**Working with Numbers**

Being comfortable with numbers is vital at this level of French study, as many exam questions will incorporate them, and require the ability to understand and respond accurately using numbers.

**1-30**

Below are the first 30 numbers written for you in French. Make sure that you have a solid grasp of these numbers – these are very basic and you **WILL** be required to have a good knowledge regarding numbers.

**TOP TIP!**

You’ll know these already, but make sure to note when hyphens are used and when they are not.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | un | **2** | deux | **3** | trois | **4** | quatre |
| **5** | cinq | **6** | six | **7** | sept | **8** | huit |
| **9** | neuf | **10** | dix | **11** | onze | **12** | douze |
| **13** | treize | **14** | quatorze | **15** | quinze | **16** | seize |
| **17** | dix-sept | **18** | dix-huit | **19** | dix-neuf | **20** | vingt |
| **21** | vingt et un | **22** | vingt-deux | **23** | vingt-trois | **24** | vingt-quatre |
| **25** | vingt-cinq | **26** | vingt-six | **27** | vingt-sept | **28** | vingt-huit |
| **29** | vingt-neuf | **30** | trente |  |  |  |  |

**40-100**

Now that you have mastered the first 30 numbers in French, let’s take a look at the numbers from 40 to 100.

**TOP TIP!**

Of course, numbers get more complicated as they get higher. Note when ***vingt*** takes an -s and when it does not.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **40 -** | quarante |  |
| **50 -** | cinquante |  |
| **60 -** | soixante |  |
| **70 -** | soixante-dix | *(literally ‘sixty + ten’)* |
| **80 -** | quatre-vingts | *(literally ‘four twenties’)* |
| **90 -** | quatre-vingt-dix | *(literally ‘four twenties + ten’)* |
| **100 -** | cent |  |

**100+**

Beyond 100, numbers are nearly always formed using combinations of smaller numbers, although there are some new ones to learn.

**TOP TIP!**

Note the use of full stops. The French use full stops as opposed to commas! Also note when numbers do and do not take an –s.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **101 -** | cent un | (*not ‘*cent et un’) |
| **200 -** | deux cents |  |
| **300 -** | trois cents |  |
| **400 -** | quatre cents |  |
| **500 -** | cinq cents |  |
| **600 -** | six cents |  |
| **700 -** | sept cents |  |
| **800 -** | huit cents |  |
| **900 -** | neuf cents |  |
| **1.000 -**(1,000) | mille |  |
| **2.000 -** (2,000) | deux mille |  |
| **1.000.000 -**(1,000,000) | un million |  |
| **2.000.000 -**(2,000,000) | deux millions |  |
| **1.000.000.000 -**(1,000,000,000) | un milliard |  |
| **2.000.000.000 -**(2,000,000,000) | deux milliards |  |

**Common ways you’ll have to deal with numbers**

So, you’ve learnt what the numbers themselves are, but how will this knowledge be tested? You will need to become adept at recognising when numbers are being discussed, and familiarise yourself with useful common phrases.

**Putting things in order**

These are pretty straightforward, but be careful using *premier/première* – this changes when used before something that is masculine/feminine.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **NUMBER** | **FRENCH SPELLING** | **FRENCH ABBREVIATION** |
| ***First*** | premier/première | 1er /1ere |
| ***Second*** | deuxième | **2eme** |
| ***Third*** | troisième | **3eme** |
| ***Fourth*** | quatrième | **4**è**me** |
| ***Fifth*** | cinquième | **5**è**me** |
| ***Sixth*** | sixième | **6**è**me** |
| ***Seventh*** | septième | **7**è**me** |
| ***Eighth*** | huitième | **8**è**me** |
| ***Ninth*** | neuvième | **9**è**me** |
| ***Tenth*** | dixième | **10**è**me** |

**Describing groups / approximates of numbers**

Note that these sayings are all **feminine.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***There are about ten (…)*** | Il y a une dizaine (…) |
| ***There are about a dozen (…)*** | Il y a une douzaine (…) |
| ***There are dozens (…)*** | Il y a des douzaines (…) |
| ***There are about a hundred (…)***  | Il y a une centaine (…) |
| ***There are hundreds (…)*** | Il y a des centaines (…) |
| ***There are thousands (…)*** | Il y a des milliers (…) |

**Telling the time**

Being able to tell the time will be a crucial part of your GCSE French exam. Take a look at the below phrases and see how they translate from French to English.

**Asking and responding**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Quelle heure est-il? | *What time is it?* |
| Il est neuf heures | *It is nine o’clock (a.m.)* |
| Il est midi  | *It is midday* |
| Il est minuit | *It is midnight* |
| Il est midi et demi | *It is half past twelve (p.m.)* |
| Il est quinze heures dix | *It is ten past three (p.m.)* |
| Il est vingt-trois heures et demie | *It is half past eleven (p.m.)* |
| À quelle heure est la réunion? | *What time is the meeting?* |
| Elle est à treize heures pile  | *It’s at 1pm sharp* |

**TOP TIP!**

Generally, the French tell the time using the 24 hour clock, so saying 6:45 pm is:

*Dix-huit heures quarante-cinq*

**

Dix heures moins le quart

**

Sept heures moins cinq

**

Huit heures dix

**TOP TIP!**

Expressions like *‘quarter to’*, *‘quarter past’* and *‘ten to’* are still used, but only with the 12 hour clock – so be careful!