

Theme 2 – Local, national, international and global areas of interest, Unit 7 – Global issues

7.1 Environment 7.2 Poverty and homelessness

7.1 F Les problèmes de l'environnement (Discussing environmental problems and their solutions)

Using *si* + present tense

Si clauses + present + future

USING SI + PRESENT TENSE

Use 'si' + present tense to add to the complexity and variety of your written and spoken French.

Si is the French word for 'if' and it is used with the present tense. What follows can also be in the present tense, but is often in the future tense.

⇒ *Si on recycle plus, on peut aider l'environnement.* If we recycle more, we can help the environment.

⇒ *Si on prends les transport en commun, on peut réduire la pollution.* If you take/travel by public transport, you can reduce pollution.

SI CLAUSES + PRESENT + FUTURE:

To say 'if' something happens, then something else will happen, French uses *si* ('if) followed by the present tense + the future tense.

Si on interdit les véhicules au centre-ville, *il y aura* moins de pollution de l'air.

If we ban cars in the town centre, there will be less air pollution.

Remember it is easy to recognise the future tense:

- *-er* and *-ir* verbs : just add the future tense endings to the infinitive.
- *-re* verbs: lose the final *-e* of the infinitive then add the future tense tense endings.

⇒ Je jouerai, tu finiras, il/elle/on regardera, nous aimerons, vous choisirez, ils/elles mangeront.

⇒ Je prendrai, tu prendras, il/elle/on vendra, nous entendrons, vous prendrez, ils/elles vendront.

There are some irregular stems to recognise: *faire* (je ferai), *être* (je serai), *avoir* (j'aurai), *pouvoir* (je pourrai), *aller* (j'irai) and *venir* (je viendrai).

1.	alors	so, therefore
2.	l'arbre (m)	tree
3.	augmenter	to increase
4.	avoir peur	to be afraid
5.	bloquer	to block
6.	le changement climatique	climate change
7.	l'embouteillage (m)	traffic jam
8.	être en train de	to be in the act / process of
9.	faire face à	to face up to
10.	l'inondation (f)	flood
11.	jeter	to throw
12.	laisser	to let
13.	le nombre	number
14.	les papiers (m)	litter
15.	pire	worse
16.	la pluie	rain
17.	le réchauffement de la Terre	global warming
18.	réduire	to reduce
19.	rouler	to travel
20.	le sac en plastique	plastic bag
21.	sec / sèche	dry

Key questions:

Que peut-on faire pour protéger l'environnement?

Decris 3 problèmes qui t'inquiètent?

Quelles sont les solutions?

What can we do to protect the environment?

Describe 3 problems that worry you?

What are the solutions?

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7.1 H Planète en danger (Discussing global issues)

Recognising and using the pluperfect tense

Revision of *en* and *y*

RECOGNISING AND USING THE PLUPERFECT TENSE:

The pluperfect tense translates the English 'had done' something and is formed by using the imperfect tense of the auxiliary verb (either *avoir* or *être*) and the past participle.

Remember that the past participle of verbs using *être* must agree with the subject of the verb.

⇒ Elle avait vu (she had seen) but elle était allée (she had gone).

REVISION OF EN AND Y

Y and *en* are pronouns which are used to replace nouns in French. They obey the normal rules for object pronouns as they come before the verb and before the auxiliary verb in the perfect and pluperfect tenses.

Y usually means 'there' and replaces *à + a word*.

En can have a lot of different meanings ('of it', 'of them', 'about it', 'about them', 'some' or 'any') but it always replaces *de + a word*.

J'y vais. I go **there**.

J'en ai beaucoup. I have a lot **of them**.

TIP: There are tasks which require you to decide if people are expressing positive, negative or a mixture of positive and negative opinions about something. There are strategies which you can employ to help you find the correct answers.

You will need to look or listen for words which express negative or positive feelings but you should also be on the look-out for conjunctions like *mais* (but), *pourtant / cependant* (however), *néanmoins* (nevertheless) or *sauf* (except) following a positive opinion, as this might suggest both types of opinion.

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|-----|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | agir | to act |
| 2. | auparavant | in the past, formerly |
| 3. | le camion | lorry |
| 4. | la consommation | consumption |
| 5. | le dioxyde de carbone | carbon dioxide |
| 6. | l'effet de serre (m) | greenhouse effect |
| 7. | éviter | to avoid |
| 8. | fondre | to melt |
| 9. | grave | serious |
| 10. | s'inquiéter de | to worry about |
| 11. | interdit(e) | forbidden / banned |
| 12. | menacer | to threaten |
| 13. | monter | to rise |
| 14. | le niveau | level |
| 15. | notamment | notably |
| 16. | proche | near |
| 17. | Quel dommage! | What a pity! |
| 18. | rendre | to make |
| 19. | résoudre | to resolve |
| 20. | se servir de | to use |

Key questions:

Quels étaient les problèmes de circulation dans ta ville auparavant?

Que faut-il faire en plus?

What were the issues with traffic in your town before?

What more can be done?

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7.2 F Les inégalités (Discussing inequality)

Verbs of possibility

Permettre de + infinitive

VERBS OF POSSIBILITY:

You often want to say what can, might or should happen, what you'd like to happen or what is possible. To do this successfully, you will need to use the verbs *pouvoir*, *devoir* and *vouloir* as well as the construction *il est possible de + the infinitive*.

You will need to use *pouvoir* in the present tense but may also need to recognise *pouvoir*, *devoir* and *vouloir* in the **conditional**:

Pouvoir (to be able to)	Devoir (to have to)	Vouloir (to want to)
je pourrais	je devrais	je voudrais
tu pourrais	tu devrais	tu voudrais
il / elle / on pourrait	il / elle / on devrait	il / elle / on voudrait
nous pourrions	nous devrions	nous voudrions
vous pourriez	vous devriez	vous voudriez
ils / elles pourraient	ils / elles devraient	ils / elles voudraient

PERMETTRE DE + INFINITIVE

Permettre de is followed by the infinitive in French and can be useful when you want to say that something 'allows' or 'lets' someone do something. It is often used when you want to find a solution to a problem.

⇒ *Ça me permet de faire des économies.* That allows me to make savings.

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|-----|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | aider | to help |
| 2. | le carton | cardboard |
| 3. | les choses indispensables (f) | necessities |
| 4. | la couverture | blanket |
| 5. | d'accord | OK |
| 6. | distribuer | to give out |
| 7. | durer | to last |
| 8. | l'espoir | hope |
| 9. | expliquer | to explain |
| 10. | fier / fière | proud |
| 11. | la nourriture | food |
| 12. | l'organisation caritative (f) | charity |
| 13. | permettre | to allow |
| 14. | le quartier défavorisé | deprived area |
| 15. | le sac de couchage | sleeping bag |
| 16. | sain | healthy |
| 17. | sans | without |
| 18. | le savon | soap |
| 19. | le SDF | homeless person |
| 20. | le volontaire | volunteer |

Key questions:

Comment peut-on aider les SDF?

Que font les associations caritatives pour lutter contre la pauvreté?

How can we help homeless people?

What are the charities doing to fight against poverty?

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7.2 H La pauvreté (Discussing poverty in the world)

The subjunctive

Present-tense forms of the subjunctive

THE SUBJUNCTIVE

The subjunctive must be used after the following expressions:

il faut que (you must / it's necessary that)
bien que / quoi que (although)
pour que (in order that)

avant que (before)
après que (after)
il est possible que (it's possible that)

The subjunctive form is used after certain expressions in French and you may need to recognise it. It is similar to or the same as the present tense for some verbs, e.g. *il faut qu'on économise plus d'eau*.

Some verbs have subjunctive forms which look a little different:

faire – **je fasse**

vouloir – **je veuille**

aller – **j'aie**

être – **je sois**

pouvoir – **je puisse**

avoir – **j'aie**

savoir – **je sache**

PRESENT TENSE FORM OF THE SUBJUNCTIVE:

To form the subjunctive of regular verbs ending in –er, –ir and –re, follow the steps below:

1. take the 3rd person plural (ils) form of the present tense of the verb
2. Remove the –ent part (the ending)
3. Add these ending instead:

Parler -> parlent -> je parle, tu parles, il/elle/on parle (-e, -es, -e)

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|-----|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | aborder | to tackle |
| 2. | l'accroissement (m) | growth |
| 3. | avoir lieu | to take place |
| 4. | le cercle vicieux | vicious circle |
| 5. | citer | to quote |
| 6. | croître | to grow |
| 7. | élever | to raise |
| 8. | la faim | hunger |
| 9. | les frais (m pl) | expenses |
| 10. | il faut | you must / one must |
| 11. | l'illettrisme (m) | illiteracy |
| 12. | l'inégalité (f) | inequality |
| 13. | la manifestation | demonstration |
| 14. | mener | to lead |
| 15. | le milliard | billion |
| 16. | moins | less |
| 17. | le pays | country |
| 18. | ralentir | to slow down |
| 19. | le rapport | report |
| 20. | selon | according to |
| 21. | sinon | if not |
| 22. | le tiers | third |
| 23. | vivre | to live |
| 24. | vouloir dire | to mean |

Key questions:

Comment peut-on aider les pauvres dans le monde?

Quel est le problème social le plus grave à ton avis?

How can we help poor people in the world?

What is the biggest social problem in your opinion?