

## Chapitre 1 Structures:

### Verb Review:

|            | Present | Subjunctive | Future   | Conditional |
|------------|---------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| je         | paie    | paie        | paierai  | paierais    |
| tu         | paies   | paies       | paieras  | paierais    |
| il/elle/on | paie    | paies       | paiera   | paierait    |
| nous       | payons  | payions     | paierons | paierions   |
| vous       | payez   | payiez      | paierez  | paieriez    |
| ils/elles  | paient  | paient      | paieront | paieraient  |

- Can all be written with “y”

### Present Indicative:

#### Usage:

The present tense of the indicative is used to:

- tell about what is happening now
- make generalizations or speak about habitual actions
- indicate what is going to happen in the near future
- indicate what is going to happen in the near future using aller + infinitif
- indicate what has just happened using venir de + infinitif
- indicate that an action which started in the past is continuing into the present, when used with the preposition depuis

#### Formation:

Three major groups of regular verbs:

##### -verbs ending in –er

-e, -es, -e, -ons, -ez, -ent

-verbs that end in –g add an e before the –ons

-verbs whose stem ends in –c change the c to ç in the nous form

-verbs like appeler and jeter double the l or the t in the stem for all but the nous and vous forms

-verbs like acheter and modeler change the e to è in the stem for all but the nous and vous forms

-verbs like préférer and sécher change the é to è in the stem for all but the nous and vous forms

##### -verbs ending in –ir

-is, -is, -it, -issons, -issez, -issent

\*exception = dormir, partir, sentir, sortir

|         |              |
|---------|--------------|
| je dors | nous dormons |
|---------|--------------|

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| tu dors         | vous dormez      |
| il/elle/on dort | ils/ells dorment |

\*exception = couvrir, offrir, ouvrir, and souffrir

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| j'offre          | nous offrons     |
| tu offres        | vous offrez      |
| il/elle/on offre | ils/ells offrent |

### **-verbs ending in -re**

-s, -ss, --, -ons, -ez, -ent

### **Pronominal Verbs:**

-me, te, se, nous, vous, se

-pronominal verbs that express the idea that the subject and the object are doing something to each other are called reciprocal verbs

-ex. Les étudiants se parlent. (The students are talking to each other.)

-pronominal verbs that express the idea that the subject is doing something to himself or herself are called reflexive verbs

-ex. Les élèves se calment. (The students calm (themselves) down.)

-some verbs are used only reflexively, and with these the reflexive pronoun is often untranslatable

-ex. Ils se souviennent bien de leur premier professeur de français. (They remember well their first French professor.)

-ex. Nous ne nous moquons pas de ceux qui ratent l'examen. (We don't make fun of those who fail the exam.)

-ex. L'université s'occupe de tout. (The university takes care of everything.)

-a reflexive construction is frequently used in French to avoid having a passive construction

-ex. Comment est-ce que cela se fait? (How is that done?)

### **Infinitives:**

#### **Usage:**

-when one verb follows another, with no conjunction (like que) between them, the first verb is conjugated and the second verb remains an infinitive

-when pronominal (reflexive) verbs are used as infinitives following a conjugated verb, the reflexive pronoun agrees with the subject of the main verb

-ex. Nous espérons nous inscrire sans problèmes. (We hope to register without problems.)

- ex. Est-ce que tu peux te débrouiller en français? (Can you get along in French)
- a verb appears in its infinitive form following a preposition (except en)
- after the preposition après, the past infinitive must be used
  - ex. Après avoir fini ses études, elle est retournée chez ses parents. (After having finished her studies, she went back to her parents' (house).)
  - ex. Après avoir travaillé
- an infinitive can be the subject of a sentence
  - ex. Bosser à la dernière minute, ce n'est pas une bonne idée. (Cramming at the last minute is not a good idea.)
  - ex. Choisir une université canadienne, c'est faire l'expérience de la vie nord-américaine. (Choosing a Canadian university means experiencing life in North America.)

### Formation:

- the past infinitive is formed with the infinitive avoir or être + the past participle of the main verb
  - \*in verbs conjugated with the auxiliary être, the past participle agrees with the subject of the sentence
  - to negate an infinitive, both ne and pas (or other negative form) are placed in front of the infinitive
    - ex. Je bosse tout la nuit pour ne pas échouer à l'examen. (I am cramming all night so I won't fail the exam.)

### Infinitives:

#### Usage:

- the imperative forms are used to give commands, orders, or even to extend invitations
  - ex. Etudions à la bibliothèque ce soir.
- to soften the command use: s'il te plaît or s'il vous plaît
- to be less direct or abrupt in expressing a command, you can phrase your request as a question
  - ex. Tu peux m'expliquer les devoirs.

### Formation:

- there are three different imperative forms you can use, depending on whom you are addressing.
  - second person singular form (tu):** for commands to someone you know well
    - ex. Réponds! Finis tes études!
    - \*\*\*-er verbs (and those verbs conjugated like -er verbs) drop the -s of the tu form
      - ex. Ne parle pas! Ecoute bien!
    - \*\*\*when the second person singular (tu form) is followed immediately by y or en, the ending -s is retained to make it easy to pronounce
      - ex. Vas-y! Manges-en!

-pronominal verbs keep the reflexive pronoun. Te changes to toi when it follows the affirmative imperative.

-ex. Débrouille-toi! (se débrouiller), Rappelle-toi qu'il y a un contrôle demain! (se rappeler)

-**first person plural form** (nous form): for commands in which the speaker is including himself or herself

-ex. Assistons à cette conférence! Remercions le prof!

-**second person plural form** (vous form): for commands to more than one person or to someone you do not know well

-ex. Ecoutez! Taisez-vous! (se taire)

-Irregular forms used in the imperative (based on the subjunctive)

|        |                         |                              |
|--------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Avoir  | Aie! Ayons! Ayez!       | Ayez confiance!              |
| Être   | Sois! Soyons! Soyez!    | Soyons attentifs!            |
| Savoir | Sache! Sachons! Sachez! | Sache que le prof est fâché! |

-when the imperative is negative, the ne precedes the verb, and the pas (or other negative form) follows. If there is a reflexive pronoun it will appear after the ne, in front of the verb

-ex. Ne vous disputez pas! Ne sèche jamais ce cours! N'oublions pas la date de l'examen!

### Faire Causatif:

-to indicate that the subject is having something done (and not doing it himself or herself) use the verb faire + infinitive

-ex. Quand je m'endors en classe, le prof me fait écrire es phrases au tableau. (When I fall asleep in class, the professor makes me write sentences on the board.)

-ex. Parfois un élève fait rire toute la classe. (Sometimes a student makes the whole class laugh.)

-ex. Quand nous sommes insolents en cours, le prof nous fait nous excuser par écrit. (When we talk back to the teacher, he makes us excuse ourselves in writing.)

-ex. Le prof fait signer le bulletin par les parents. (The teacher has the parents sign the report card.)

-examples with direct object pronouns

-ex. Elle a fait envoyer son dossier à l'université. Elle l'y a fait envoyer. (She had it sent there.)

-ex. Elle a fait envoyer son dossier. Elle le lui a fait envoyer. (She had it sent to him.)