

Theme 3 – Current and future study and employment, Unit 11 – Education post-16, Unit 12 – Jobs, career choices and ambitions

11.1 University or work? 12.1 Choice of career

12.1 F Comment obtenir un emploi (Discussing how to get a job)

The passive voice in the present tense

Revision of comparatives and superlatives

THE PASSIVE VOICE IN THE PRESENT TENSE:

The passive is used to say what is done to someone or something. It is formed by using être in the present tense followed by the past participle.

The preposition par (by) is often used in front of the agent (the person doing the action).

⇒ Tout le monde respecte le patron. Everyone respects the boss.

⇒ Le patron est respecté par tous ses employés / collègues.

⇒ The boss is respected by all his employees / colleagues.

The past participle is used as an adjective and **must agree with the noun**:

⇒ Les étudiants sont recrutés par l'entreprise. The students are recruited by the company.

REVISION OF COMPARATIVES AND SUPERLATIVES:

To compare two things you can use *plus*, *moins* or *aussi* followed by *que*.

- *Laure est plus sportive que Robert.* Laure is **more** sporty **than** Robert.
- *Les clients sont aussi sympas que mes collègues.* The customers are **as nice as** my colleagues.

Superlatives state that something is the best (or worst) of all. You use *le / la / les plus* or *le / la / les moins* followed by the adjective.

- *C'est le travail le plus intéressant du monde.* It's **the most** interesting job in the world.
- *Nous avons acheté la voiture la moins chère.* We bought **the least** expensive car.

Note the irregular forms: meilleur (better); le / la / les meilleur(e)(s)(es) (the best).

- *Un emploi à temps partiel est meilleur pour moi.* A part-time job is better for me.
- *Franck est notre meilleur client.* Franck is our best customer.

Key questions:

Parlez moi de vous.	Quelles sont vos qualités/défauts?	Quels sont vos loisirs?
Tell me about yourself.	What are your qualities/ flaws?	What are your hobbies?

1.	<i>l'ambiance</i>	atmosphere
2.	<i>avouer</i>	to confess
3.	<i>le bureau</i>	office
4.	<i>le cabinet</i>	office
5.	<i>la canne</i>	walking stick
6.	<i>compter sur</i>	to rely on
7.	<i>la confiance en soi</i>	self confidence
8.	<i>se débrouiller</i>	to cope
9.	<i>la demande d'emploi</i>	job application
10.	<i>le droit</i>	law
11.	<i>effrayé(e)</i>	frightened
12.	<i>l'embauche (f)</i>	recruitment
13.	<i>l'équipe (f)</i>	team
14.	<i>l'entreprise (f)</i>	business, company
15.	<i>l'entretien (m)</i>	interview
16.	<i>exercer</i>	to carry out, to practise
17.	<i>franchir une étape</i>	to go to the next level
18.	<i>gourmand(e)</i>	greedy
19.	<i>lancer</i>	to launch
20.	<i>manquer</i>	to lack
21.	<i>le métier</i>	job
22.	<i>la petite annonce</i>	job advert
23.	<i>poursuivre</i>	to pursue
24.	<i>provoquer</i>	to cause
25.	<i>la publicité</i>	advertisement
26.	<i>le recrutement</i>	recruitment
27.	<i>le réseau social</i>	social network
28.	<i>le / la serveur / serveuse</i>	waiter / waitress
29.	<i>l'usine (f)</i>	factory

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12.1 H Métiers: les avantages et les inconvénients (Talking about the advantages and disadvantages of jobs)

Avoiding the passive

Recognising the passive in the past and the future

AVOIDING THE PASSIVE:

French often avoids using the passive voice by using the pronoun *on*. Doing this will make your French more natural.

⇒ *La petite annonce est placée dans le journal local.* The advertisement is placed in the local newspaper.

On a placé la petite annonce dans le journal. You / They / We put the advertisement in the paper.

⇒ *La demande d'emploi a été envoyée.* The letter of application was sent.

On a envoyé la demande d'emploi. One (someone) / They / We sent the letter of application.

Not all verbs in French can be used to form the passive. *Demander* and *dire* have to be used with *on*.

⇒ *On me dit que le chômage augmente.* I am told that unemployment is rising.

⇒ *On m'a demandé d'écrire une lettre.* I was asked to write a letter.

RECOGNISING THE PASSIVE IN THE PAST AND THE FUTURE:

The passive is formed by the verb 'to be' (*être*) followed by the past participle.

Être can be used in any tense. The past participle must agree with the subject.

⇒ *Le patron a été choqué par son attitude.* The boss was shocked by his attitude.

⇒ *L'usine a été construite il y a 100 ans.* The factory was built 100 years ago.

⇒ *Les deux filles seront embauchées demain.* The two girls will be given a job tomorrow.

Key questions:

Qu'est-ce que tu veux faire dans la vie?

Pourquoi veux-tu faire ce métier?

Quels métiers ne t'intéresse pas?

What do you want to do with your life?

Why do you want to do this job?

What jobs do not interest you?

1.	<i>atteindre</i>	to reach
2.	<i>l'augmentation (f)</i>	increase
3.	<i>augmenter</i>	to increase
4.	<i>le béton</i>	concrete
5.	<i>blessé(e)</i>	injured
6.	<i>le / la chanteur / chanteuse</i>	singer
7.	<i>chimique</i>	chemical
8.	<i>la chute</i>	fall
9.	<i>le / la coiffeur / coiffeuse</i>	hairdresser
10.	<i>le concours</i>	competition
11.	<i>se détendre</i>	to relax
12.	<i>embaucher</i>	to employ
13.	<i>éprouvant(e)</i>	demanding
14.	<i>épuisé(e)</i>	exhausted
15.	<i>la formation</i>	training
16.	<i>les horaires (m)</i>	hours (of work)
17.	<i>lourd(e)</i>	heavy
18.	<i>le / la maçon / maçonne</i>	builder
19.	<i>maîtriser</i>	to master
20.	<i>à la mode</i>	fashionable
21.	<i>s'occuper de</i>	to look after
22.	<i>le poste</i>	job, position
23.	<i>la pression</i>	pressure
24.	<i>la récompense</i>	reward
25.	<i>respiratoire</i>	breathing
26.	<i>la réussite</i>	success
27.	<i>le salaire</i>	salary
28.	<i>se sentir</i>	to feel
29.	<i>souriant(e)</i>	smiling, cheerful
30.	<i>suivre</i>	to follow
31.	<i>vaincre</i>	to overcome
32.	<i>varié(e)</i>	varied
33.	<i>voler</i>	to fly