speaking French correctly, everything should sound like a continuous melody. That's where liaisons come in. Liaisons are a phonetic link between two words that may sound awkward if left unconnected. Let's take a look at some examples where they are used when speaking:
After pronouns e.g. vous avez sounds like vooz-ah-vey not voo ah-vey Numbers and nouns e.g. deux amis sounds like derz-ah-mee not der ah-me One syllable prepositions e.g. After et (and) Liaisons may seem complicated at first, but
 they will become easier the more you listen to spoken French. After a while, you'll automatically be able to notice where a liaison is needed (and where it isn't) and how to make it sound natural when speaking. What Not to Pronounce in French Much like English, the French language isn't written phonetically. The same sound can be represented by
 several different combinations of letters, and there are many cases of silent "e" and the silent "e" and the
pronounced an-ah-sep-tah-bil not an-ah-sep-t
pronounced oo-ver, will become ouverte in the feminine form and pronounced oo-vert. The 'e' makes the final letter sounded. The Final Consonant As you've probably already noticed, there are a tonne of French letters, or lettres muettes, have
 rules and exceptions just like many other linguistic concepts. In general, the final consonants of a word are usually silent in French except in some cases of the letters c, f, l or r. Just remember this simple rule, the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced ah-vek Cinq (five) is pronounced saanker (five) is pronounced saanker (five) is pronounced. For example, Avec (with) is pronounced ah-vek Cinq (five) is pronounced saanker (five) is pronounced and the consonants of a word are usually silent in French except in some cases of the letters c, f, l or r. Just remember this simple rule, the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced ah-vek Cinq (five) is pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants in the word 'careful' are always pronounced and the consonants are always pronounced are always pronounced and th
 Hiver (winter) is pronounced ee-ver The general rule regarding French word endings is that when in doubt, you probably don't pronounce it. But, French is full of exceptions! The Infamous "r" For many English speakers, the French "r" can be a source of frustration. To pronounce it, you'll need to use your throat and imagine you're trying to gargle
The French "r" is pronounced in the same place as the English "k", but with your throat closed. The Silent "h" As you've probably noticed from every French is a silent letter no matter where it's located in a word. The only exception to this is when the preceding letter
is "c," in which case the "ch" combination makes a "sh" sound or "k" s
 French is the one language in which many of us can at least utter a few words. Admittedly there are a few finicky grammar rules to learn, but generally speaking, English that end with -ible and -able, these are the same in French, only the pronunciation changes
 slightly sounded. Had enough? Ok, one more! Words in English ending in -ary like contrary become -aire in French. So, 'contrary' becomes contraire and sounds like kon-trair. There are so many rules like this, so you can see just how easy learning French can be. Here are top 10 French phrases for travel you SHOULD Know Top French Phrases for
 travellers Want the infographic to take with you? Scroll to the bottom of the page. Greetings Essentials Questions Eating Out Getting Around Numbers Days Emergencies English French Pronunciation Hello Salut sah-loo Good morning Bonjour bohn-jur Good evening Bonsoir bohn-swah Good night Bonne nuit bohn nwee Goodbye Au revoir oh rev-
 war How are you? Comment allez-vous? kohm-mohn ahl-leh-voo I'm well, and you? Ça va bien, et vous? sa va byen, eh voo Good, thanks Ça va bien, merci sa va byen, mer-see You're welcome De rien deh ree-en Yes Oui wee No No noh Excuse me Pardonnez-moi par-don-eh-mwah I'm sorry
 Je suis désolé jeh swee deh-zol-leh I don't understand Je ne comprends pas jehn kom-pron pah Do you speak English? Parlez-vous anglais? par-leh-voo on-gleh — How much is...? Combien coûte? kohm-byen koot Where is...? Où c'est? oo seht? When? Quand? kohn May I please have...? Est-ce que je pourrais avoir...? es-kerh jeh poo-ray av-war — Beer
 Bière byair Wine Vin vahn Water Eau oh I don't eat... Je ne mange pas de.... jehn monj pah I'm a vegetarian Je suis végétarienne (fem.) je swee ve-jeh-tair-ree-an / ve-jeh-tair-ree-an / ve-jeh-tair-ree-en the bill, please L'addition, s'il vous plaît lah-dee-zyon, sil voo pleh Left Gauche gawsh Right Droite drwah Straight ahead Tout droite too dwat Turn
 left Tournez à gauche tor-ney ah gawsh Turn right Tournez à droite tor-ney ah drwat Bus stop Arrêt de bus ah-ret deh boos Train station Gare gaar Airport Aéroport ah-eh-ro-por Entrance Entrée ohn-treh Exit Sortie sor-tee 1 un uhn 2 deux durh 3 trois twah 4 quatre kahtre 5 cinque sahnk 6 six sees 7 sept set 8 huit weet 9 neuf nurf 10 dix dees 20
 vingt vahn 30 trente tront 40 quarante ka-ront 50 cinquante sank-ont 60 soixante swa-sont 70** soixante-dix swa-sont-dees 80** quatre-vingt kahr-ra-vahn 90** quatre-vingt kahr-ra-vahn 90** quatre-vingt kahr-ra-vahn 90**
 dee Saturday samedi sahm-dee Sunday Dimanche dee-mahnsh Help! A l'aide! ah led I need a doctor J'ai besoin d'un médicin jay bez-wahn dohn meh-deh-sahn I don't feel well Je ne me sens pas bien jeh neh meh sahn pah byen Call the police! Appelez la police! Appelez la police! Appelez la police! Au Feu! au fur **There are a few places that use unique words
for the numbers 70 (septante) and 90 (nonante), such as Belgium and Switzerland. With the number 20, and the ones. For example, in French 80 is four 20s, 81 is four 20s plus 1, and so forth. (Unlike most French-speaking countries, Switzerland actually has a word for the number 80. It's huitante.) Want
 more? Learn French with me, with Intrepid French! Travelling to France? Don't be treated like a tourist! Live your best travel experiences and learn France for less than the cost of eating at a tourist trap restaurant or a taxi driver who has "taken you for a ride". In addition to my free French travel phrase guide, I've made it even easier for you to
 master the French language so you can create lifelong memories as you mingle with locals, get local tips, avoid tourist traps, and make new friends. Join my popular French course here. Here's what my students are saying: Loved it, loved
 know random words I feel no more confident in actually speaking the language than I was when I started." - Basil Pereira Click here more details and get instant access! Have a laugh with these funny French? Check out these French
language guides Want to know more about learning languages? Start here! Don't miss my France Travel Guides Over to you! Which of these French phrases are the most useful? What other languages would you like a travel phrase guide for? Have you been to a French-speaking country? Let me know using the comments section below or join me on
 social media to start a conversation. Thanks for reading and I hope you enjoyed this post. Like what you see? Subscribe using the form below to have all of my posts delivered directly to your email. If you're reading this, you already know why you want to travel to France, be it the beauty and diversity of its landscapes, the appeal of its cuisine, or its
 wealth of history. But you may find yourself in need of helpful French travel phrases, and fast! As a travel destination, France is notorious for a reason and the language barrier can be challenging. Even though the number of
 English speakers has been rising rapidly over recent years, we're still lagging behind most of our European neighbors. Even in the most touristic spots, you might bump into a waiter, a taxi driver, or a ticket seller who doesn't speak anything but French. This is where our French travel phrases will come in handy! In this guide, you'll find everything
 you need to travel around France, from the basic daily words to specific topics such as transportation, restaurants, hotels, and much more. You'll also find more French travel phrases! Without further ado, let's move on to our list of French travel phrases.
 Table of Contents Arras, in the "Hauts-de-France" region. 1. Survival Basics: Simple French Travel Phrases In this chapter, I gathered a list of basic French phrases for travel are just what you need to get started on your journey here. Later on, we'll examine
 more specific scenarios and make sure you're well-equipped for anything that could come your way! You'll certainly be glad to know this survival French for travelers! 1- Being Polite As I've mentioned in other articles, France invented the word "étiquette" and is still a place where courtesy matters...a lot. I'm not saying all French behave like white
knights of exquisite politeness, but knowing how to greet and thank your French hosts and friends will take you a long way, while doing so in their language makes you instantly more likable. Bonjour! "Hello!" Bonsoir! "Good evening!" Comment tu t'appelles? [Casual] Comment vous appelez-vous? [Formal] "What is your name?" Enchanté. "Nice to
meet you." Au revoir. "Goodbye." Merci (beaucoup). "Thank you (very much)." Non merci. "No, thank you." S'il te plaît. [Casual] Excuse-moi. [Formal] "Excuse me." (Je suis) désolé. "(I am) sorry." These are just the ten most
 useful phrases. To read more on this topic or to practice some of these French travel phrases with pronunciation, please have a look at the following resources on FrenchPod101: 2- General Toolkit Now that you've shown your good manners, let's look at the following resources on FrenchPod101: 2- General Toolkit Now that you've shown your good manners, let's look at the following resources on FrenchPod101: 2- General Toolkit Now that you've shown your good manners, let's look at the following resources on FrenchPod101: 2- General Toolkit Now that you've shown your good manners, let's look at the following resources on FrenchPod101: 2- General Toolkit Now that you've shown your good manners, let's look at the following resources on FrenchPod101: 2- General Toolkit Now that you've shown your good manners, let's look at the following resources on FrenchPod101: 2- General Toolkit Now that you've shown your good manners, let's look at the following resources on FrenchPod101: 2- General Toolkit Now that you've shown your good manners, let's look at the following resources on FrenchPod101: 2- General Toolkit Now that you've shown your good manners, let's look at the following resources on FrenchPod101: 2- General Toolkit Now that you've shown your good manners, let's look at the following resources on FrenchPod101: 2- General Toolkit Now that you've shown your good manners of the following resources of the follo
 to gracefully make your way through France. Oui / Non "Yes / No" J'aime / Je n'aime pas "I like / I don't like" Pourquoi ? "Why?" Quelle heure est-il ? "What time is it?" Où sont les toilettes ? "Where are the toilets?" This is a small sample of the most common general phrases. You can find out more on our List of 24 Key Phrases with audio recordings,
on FrenchPod101. 2. Lost in Translation Even if you're well-prepared and almost fluent, there will be times when your interlocutor doesn't make sense to you, and you'll have to make them repeat. Heck, even as a native speaker, I'm helpless with the thickest cases of southern French accents! So just know that even knowing the best French travel
 phrases won't always save you from the awkwardness of asking someone to repeat what they said. It's perfectly fine to ask someone to talk slower, repeat themselves, or rephrase what they were saying. Most French people will be happy to see you putting in the effort and will help you understand. Tu peux répéter ? [Casual] Pouvez-vous répéter (s'il
 vous plaît) ? [Formal] "Can you repeat (please)?" Un peu plus lentement, s'il te plaît. [Casual] Un peu plus lentement, s'il vous plaît. [Formal] "A bit slower, please." Je suis désolé, je ne comprends pas. "I'm sorry, I don't understand." Que signifie ___ ? Qu'est-ce que ça veut dire ? "What does ___ mean?" "What does it mean?" Comment on dit j
 Français ? [Casual] Comment dire ___ en Français ? [Formal] "How do you say ___ in French?" "How to say ___ in French?" Tu parles Anglais ? [Formal] Parlez-vous Anglais ? [Formal] "Do you speak English?" Je ne comprends pas ( "I don't understand" ) 3. Shopping From the
 sparkling fancy boutiques of the Champs-Elysées to the dusty antiques of a typical Brocante ("Garage sale"), from the sprawling suburban malls to the modest Bouquinistes ( "Book sellers" ) along the Seine river, France caters for all tastes and budgets. French shopping is usually a painless experience: Prices are displayed almost everywhere and
 credit cards are widely accepted, even in small bakeries or convenience stores. We don't do five hours of siesta in the middle of the day, and unless you're strolling around the Eiffel Tower in the crowd of souvenir sellers who won't let you leave without a dozen dust collectors, shop owners aren't likely to jump on you. Combien ça coûte? Combien
                     ? "How much is it?" "How much is it?" "How much is it for one?" J'en voudrais XX. "I would like XX of this." A emporter / Sur place "To take away / To eat here" Je peux payer par carte? "Can I pay with card?" Je vais payer en liquide. Je vais payer en
 espèce. "I will pay with cash." Le marché ( "The market") For more shopping words, check out our free Shopping vocabulary list. While shopping in France, you'll also need to know how to handle prices or quantities. Make sure to read my previous article about French Numbers: From 0 to Infinity, and Beyond and the complementary vocabulary list.
4. Moving Around No list of basic French phrases for tourists would be complete without information on talking about your ride. Whether you travel by bus, train, taxi, or plane, you need to be able to ask your way around, inquire about the timetables and details of the trip, navigate until you board the correct ride, and figure out when to get off. Here
are the most popular ways to move around France: Le train ("Train") This is the fastest, most comfortable, and usually most scenic way to travel from one city to another. However, compared to buses, it can be pretty expensive, especially when booked at the last minute. Although locals will often complain of the trains being late or canceled, our
national network is actually pretty strong and reliable compared to those of some of our close neighbors. Le bus intercité ("Intercity bus") Bus travel has been developing rapidly in recent years and offers cheap prices to compete with the train and car sharing services. For instance, you can book an overnight trip from Paris to Nice for 28€ while a
train on the same date would be around 60€. Moving around the city with Les transports en commun ("The public transport"): Bus, Métro, or Tram ("Bus,metro, or Tram are only available in big cities, but you can always move around with a local bus. Without the monthly or annual card, individual trips can be
purchased for around 2€ in the metro or tram station, or directly on the bus. Le taxi ( "Taxi") is the expensive alternative to public transportation that you only want to take when you're going to the airport in the middle of the night or going back home dead drunk after an intense night out. Questionable business practices aside, Uber is a much
 cheaper and more convenient substitute to taxis, and it's well-developed in France. L'avion ( "Plane") Keeping in mind the dire environmental cost, traveling by plane is by far the fastest way to cover long distances and the prices of the Billets d'avion ( "Plane tickets") have continued to drop steadily over the years. Prices are especially low if you can
 book around a month in advance. Le train ( "The train" ) Now, where do you want to go? La gare (ferroviaire) "The bus station" Le terminal de bus "The bus station" Le terminal" "The bus station" La station de taxis /métro / tramway station" Le terminal de bus "The bus station" La station de taxis /metro / tramway station" La station de bus "The bus station" La station de taxis /metro / tramway station" La station de taxis /metro / tramway station" La station de bus "The bus station" La station de taxis /metro / tramway station" La station de taxis /metro / tramway station" La station de bus "The bus station" La station de taxis /metro / tramway station" La station de taxis /metro / tramway station" La station de bus "The bus station" La station de taxis /metro / tramway station" La station de taxis /metro / tramway station" La station de bus "The bus station" La station de taxis /metro / tramway station" La station de taxis / metro / tramway station" La station de taxis / metro / tramway station station station de taxis / metro / tramway station station station de taxis / metro / tramway station stat
 brand new words, find your way there: Je voudrais aller à l'aéroport. "I would like to go to the airport." Pouvez-vous m'indiquer la gare? "Could you show me where the railway station is?" Où est la station de métro la plus proche? "Where is the closest metro station?" Pouvez-vous m'appeler un taxi? "Could you call a taxi for me?" Je cherche le
 terminal de bus. "I'm looking for the bus terminal." Now, you have to ask the right questions before buying your tickets: Où puis-je acheter un billet pour Dunkerque?" Aller simple / Aller-retour "One-way trip / Round trip" Combien coûte le billet pour Dunkerque?" Aller simple / Aller-retour "One-way trip / Round trip" Combien coûte le billet pour Dunkerque?" Aller simple / Alle
train pour Dunkerque? "At what time is the next train to Dunkerque leaving?" Personally, I don't see why anyone would go to Dunkerque, but I'll let you be the judge of that (or rather don't!). And finally, you'll just have to figure out where your ride is leaving from and when you should get off: Est-ce le bon quai pour aller vers Issy? "Is this the right
 platform to go to Issy?" Est-ce que ce train s'arrête à Issy?" Pouvez-vous me prévenir quand nous arriverons à Issy, s'il vous plaît? "Could you please tell me when we'll arrive at Issy?" Porte d'embarquement "Boarding gate" To learn more vocabulary about transportation, please check out our lists of vocabulary for
travel tips and phrases regarding your stay. Prices vary greatly depending on the season and proximity to the tourist attractions, but considering the quality of the transport network all over the country, it's usually fine to sleep outside of the city center. While the Gîtes ruraux ("Rural houses" used as vacation rentals) and Chambres d'hôte ("Bed &
Breakfast") are popular choices among locals for their summer vacations, the most common options are still L'hôtel ("The hotel"). Nice, on the Mediterranean coast. Most visitors in France will book their room through the usual Booking.com or HostelWorld, but there are
times when you just want to stroll around and find the perfect place all by yourself. Here's how to ask for a room in French: Avez-vous une chambre disponible pour XX personnes? "Do you have a room available for XX people?" Lits séparés / Lit double / Dortoir "Twin beds / Double bed / Dorm room" J'ai une réservation au nom de Bob Wilson. "I have
a booking in the name of Bob Wilson." Next step: you probably have some questions about the room. Est-ce que la chambre a ___? "A window" "A batcony" 
             Combien coûte une nuit? "How much is it for one night?" Combien coûte une nuit par personne? "How much is it per person for one night?" Est-ce que le petit déjeuner est inclus? "Is breakfast included?" A quelle heure est le petit déjeuner? "At what time is the breakfast?" 6. Restaurants You've found a nice room with a convenient location
in this cute family-run hostel. You've dropped your bags and are now ready for more adventures. But wait, what's that sound? Is that the infamous Beast of Gevaudan or your growling stomach? If there's one thing France is acclaimed for, it has to be the food! Good food is at the heart of our friends, family, and even business meetings; alongside wine
it stands as the cornerstone of our philosophy of Art de vivre ("The Art of Living"). Some people imagine French meals as fancy and snobbish, but this is mostly untrue. From the biggest cities to the tiniest towns, you can always find a good Brasserie (Literally "Brewery") to serve you a generous portion of typical and unpretentious food such as
Cassoulet (A mixture of white beans and sausage simmered in goose fat), Steak au poivre ("Pepper steak"), or Tartare de boeuf ("Beef tartare"), served with a glass of Beaujolais. Many restaurants have the menu displayed outside, which is really convenient if you want to quietly check your options before entering. When they don't, you can simply ask
for it before sitting; if you don't like what you see, just give it back, thank them politely, and leave. Est-ce je peux voir le menu, s'il vous plaît? "Can I please see the menu?" Merci, bonne soirée! "Thank you, have a good evening!" Otherwise, if you like what they offer, go ahead! Most restaurants will take you to a table, while simple Brasseries, Pubs,
or fast food places will let you seat yourself. 1- How to Order Drinks Before you order the food, the first question you'll usually hear is: Voulez-vous boire quelque chose? ("Do you want something to drink?") It's worth noting that when you order a meal, water is
always free in France (we have a law explicitly stating it). I'm talking simple tap water in a pitcher, and not sophisticated bottled sparkling water, but this is an amazing feature of French restaurants, especially if you're on a budget! And you can get refills. To ask for your free water, don't just ask for water; sneaky waiters could take your order as
mineral water and charge you for it. Instead, use this phrase: Une carafe d'eau s'il vous plaît. "A jug of water, please." The important word here is properly filtered all over the country and it's always fine to drink from the tap. Oh, and you know what
else is always free? Delicious French bread! Did you know that French Fries are not French? 2- How to Order Food Alright, now, let's get some food on this table! If you have any specific diet or allergy, it's probably best to start with this: Je suis allergique aux cacahuètes. "I'm allergic to peanuts." Est-ce que ce plat contient des cacahuètes? "Does
this dish contain peanuts?" Avez-vous des plats végatariens? Avez-vous des plats végatariens? "To you have vegan dishes?" "To you have vegan dishes?" "To you have vegan dishes?" Avez-vous des plats végatariens? "To you have vegan dishes?" "To you have vegan dishes?" Avez-vous des plats végatariens? "To you have vegan dishes?" "To you ha
would like today's menu." En entrée, je voudrais une salade. En plat, un steak au poivre. En dessert, une tarte aux pommes. "For main, a pepper steak." "For main, a peppe
ask for the bill: C'était délicieux, merci! "That was delicious, thank you!" L'addition s'il vous plait. Pouvons-nous avoir les additions séparées?" You can find more vocabulary and practice your pronunciation with our vocabulary list
on Restaurants and key phrases for restaurants. 7. Asking for Directions As Mandy Hale says, "Sometimes when you lose your way, you find yourself." But sometimes, you just get severely frustrated and waste your day trying to reach this freaking museum your GPS keeps making you circle around. One way or another, you'll always end up relying on
the help of locals to reach well-concealed destinations. Let's start with the most common questions: Je cherche le Panthéon? "Where is the Panthéon?" "Where is the Panthéon?" "Where is the Panthéon?" "Where is the Panthéon?" "Ould you tell me where the Panthéon?" "Where is the Panthéon?" "Tould you tell me where the Panthéon
Pantheon?" Dans quelle direction se trouve le Panthéon? "Which way is the Panthéon?" Je suis perdu. ("I am lost.") As I often noticed while traveling, asking for directions is always the easy part, but making anything of the other person's answer can prove much more challenging. Here are some examples of the answers you could receive: Allez tout
droit, puis prenez la première rue à gauche. "Go straight, then take the first street on the left." Tournez à droite quand vous sortez de la gare. "Turn right when you leave the train station." To understand these kinds of instructions, it all comes down to knowing the right
keywords, such as Droite ("Right"), Gauche ("Left"), En face ("In front"), Tout droit ("Straight"), and a few others. Check out our lists of vocabulary and recordings about Key Places in Town, as well as the French Tourist Attractions. 8.
Emergencies In case of an emergency, you don't want the language to get in the way of you and the help you need. Let's have a look at the main emergency words (which may just be the most important French travel phrases when you need them) and how to use them. A l'aide! J'ai besoin d'aide! "Help!" "I need help!" Le médecin Pouvez-vous
appeler un médecin? Où puis-je voir un médecin? "The doctor?" "Where can I see a doctor?" "Where can I see a doctor?" "I need to go to the hospital." "It's an emergency." "I need to go to the hospital." "Call an ambulance!" La pharmacie Où est la pharmacie la plus proche? Des
médicaments J'ai une assurance de voyage. "The pharmacy" "Where is the closest pharmacy?" "Medication" "I have travel insurance." La police ! Où puis-je trouver le commissariat ? "The police ! Où puis-je trouver le commissariat ? "There is no more cheese in the fridge!" "Where can I find the police station?" Il n'y a plus de fromage dans le frigo! "There is no more cheese in the fridge!"
C'est une urgence! ("It's an emergency!") For more words on this topic, make sure to visit our free list of vocabulary about The Words and Phrases to Help You if You are in an Emergency!") For more words on this topic, make sure to visit our free list of vocabulary about The Words and Phrases to Help You if You are in an Emergency!")
French Pod 101 Can Help You Learn More French travel phrases in language learning are so important, and in this guide, you've learned a LOT of French travel phrases in language learning are so important, and in this guide, you've learned a LOT of French travel phrases in language learning are so important, and in this guide, you've learned a LOT of French travel phrases. I hope it wasn't too overwhelming! Using these travel phrases in language learning are so important, and in this guide, you've learned a LOT of French travel phrases. I hope it wasn't too overwhelming! Using these travel phrases in language learning are so important, and in this guide, you've learned a LOT of French travel phrases. I hope it wasn't too overwhelming! Using these travel phrases in language learning are so important, and in this guide, you've learned a LOT of French travel phrases. I hope it wasn't too overwhelming! Using these travel phrases in language learning are so important at learning at learning
these phrases accessible in a notebook or on your phone. Did I forget any important words or expressions? Are you ready to get out there and ask locals about your travel needs? Make sure to explore FrenchPod101, as it has plenty of free resources for you to practice your grammar and learn new words. The vocabulary lists are also a great way to
revise and listen to the words. And you're in luck, because we have tons of lists about traveling: Remember that you can also use our premium service, MyTeacher, to get personal one-on-one coaching. Practice creating French travel phrases with your private teacher so they can give you personalized feedback and advice, or record them for you, so
you learn the correct pronunciation. About the Author: Born and bred in the rainy north of France, Cyril Danon has been bouncing off various jobs before he left everything behind to wander around the wonders of the World. Now, after quenching his wanderlust for the last few years, he's eager to share his passion for languages. What are some
French sayings? What are the most common phrases in French? And can learning a few powerful French phrases really help you start speaking right away? Absolutely! Even if you'll only be spending a short time in the country, learning a few basic French phrases can be very rewarding and make a big difference to your trip. Let's start by mastering
 some of the most common French phrases you need to know as a beginner: Bonjour Hello S'il vous plaît Please Comment vous appelez-vous? What's your name? Oui "Yes" Non No Comment allez-vous? How are you? Je voudrais parler français I would like to speak French Excusez-moi Excuse me Pardon Sorry Je ne comprends pas I don't understand
Que veut dire ça? What does that mean? Plus lentement More slowly Comment dit-on __ en français? How do you say __ in French? Comment ça s'écrit? How do you spell that? Où est...? Where is ...? Où se trouve la station de métro la plus proche? Where is the closest metro station? Je voudrais acheter un billet I would like to buy a ticket C'est
combien? How much is it? Où sont les toilettes? Where are the toilets? A quelle heure est-ce qu'il faut régler la note? What time is check out? La carte/le menu, s'il vous plaît. The menu, please. Je ne peux pas manger... I can't eat... Nous voudrions commander maintenant. We would like to place an order now. L'addition, s'il vous plaît. The bill, please
Merci beaucoup Thanks a lot Je t'aime I love you I've long advocated that set phrases are the best thing for beginners to learn when starting out. After all, isn't the goal of language learning to communicate? How do you expect to communicate with anybody if the only thing you've learned so far is a verb table? So whether you're planning to travel to
Paris for a week or move to Saint-Louis-du-Ha! Ha! for the rest of your life, here are the most important and useful French phrases in this article: Before we get started, if you're looking for an online French course,
here's the course I recommend: French Uncovered - Learn French Uncovere
combination of the words bon ("good") and jour ("day"). In the evening, you could also say bonsoir ("good evening"). A more casual way to greet people is salut, which can mean either "hi!" or "bye!". As a tourist, the last thing you want to be is rude. So when in France, remember what your mother taught you, and say s'il vous plaît ("please") when
making a request. You can also say s'il te plaît. What's the difference? It's all about "you": In French there are two ways of saying "you". Tu is what you'd use when addressing a friend. Vous is a more polite and formal version, best used when talking to a stranger or older person. (Vous is also what you should use when addressing a group of people in
any situation, similar to saying "you guys" or "you all" in English). So s'il vous plaît and s'il te plaît both mean "pleases you"), but s'il tu plait? It's a grammatical thing that you don't need to worry about as a beginner. Just learn the
phrase as a whole for now, and things will become clear later.) In fact, when asking for something in French - e.g. asking a stranger for directions or asking to see a menu in a restaurant, you should start with "Bonjour. S'il vous plaît..." It literally means "Hello, please...", which would sound a bit strange in English, but it's the normal way to start a
polite request in French. When meeting anyone, one of the first things you'll want to know is their name. In French, you can find it out by asking "Comment to know is their name. In French, you can find it out by asking "Comment to know is their name. In French, you can find it out by asking "Comment to know is their name. In French, you can find it out by asking "Comment to know is their name. In French, you can find it out by asking "Comment to know is their name. In French, you can find it out by asking "Comment to know is their name. In French, you can find it out by asking "Comment to know is their name. In French, you can find it out by asking "Comment to know is their name. In French, you can find it out by asking "Comment to know is their name. In French, you can find it out by asking "Comment to know is their name. In French, you can find it out by asking "Comment to know is their name. In French, you can find it out by asking "Comment to know is the interest of the first things you'll want to know is the interest of the first things you'll want to know is the interest of the first things you'll want to know is the interest of the first things you'll want to know is the interest of the first things you'll want to know is the interest of the first things you'll want to know is the interest of the first things you'll want to know it in the first things you'll want to know it in the first things you'll want to know it in the first things you'll want to know it in the first things you'll want to know it in the first things you'll want to know it in the first things you'll want to know it in the first things you'll want to know it in the first things you'll want to know it in the first things you'll want to know it in the first things you'll want to know it in the first things you'll want to know it in the first things you'll want to know it in the first things you'll want to know it in the first things you'll want to know it in the first things you'll want to know it in the first things you'll want to know
translation of "what's your name?" If you're on the receiving end of this question, answer with "Je m'appelle..." ("my name is", literally "I call myself") or a simple "Je suis..." ("I am..."). Two essential words to learn in any language are "yes" and "no". In French, "yes" is oui and "no" is non. Informally, it's also common to say ouais or ouaip instead of
oui - like saying "yeah" or "yep" in English. Then you have si. This is a handy little word that has no direct equivalent in English. Use it to say "yes" when someone asks you, in English, "haven't you been to Paris?" If you reply "yes", it's not exactly clear what
you're saying. Do you mean "yes, I have been to Paris - contrary to your assertion" or "yes, you're correct: I haven't been to Paris. Si
is one of many linguistic features that I sorely miss when I speak English. This is the polite way of saying "how are you?" in French. Note the use of the polite vous rather than the informal tu. Another, more 
someone asks you "ca va?", you can respond with a simple "ca va bien" - "it's going well". To get someone's attention, whether they're a waiter in a restaurant or a stranger on the street, say "excusez-moi", "excuse me". This is also the polite way to ask someone to get out of your way. For example, if you're trying to exit a crowded train, a soft
 "excusez-moi" should (hopefully) be enough to make people step aside. Picture getting off a crowded train, being careful you don't bump into anyone as you walk through the crowded metro station. But if a collision does occur, it's fine. Just say pardon, "sorry", and all will be forgiven. "Pardon?" is also how you'd ask someone to repeat themselves if
you didn't hear or understand what they said. In this case, you should say it with a rising tone to indicate that it's a question. Another way to say this is "pourriez-vous répéter, s'il vous plaît?" - "Could you repeat, please?" And of course, don't forget to say thank you! The French word for "thank you" is merci. Or you can make it stronger by saying
merci beaucoup - "thanks very much". Use merci in all the same situations you'd say "thank you" in English. Nice to meet you - Enchanté How's it going? - Comment ça va? And you? - Et toi? Are you well? - Vous allez bien? What's new? / What's new? / What's new? / What's new? - Comment ça va? And you? - Et toi? Are you well? - Vous allez bien? What's new? / What's n
this, like that") Same as always - Comme d'hab It could be worse - Ca pourrait être pire You're welcome - Je t'en prie Don't mention it / You're welcome - De rien Goodbye - Au revoir See you soon - À bientôt! French Phrases for Maintaining a Conversation The French are famously protective of their language. Sometimes they can be a bit impatient
with us anglophones, and reply in English to your imperfect French questions. It's frustrating when this happens, but if you ever want to make progress in a foreign language, you absolutely must stop speaking English! Be polite but firm when someone tries to speak English with you - tell them "Je voudrais parler français" - "I'd like to speak French."
Note that, unlike in English, names of languages are not written with a capital letter in French. Sometimes pardon doesn't quite cut it. If you really can't figure out what the other person is saying, try telling them "je ne comprends pas" - "I don't understand." There's no shame in being a beginner! Just remember not to fall back to English when the
going gets tough. If you don't understand something, persevere in French anyway - it's the only way you'll learn. Maybe the reason you didn't understand is because there was a specific word you didn't recognise. If that's the case, say "que veut dire X?" - "What does X mean?" You can also phrase this as "ça veut dire quoi?" - "What does that mean?"
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Sometimes, vocabulary isn't the problem. You'd know the words if you could make them out, but you can't because the other person is talking too fast! In this case, try saying plus lentement, s'il vous plaît?" - "Can you speak more slowly, please?" What if you need to say something in French, but the exact word escapes you? Just fill in the blank in the above sentence: "Comment dit-on X en français?" means "How do you say X in French"? A side note: the pronoun on, seen above, is an interesting one. It's a colloquial alternative to nous ("we"). However, on is also used to refer to an unspecified person or people in general, like the word "one" is sometimes used in formal English. (If you speak German, note that on in this sense is like the German word man.) One doesn't use "you" when you're talking about people in general. If you learn a new

French word using the phrase above, you might want to write it down before you forget it. Unfortunately, French spelling isn't the easiest. The relationship between spelling than it is to know its spelling from its pronunciation. I wrote a guide to help you with French pronunciation here. So if you're not sure, ask someone "comment ça s'ecrit?" - "How do you spell that?" Literally: "How does that write it for you: say "Est-ce que vous pouvez l'écrire?" - "Can you write it (down)?" Other Helpful Phrases for Maintaining a French Conversation: Can you speak more slowly please? - Pouvez-vous parler plus lentement s'il vous plaît? Can you speak French? - Pouvez-vous le dire une fois de plus? Do you understand? - Comprenez vous? What do you do for a living? - Qu'est-ce que tu fais dans la vie? How old are you? - Quel âge as-tu? I'm years old - J'ai ans Where are you from? - D'où êtes-vous? I'm from... - Je viens... Are you married? - Es-tu marié? Are you single? - Es-tu marié? Are you from? - D'où êtes-vous? I'm from... - Je viens... Are you married? - Es-tu marié? Are you from? - D'où êtes-vous? I'm from... - Je viens... Are you married? - Es-tu marié? Are you from? - D'où êtes-vous? I'm from... - Je viens... Are you from? - D'où êtes-vous? I'm from your married? - Es-tu marié? Are you from? - D'où êtes-vous? I'm from... - Je viens... Are you from? - D'où êtes-vous? I'm from your married? - Es-tu marié? Are you from? - D'où êtes-vous? I'm from your married? - Es-tu marié? Are you from? - D'où êtes-vous? I'm from your married? - Es-tu marié? Are you from? - D'où êtes-vous? I'm from your married? - Es-tu marié? Are you from? - D'où êtes-vous? I'm from your married? - Es-tu marié? Are you from? - D'où êtes-vous? I'm from your married? - Es-tu marié? Are you from? - D'où êtes-vous? I'm from your married? - Es-tu marié? Are you from? - D'où êtes-vous? I'm from your married? - Es-tu marié? Are you from? - D'où êtes-vous? I'm from your married? - Es-tu marié? 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Here's an example of où se trouve combined with another handy phrase to know: la station de métro la plus proche means "the closest metro station," One more piece of useful vocabulary; once you're in the metro station, you might want to ask someone "où est le quichet?" - "Where is the ticket window?" Now that you've found the quichet, you probably want to buy a billet - a ticket. But what type of ticket do you want? un billet aller simple - a one-way/round-trip ticket to X", where X is your destination. France isn't the cheapest of countries - so whether you're at the guichet or elsewhere, it doesn't hurt to be price-conscious. To ask how much something costs, say "c'est combien?" - "how much does it cost?" It's worth learning this phrase, because you might need it in a hurry! Où sont les toilettes means "where are the toilets?" Although if you want to use a public toilet, you could be searching for a long time. They aren't very common in France - and if you do find one, you'll probably have to pay to use it. You're probably better off buying something in a café and using their toilets instead. (Why is it "où sont", when previously we used "où est"? Easy: sont means "are" while est means "is". Since toilettes is plural, you must use sont, not est - "where are the toilets?", rather than "where is the toilets?", which wouldn't make sense.) If you're checking into a hotel in a French-speaking country, one useful thing to know the checkout time. One way to find this out is to ask "à quelle heure est-ce qu'il faut régler la note?" - "What time must we check out?" Another similar expression is: "quelle est l'heure limite d'occupation?" (Lit: "What is the occupancy cut-off time?" France is famous for its food, so while you're there, you'll probably want to dine in a restaurant or two! When dining out in any language, there are usually a few subtleties around how to order. Here I'll explain one of the more important things to know in French: the words for "menu". I say "words" because there are two main ways to say "menu" in French. The general word is carte, which you may recognise from the expression à la carte. A carte is what you typically think of when you hear the word "menu". It's a list of individually-priced options; you pick and choose what you want, then add up the prices to get your total bill. But you can also ask for a menu, which is usually called a "fixed-price menu" in English. When ordering from a menu, which is usually called a "fixed-price menu" in English. When ordering from a menu, which is usually called a "fixed-price menu" in English. When ordering from a menu, which is usually called a "fixed-price menu" in English. When ordering from a menu, which is usually called a "fixed-price menu" in English. When ordering from a menu, which is usually called a "fixed-price menu" in English. When ordering from a menu, which is usually called a "fixed-price menu" in English. When ordering from a menu, which is usually called a "fixed-price menu" in English. When ordering from a menu, which is usually called a "fixed-price menu" in English. When ordering from a menu, which is usually called a "fixed-price menu" in English. Whichever option you choose, inform the serveur/serveuse ("waiter/waitress") by saying "la carte/le menu, s'il vous plaît" - "the menu/fixed-price menu, please." This doesn't apply to everybody, but for those to whom it does apply, it's very important: informing the waiter about your dietary restrictions. The simplest way to do this is to say "je ne peux pas manger de X" - "I can't eat X". Here are some of the more common ways to fill in the blank: cacahuètes - peanuts noix - nuts gluten - gluten fruits de mer - shell fish œufs - eggs poisson - fish produits laitiers - dairy products soja - soy viande - meat If you're vegetarian, say so with "je suis végétarien" (for men) or "végétarienne" (for women.) A vegan is a "végétalien(ne)", although végan/végane is sometimes used too. You could also explain "je ne consomme pas de produits animaux." - "I don't consume animal products" Nous voudrions commander maintenant. - "We would like to place an order now." To "order" in French is commander, when you're talking about ordering something in a restaurant. Don't confuse this with ordonner, which is used in the sense of "to order a person to do something", such as in the military. After receiving the carte or the menu, and perhaps informing the waiter of your dietary restrictions, you may be given some time to make a decision. When you're ready, say "nous voudrions commander maintenant" -"we'd like to order now." It's also acceptable in nearly any restaurant to use on instead of nous for we, as I mentioned earlier: On voudrait commander maintenant. Or if you're by yourself, say je voudrait of nous for we, as I mentioned earlier: On voudrait commander maintenant. Or if you're by yourself, say je voudr l'addition. So when you're ready to leave, say l'addition, s'il vous plaît - "the bill, please". You'll often hear la facture used in Quebec instead of l'addition - however both are perfectly understandable to waitstaff. Can you help me please? - Pouvez-vous m'aider s'il vous plaît? I would like... - Je voudrais... I'd like one of those please - J'en voudrais un s'il vous plait One: Un Two: Deux Three: Trois Four: Quatre Five: *Cinq Learn more: French Numbers: Counting in French from 1 - 100+ Finally, let's talk about love on the road? Or maybe after you get home, you'll want to use your newfound French skills to woo that special someone. So how do you say "I love you" in French? The French word for "to love" is adorer - but you generally only use this word when talking about things rather than people, for example to say that you love a place, book, or song. When talking to a person, say je t'aime, Aimer usually means "like", but in this context it means "love" in the most romantic of senses. Use it wisely! Here are some other romantic French phrases: My heart - Mon cœur My love - Mon amour You're too cute - Tu es trop mignon I like you (Lit: "You please me") - Tu me plais Wondering what a famous French saying is that you could use in everyday life? Or how do you say "cool" in French slang? Here are some bonus French sayings and slang to level up your French: Cool - Cool (yes, really! Just say it with a French slang? Here are some bonus French sayings and slang to level up your French: Cool - Cool (yes, really! Just say it with a French slang? Here are some bonus French sayings and slang to level up your French: Cool - Cool (yes, really! Just say it with a French sayings and slang to level up your French: Cool - Cool (yes, really! Just say it with a French sayings and slang to level up your French: Cool - Cool (yes, really! Just say it with a French sayings and slang to level up your French: Cool - Cool (yes, really! Just say it with a French sayings and slang to level up your French: Cool - Cool (yes, really! Just say it with a French sayings and slang to level up your French: Cool - Cool (yes, really! Just say it with a French sayings and slang to level up your French: Cool - Cool (yes, really! Just say it with a French sayings and slang to level up your French: Cool - Cool (yes, really! Just say it with a French sayings and slang to level up your French: Cool - Cool (yes, really! Just say it with a French sayings and slang to level up your French: Cool - Cool (yes, really! Just say it with a French sayings and slang to level up your French: Cool - Cool (yes, really! Just say it with a French sayings and slang to level up your French: Cool - Cool (yes, really! Just say it with a French sayings and slang to level up your French: Cool - Cool (yes, really! Just say it with a French say it French phrases for tourists? What are the most important words and phrases for beginners to know? Let us know in the comments. And if you're ready to learn more French, check out the 111 core French words that are commonly used. Or learn some more fun French slang!