

Reflexive Verbs

Reflexive verbs include a reflexive pronoun (**me, te, se, nous, vous**).

There is no, *real* direct translation for these words into English, but we understand them to mean “myself”, “yourself”, “ourselves”.

Je me douche. I am having a shower.

Tu te coiffes ? Are you doing your hair?

On se leve ? Shall we get up?

Cultural top tip



The title of this module – **le grand large** – is an idiomatic expression. Literally, it means “the big wide”. In English, we would say, “the open ocean”.

Cultural top tip



Make your answers sound more authentic by using phrases such as:

Moi, je... Me, I...

De préférence, je... Preferably, I...

En plus... In addition,...

Je trouve que ce serait... I find that it would be...

Reflexive Verbs in the past tense

All reflexive verbs use être as the auxiliary verb. The past participle must agree with the subject.

se reposer = to relax (“oneself”)

je me suis reposé(e)

tu t'es reposé(e)

il/elle/on s'est reposé(e)

nous nous sommes reposé(e)s

vous vous êtes reposé(e)s

ils se sont reposés

elles se sont reposées

Talking about the future

There are two ways to talk about the future in French.

- 1. The near future tense:** formed using *aller* in the present tense + infinitive verb (e.g. *je vais faire...*; *on va voir...*; *nous allons visiter...*) = going to
- 2. The simple future tense:** formed using the future tense stem + the correct ending (e.g. *je mangerai*; *on voyager*; *nous irons*) = will

The conditional

Use **the conditional** to say “would”. There is no one word for “would” in French like there is in English.

Je regarderais... I would watch...

Take the future tense stem and add the **imperfect endings**:

Je regarderais

nous regarderions

Tu regarderais

vous regarderiez

Il/elle/on regarderait ils/elles regarderaient

Some verbs have irregular stems:

vouloir → *je voudrais* (I would like)

faire → *je ferais* (I would do)

avoir → *il y aurait* (there would be)

être → *ce serait* (it would be)

Future Tense Stems

- -er verbs → use the infinitive
 - -ir verbs → use the infinitive
 - -re verbs → remove the final –e from the infinitive
- Key Irregular stems
- *avoir* → *aur-*
 - *être* → *ser-*
 - *aller* → *ir-*
 - *faire* → *fer-*
 - *vouloir* → *voudr-*

tu vs. vous

Use the formal **vous** with someone older than you or whom you don't know well. In a restaurant situation, you would use this form of “you”.

en + present participle

Use **en + present participle** to say “on”, “by” or “while” doing something.

To form the present participle, take the **nous** form of the verb in the present tense.

Take off the **–ons** and add **–ant**.

nous arrivons → *en arrivant* (upon arriving)

nous partons → *en partant* (on leaving)

nous mangeons → *en mangeant* (while eating)

avant de + infinitive

Use **avant de + infinitive** to say “before doing something”.

Avant de prendre le métro... Before taking the metro...

Avant de faire mes devoirs... Before doing my homework...

NB: **de** shortens to **d'** before a vowel

The pluperfect tense

Use the **pluperfect** to say “had been”, “had gone” etc.

It is formed in two parts:

1. The **imperfect tense** of the auxiliary verb **avoir** or **être**
2. The past participle

j'avais réservé I had reserved

j'étais parti I had left

For verbs with **être**, the past participle must agree with the subject, e.g. **nous étions partis** (we had left)

Key vocabulary



visiter to visit

je visite
tu visites
il/elle/on visite
nous visitons
vous visitez
ils/elles visitent

j'ai visité (past)
je vais visiter (nr future)

prendre to take

je prends
tu prends
il/elle/on prend
nous prenons
vous prenez
ils/elles prennent

j'ai pris (past)
je vais prendre (nr future)

The Future Tenses



The Conditional



The Pluperfect



Extra vocabulary & information

accro addicted
au deuxième étage on the second floor
au premier étage on the first floor
au rez-de-chaussée on the ground floor
comme such as/ like/ as
dirhams moroccan currency (£1 ~ 15 dirhams)
la grève beach
le loup de mer sea bass (type of fish)
un arrêt a stop
un ascenseur a lift

Si clauses

si means "if".
***si* + imperfect + conditional**
Si j'avais le choix, je voyagerais...
If I had the choice, I would travel...
Si j'avais plus d'argent, j'irais...
If I had more money, I would go...
Si je gagnais à la loterie, je visiterais...
If I won the lottery, I would visit...

faire to do

je fais
tu fais
il/elle/on fait
nous faisons
vous faites
ils/elles font

j'ai fait (past)
je vais faire (nr future)

aller to go

je vais
tu vas
il/elle/on va
nous allons
vous allez
ils/elles vont

je suis allé(e) (past)
je vais aller (nr future)

voir to see

je vois
tu vois
il/elle/on voit
nous voyons
vous voyez
ils/elles voient

j'ai vu (past)
je vais voir (nr future)

Conditional perfect

j'aurais pu I could have
j'aurais dû I should have
j'aurais voulu I would have liked

Modal verbs – past tense

The past participles of modal verbs are irregular.
pouvoir (to be able to) → **pu**
devoir (to have to) → **dû**
vouloir (to want to) → **voulu**



des tongs

Demonstrative adjectives and pronouns

Demonstrative adjectives (*ce, cet, cette, ces*) and pronouns (*celui-ci, celle-là* etc.) must agree with the noun they refer to or replace.

	Masc sg.	Fem sg.	Masc pl.	Fem pl.
this/ these	<i>ce (cet before vowel)</i>	<i>cette</i>	<i>ces</i>	<i>ces</i>
this one/ these ones	<i>celui-ci</i>	<i>celle-ci</i>	<i>ceux-ci</i>	<i>celles-ci</i>
that one/ those ones	<i>celui-là</i>	<i>celle-là</i>	<i>ceux-là</i>	<i>celles-là</i>



des lunettes de soleil