

# DIGITAL EDITION WORKBOOK



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# French

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  - Cultural overview
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**Instant  
Immersion™**

# French

*developed by Mary March, M.A.*



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Immersion**

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*Bienvenue* (welcome) to *Instant Immersion French™*! An understanding of other cultures is critical in becoming part of a larger global community. Knowing how to communicate in other languages is one way to facilitate this process. You have chosen a truly global language to learn. There are diverse francophone (French-speaking) cultures in Europe, Canada, Africa, and the Caribbean, having a worldwide influence on cuisine, fashion, dance, theater, architecture, and art. French is also the official working language of many international organizations and is the second language used on the Internet.

Now let's get down to learning some French. Did you know that close to half of all English vocabulary has roots in the French language? This means you already know the meaning of many French words such as: *radio*, *courage*, *police*, *concert*, *train*, *possible*, and *restaurant*. Other French words look very much like their English equivalents: *musique*, *banane*, *nationalité*, *bicyclette*, *hôpital*, *ordinaire*, and *lettre*. You just have to learn the pronunciation. (And you will see that learning French pronunciation is not as difficult as you might think!)

This book will help you learn the basics of communicating in French in a way that will be fun and easy for you. We include many popular phrases and expressions and show you how these are used in real life through example conversations and stories. Our book also provides an easy pronunciation system that will give you the confidence you need to speak French. A wide range of interesting and valuable topics give you a firm grounding in the language, including how to order food like a local, how to travel comfortably within the country, even what to do when things don't go according to plan.



# PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

## VOWELS

Paying particular attention to the four accent marks used on some of the vowels will help you learn the sounds that correspond with them. Yes, it does make a difference in which direction the accent mark points! Note: See chapter 2 for an explanation of nasal vowels.

French Letters	Symbol	English/French Examples
a, à, â	ah	ahh/papa ( <i>pah-pah</i> )
é, er, ez	ay	day/bébé ( <i>bay-bay</i> )
et	ay	et ( <i>ay</i> )
ai	ay	j'ai ( <i>zhay</i> )
ê, è	eh	pet/mère ( <i>mehr</i> )
e + 2 consonants	eh	belle ( <i>behl</i> )
et, ei, ai	eh	ballet ( <i>bah-leh</i> ), seize ( <i>sehzh</i> )/mais ( <i>meh</i> )
e,	uh	the/le ( <i>luh</i> )/prenez ( <i>pruh-nay</i> )
eu	uh	peu ( <i>puh</i> ), jeune ( <i>zhuhn</i> )
i, y,	ee	meet/midi ( <i>mee-dee</i> ), Sylvie ( <i>seel-vee</i> )
ill, ail, eil	y	yes/famille ( <i>fah-mee-y</i> ), travail ( <i>trah-vahy</i> ), soleil ( <i>soh-lehy</i> )
ill	eel	eel/ville ( <i>veel</i> ), village ( <i>vee-lahzh</i> )
o, ô, au, eau	o	boat/mot ( <i>moh</i> ), hôtel ( <i>o-tehl</i> ), aussi ( <i>o-see</i> ), beau ( <i>bo</i> )
o	oh	love/homme ( <i>ohm</i> ), téléphone ( <i>tay-lay-fohn</i> )
ou, où, oû	oo	youth/douze ( <i>dooz</i> ), beaucoup ( <i>bo-coo</i> )
oy, oi	wah	wash/moi ( <i>mwah</i> )
u	ew*	tu ( <i>tew</i> ), salut ( <i>sah-lew</i> )

\*This sound does not exist in English. It is not difficult to pronounce, but it does take some practice. Try this: Put your lips in the position of saying oo (as in “moo”), but say ee (as in “me”).

## CONSONANTS

Most French consonants sound like they do in English. Here are some of the consonants and corresponding symbols you will see in this book:

French Letters	Symbol	English/French Examples
ch	sh	chocolat ( <i>shoh-koh-lah</i> ), chaud ( <i>sho</i> )
g (before e, i, y)	zh	(like the S in “measure”), âge ( <i>ahzh</i> ),
gn	ny	(like the “n” in “onion”), montagne ( <i>mohN-tah-nyuh</i> )
J	zy	(like the S in “measure”), Jacques ( <i>zhahk</i> )

**Important!** Beware that most consonants at the end of a word are not pronounced. In the word “restaurant” (*rehs-to-rahN*), for example, the final “n” and “t” are not pronounced, and in plurals, the final “s” is not pronounced: hôtels (*o-tehl*). (Note also that “h” is always silent.) Only c, r, f, and l (the consonants in the word “careful”) are usually pronounced at the end of words.

The French “r” will also need some practice to get it right. If you can gargle, then you can produce this sound. Try to say “Sara” making the “r” way back in your throat. Let your tongue rest on the bottom of your mouth when you say the French “r.”

# CHAPTER ONE

*Instant Immersion French™* has 16 chapters. You can work through the book chapter by chapter or skip around to the topics that most interest you. Study the expressions and vocabulary before reading the dialogue or story. Say them out loud to practice your pronunciation. Read through the dialogue or story as many times as you need in order to understand it. Then read it out loud. Check your answers to the exercises in the Answer Key at the back of the book. Finally, get in a French mood! Put on a beret, drink French wine, put on an Edith Piaf tape, buy a baguette, speak English with a French accent, whatever it takes....

*Amusez-vous bien!* (Have fun!)

*bohN-zhoor*  
Bonjour!  
*Good morning!*

Baseball. Parking. Titanic. Taxi. Madonna. Now say each of those words with the stress on the last syllable. Voilà (*vwah-LAH*)! You have a French accent. Putting a slight stress on the last syllable of words is a general rule in French that is good to keep in mind. Whenever you come across a French word with more than one syllable, just remember to put that stress on the final syllable.

You should also know that people who speak French like to link (or connect) their words. If you read this sentence "I ate an egg at eight" linking the words together, it would sound like this: "*yay-ta-neg-ga-teight.*" This is what happens a lot in French when words begin with vowels and one reason why it is often difficult to pick out individual words when you hear the language. You will know when you need to connect the words as you read the pronunciation above the words in each chapter. The following expressions are examples of linking words together.



*sah meh tay-gahl*  
Ça m'est égal.  
*It's all the same to me.*



*ohN nyee-vah*  
On y va!  
*Let's go!*





*eel*  
il  
*he*

*unuhm*  
un homme  
*man*

*luh ma-taN*  
le matin  
*morning*

*el*  
elle  
*she*

*ewn fahm*  
une femme  
*woman*

*pahr-lay*  
parler  
*to speak*

*boN-zhoor*  
Bonjour.  
*Good morning.*

*sah vah*  
Ça va?  
*How are you?*

*sah vah beeyahN*  
Ça va bien.  
*I'm fine.*

*twa*  
toi (familiar)  
*you*

*vuh*  
veux  
*want*

*ah-lay*  
aller  
*to go*

*praNdr*  
prendre  
*to take*  
*but with food or*  
*meals, it means*  
*"to have"*



*luh day-zhuh-nay*  
le déjeuner  
*lunch*

*mahN-zhay*  
manger  
*to eat*

*luh deenay*  
le dîner  
*dinner*

*luh puh-tee day-zhuh-nay*  
le petit déjeuner  
*breakfast*



## DIALOGUE

*seh luh ma-taN ewn fahm Leez ay unN nohm Pol pahrl*  
 C'est le matin. Une femme Lise et un homme Paul parlent.  
*it is and are speaking*

*bohN-zhoor sah vah*  
 Lise: "Bonjour Paul. Ça va?"

*ay twa*  
 Paul: "Bonjour, Lise. Ça va bien. Et toi?"  
*and you?*

*oo vuh tew praNdr luh puh-tee day-zhuh-nay*  
 Lise: "Ça va. Où veux-tu prendre le petit déjeuner?"  
*where do you want to have*

*sa meh tay-gahl ohN puh ah-lay o kah-fay duh lo-tehl*  
 Paul: "Ça m'est-égal. On peut aller au café de l'hôtel."  
*we can to the of the*

*zhuh vuh mahN-zhay uhN krwa-sahN*  
 "Je veux manger un croissant."  
*I want to eat a crescent-shaped bread.*

*mwa-ohsee ahlor, oh Nyee-vah*  
 Lise: "Moi aussi. Alors. On y va!"  
*me too then*

## PRACTICE

Fill in the blanks using the words below.

*le petit déjeuner*  
*le déjeuner*

*le dîner*  
*où*

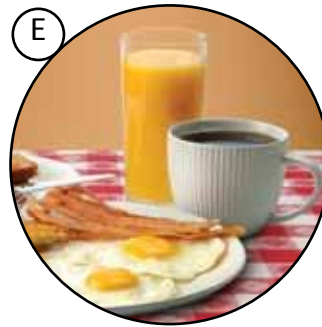
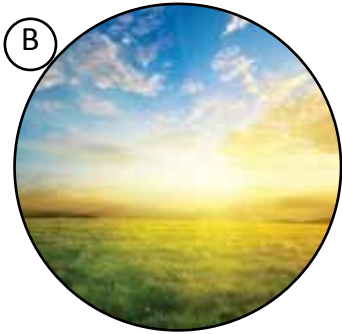
*veux*  
*tu*

*prendre*  
*aller*

- Où \_\_\_\_\_ prendre \_\_\_\_\_ ? (8 pm)
- Où veux-tu ? \_\_\_\_\_ (12:00 noon)
- \_\_\_\_\_ veux-tu prendre \_\_\_\_\_ ? (8 am)
- \_\_\_\_\_ veux-tu aller?

# MATCHING

MATCH THE SENTENCE WITH THE PICTURE.



- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Où veux-tu prendre le petit déjeuner?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Une femme et un homme parlent.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Je veux manger.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. C'est le matin.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Ça m'est égal.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Alors, on y va!

## FOCUS: SUBJECT PRONOUNS

### SINGULAR

je	(zhuh)	I
tu	(tew)	you (familiar)
vous	(voo)	you (formal)
il	(eel)	he, it (m)
elle	(ehl)	she, it (f)
on	(ohN)	one, we

### PLURAL

nous	(noo)	we
vous	(voo)	you (familiar)
vous	(voo)	you (formal)
ils	(eel)	they (m)
elles	(ehl)	they (f)