



50 Essential French Sentences

Explained

One of the essential aspects of mastering any foreign language is understanding the basic lingo necessary for basic conversation. French is a complex language with multiple rules, tenses, and sounds. However, it can be simpler to learn by focusing on some basic key French sentences. This document will provide you with **50 Essential French Sentences to Get Around**, their various uses, and how they fit into the conversation. After reading and studying these phrases, you will be able to start talking in French - little by little!

In this document, we used the pronoun “tu” for some sentences. Please note that in French, there are two pronouns for the English pronoun “you”:

1. *Tu*, that you’ll use when talking to close friends, family, and children;
 2. *Vous*, that you will generally use when talking to a stranger, someone older than you, and to other people you know and want to show respect.
-

Allons-y!
Let’s go!





“1. Bonjour !

We greet someone by saying: “Bonjour!” You can use it any time of the day. A response could be “Bonjour” or “Bonsoir” (good evening) if it is said at night.

“2. Comment ça va ?

This phrase is similar to “How are you?” in English greeting. A response would be “Très bien,” (Very good) or “Ça va” (I'm okay).

“3. Oui.

Meaning “Yes.” This is an important French word and can be used in various contexts.

“4. Non.

Meaning “No.” Like the previous word, this one is also essential for French conversations.

“5. Merci !

Meaning “Thank you” and can be used to express gratitude for many situations. Use it often - you'll sound more French!

“6. Enchanté.e !

To express pleasure when meeting someone for the first time, you'll say: “Enchanté.e.”. It's something like “Nice to meet you” in English.

“7. S'il vous plaît, ...

“Please” - this expression is used when asking for a favor or when making a request. To be polite, use this phrase whenever you ask for something.

“8. Excusez-moi...

“Pardon me” or “Excuse me” - is used when asking for someone's attention or when you're asking forgiveness. For example, you would say: “Excusez-moi, où se trouve la gare?” (“Excuse me, where is the train station?”)



“9. Est-ce que tu comprends ?

“Do you understand?” We ask this question to check if someone understands the conversation or instructions.

“10. Je ne comprends pas.

This is one of the possible replies to the question above. It means “I don't understand.” It's one of the first things you will learn in any French class. On the other hand, if you do understand, you'll say: “Je comprends.”

“ 11. Qu'est-ce que c'est ?

Meaning “What is that?” - this is useful when conversing in any situation. It will come in handy when exploring a French-speaking country. Whether you want to know more about an object, monument, or something else, this is a good question.

“ 12. Bien sûr !

This phrase means “Of course.” It is used in response to someone's question or statement.

“ 13. Je suis désolé.e.

If you need to express regret for an action or a situation, don't forget to say: “I'm sorry.”

“ 14. Tu as faim ?

Meaning “Are you hungry?” A great way to begin a discussion about food or maybe even lunch! Visiting a restaurant in a French-speaking country is a must, so make sure you reply: “Oui, j'ai faim !”

“ 15. Je veux + noun or infinitive verb

This phrase is useful when expressing a desire. For example, “I want to eat.” will be “Je veux manger.” If you would like to sound more polite, say: “Je voudrais...” (for more about this expression, check out the number 23.)



“ 16. Je vais...

Meaning “I am going...” It is used when talking about actions one is about to do. To complete the sentence, you can add a place or an action you are going to do. For example, “Je vais lire.” meaning “I’m going to read.” or “Je vais au supermarché.” meaning “I’m going to the supermarket.”

“ 17. Je peux le faire.

This phrase expresses the capability of doing something - “I can do it.”

“ 18. Allons-y !

“Let’s go!” You use this sentence to express your will to participate in some activity or event.

“ 19. Pourquoi ?

When you want to inquire about something or to know the reason why, you’ll use this question: “Why?” Make sure you memorize it, you’ll use it often!

“ 20. Parce que...

If someone asks you “Pourquoi ?” you’ll reply by saying “Parce que...” meaning “Because...”

“ 21. Je ne sais pas.

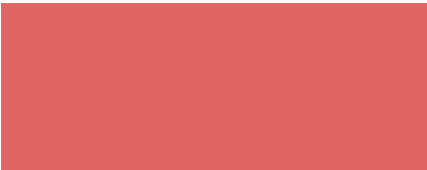

When you want to express ignorance or confusion, you’ll say “Je ne sais pas.” meaning “I don’t know.”

“ 22. As-tu besoin de moi ?

If you wish to ask if you can help in some way, you can use this question. It means “Do you need me?” You can also ask: “Tu as besoin d’aide?” meaning “Do you need help?”

“ 23. Je voudrais...

“I would like to...” Remember this phrase whenever you want to ask for something or say that you would like to do something. For example, in a bakery, you’ll say: “Je



voudrais une baguette, s'il vous plaît” meaning “I would like a baguette, please.” Or “Je voudrais visiter le Louvre.” - “I would like to visit the Louvre.”

“ 24. Tu veux qu'on déjeune ensemble ?

If you want to invite someone for lunch, whether a colleague or a friend, this is the right question: “Would you like to eat together?”

“ 25. Demain ?

When making plans or discussing future events, you'll need this word: “Tomorrow?”

“ 26. Parlez-vous anglais ?

When you want to ask if someone understands the English language, use the question above meaning “Do you speak English?”

“ 27. Je t'aime !

“I love you” is a powerful phrase that might be the most important sentence one can learn in any language. Especially if you fall in love with a French person!

“ 28. Je ne sais pas encore.

When talking about future events or plans, but you're still not sure about something, you can simply say: “I don't know yet.”

“ 29. Qu'est-ce que tu aimes ?

In a conversation, when you wish to know more about someone's interests and preferences, use this question to open a discussion: “What do you like?”

“ 30. Qu'est-ce que tu penses ?

Discussing in French can't go without asking for an opinion. You might ask or someone might ask you: “What do you think?” When replying, start your sentence with: “Je pense que...”

You can also say: “Qu'est-ce que tu en penses?” meaning “What do you think about it?”



“ 31. Je n'arrive pas à le croire.

To express surprise or disbelief, you'll simply say: "I can't believe it."

“ 32. Pouvez-vous parler plus lentement ?

For beginners and intermediate French speakers, this question is a huge help: "Could you speak slower?"

“ 33. Pouvez-vous répéter, s'il vous plaît ?

If you need to hear something one more time to understand, ask this question: "Can you please repeat?"

“ 34. Prends soin de toi !

To express concern for someone's well-being, you'll simply say: "Take care of yourself!"

“ 35. Je t'appelle plus tard.

When making plans, this sentence will be useful to you. "I'll call you later."

“ 36. Je suis fatigué.e.

To express exhaustion or mental fatigue, you can simply say: "I am tired."

“ 37. Tu veux boire quelque chose ?

To offer someone a drink or ask if the person is thirsty or not, ask: "Do you want to drink something?"

“ 38. Tu me manques.

If you wish to express love and longing in French, you'll use the expression above meaning: "I miss you."

“ 39. As-tu une suggestion ?

When you wish to ask if someone has any ideas on a specific matter you're discussing, you can ask: "Do you have any suggestions?"



“ 40. Nous devons nous dépêcher.

“We have to hurry,” - to express a need to act faster, you’ll use this phrase.

“ 41. Je suis à court de temps.

If you’re in a rush and wish to say it politely, use the phrase above that means: “I am short on time.”

“ 42. Pouvons-nous parler plus tard ?

“Can we talk later?” - if you don’t have enough time to continue a discussion, you can suggest a continuation of the conversation sometime later.

“ 43. Quand ?

To ask for an exact time of a meeting or an event, you’ll say: “When?” This question word is one of the most common ones in French!

“ 44. Tu aimes ça ?

“Do you like it?”, you’ll ask this question when you want to know if someone has a particular preference. You can simply reply: “Oui, j’aime ça.”

“ 45. Dis-moi, ...

Meaning “Tell me” or “Tell me about it”, you’ll use this sentence to inquire and to gain more information.

“ 46. Faites attention !

To warn someone about potential danger or to draw his/her attention, you’ll say: “Be careful!” or “Pay attention!”

“ 47. Je suis d’accord avec toi.

To let a person know that you share his/her opinion, simply say: “I agree with you.” If you don’t agree, you’ll say: “Je ne suis pas d’accord avec toi.”



“ 48. J'apprécie ça.

When you need to express gratitude for something, you can say:” I appreciate it.”

“ 49. Je n'ai pas besoin de ça.

To show disinterest in something, you'll simply say: “I don't need it.”

“ 50. Je veux améliorer mon français.

“I want to improve my French.” - when talking about your French learning goals, this phrase will be handy to let people know that you wish to speak in French and get your French to the next level.



To make the best of this list of **50 Essential French Sentences to Get Around**, make sure you put them into practice whenever you have a chance.

These expressions are carefully chosen and meant to be used in many different situations. This list of 50 French sentences will help you express your thoughts and emotions. You will be able to reply and actively participate in various conversations.

Exercise daily to improve your French skills!