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French Guaranteed



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French Guaranteed

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[CD 4]

Chapter 15

Vous payez comment? How are you paying?

In this chapter, you will learn how to make comparisons and make a purchase.

Activity 1

Listen to some people making a purchase. How is each one paying?

Vous payez comment? (How are you paying?)

Avec cette carte de crédit. Voilà. (With this credit card. Here.)

Merci, madame. Signez ici s'il vous plait. (Thank you madam. Sign here please.)

Merci, monsieur. (Thank you sir.)

Did you get that? She used her credit card to pay for her purchase. Repeat:

Avec cette carte de crédit.

What about the next customer?

Vous payez en espèces? (Are you paying in cash?)

Vous acceptez les chèques de voyages? (Do you take traveler's checks?)

Oui bien sûr. (Yes, of course.)

This customer asked whether the store accepts traveler's checks. Repeat:

Vous acceptez les chèques de voyages?

And the cashier's response was: Yes, of course.

Oui bien sûr.

On to the next customer.

Vous payez comment? (How are you paying?)

En espèces. (Cash.)

She paid cash. Repeat:

En espèces.

Now listen again.

Vous payez comment? (How are you paying?)

Avec cette carte de crédit. Voilà. (With this credit card. Here.)

Merci, madame. Signez ici s'il vous plait. (Thank you madam. Sign here please.)

Merci, monsieur. (Thank you sir.)

Vous payez en espèces? (Are you paying in cash?)

Vous acceptez les chèques de voyages? (Do you take traveler's checks?)

Oui bien sûr. (Yes, of course.)

Vous payez comment? (How are you paying?)

En espèces. (Cash.)

Activity 2

Now it's your turn to say how you are going to pay. Listen to the shop assistant's questions, then say you are going to pay cash.

En espèces ou avec une carte? (Cash or credit?)

This time, when the assistant asks you, say you would like to pay with a credit card.

En espèces ou avec une carte? (Cash or credit?)

Je voudrais payer avec une carte de crédit. (I would like to pay with a credit card.)

Now ask if you can pay with a traveler's check. Use: **Je peux?** to say "Can I?"

Je peux payer avec un chèque de voyage? (Can I pay with a traveler's check?)

Ah non, je regrette. Avez-vous une carte de crédit? (Oh no, I'm sorry. Do you have a credit card?)

Yes you have. Show him your card.

Oui, j'ai une carte de crédit. (Yes, I have a credit card.)

Oui, ça va. (Yes, that's fine.)

Good. Did you know that credit cards in France contain a microchip? When paying by credit card people are asked to type in their personal ID number on a small keyboard to activate the chip and validate the card. If you don't have a French-style credit card you may be asked for additional ID.

Activity 3

The salesman in a department store is showing you various neckties and tells you the price of each one. How much is each tie? First the pink silk tie:

La cravate en soie rose coûte...dix-neuf euros soixante-quinze.

Here's a green and white striped cotton tie:

La cravate en coton rayé vert et blanc coûte...quinze euros.

The tartan wool tie:

La cravate en laine écossaise coûte...dix-sept euros soixante-quinze.

And the brown leather tie:

Ah! la cravate en cuir marron coûte...dix-huit euros.

Did you get it right? Listen again and check your answers:

La cravate en soie rose coûte...dix-neuf euros soixante-quinze.

The pink silk tie costs €19.75.

La cravate en coton rayé vert et blanc coûte...quinze euros.

The green and white striped cotton tie costs €15.

La cravate en laine écossaise coûte...dix-sept euros soixante-quinze.

The tartan wool tie costs €17.75.

Ah! la cravate en cuir marron coûte...dix-huit euros.

And the brown leather tie costs €18.

Now listen again.

La cravate en soie rose coûte dix-neuf euros soixante-quinze. (The pink silk tie costs €19.75.)

La cravate en coton rayé vert et blanc coûte quinze euros. (The green and white striped cotton tie costs €15.)

La cravate en laine écossaise coûte dix-sept euros soixante-quinze. (The tartan wool tie costs €17.75.)

Ah! La cravate en cuir marron coûte dix-huit euros. (Ah! The brown leather tie costs €18.)

Activity 4

Now here's some more practice with prices. A woman is buying various items in a store. Listen and repeat each line. How much does the red silk scarf cost?

L'écharpe en soie rouge coûte combien? (How much is the red silk scarf?)

Vingt-neuf euros soixante-quinze. (€29.75)

The answer is 29.75. And the wool scarf?

Et l'écharpe en laine? (And the wool scarf?)

Quatorze euros cinquante. (€14.50)

The price is 14.50. How about the leather gloves?

Et les gants en cuir? (And the leather gloves?)

Vingt-quatre euros. (€24)

The leather gloves are 24 euros. And the wool gloves?

Et les gants en laine? (And the wool gloves?)

Treize euros soixante-quinze. (€13.75)

The price is 13.75. How much is the cotton blouse?

Et la chemisier en coton? (And the cotton blouse?)

Vingt-neuf. (€29)

The cotton blouse is 29 euros. And the silk blouse?

Et la chemisier en soie? (And the silk blouse?)

Trente-neuf euros soixante-quinze. (€39.75)

The silk blouse is 39.75.

Now listen again.

L'écharpe en soie rouge coûte combien? (How much is the red silk scarf?)

Vingt-neuf euros soixante-quinze. (€29.75)

Et l'écharpe en laine? (And the wool scarf?)

Quatorze euros cinquante. (€14.50)

Et les gants en cuir? (And the leather gloves?)

Vingt-quatre euros. (€24)

Et les gants en laine? (And the wool gloves?)

Treize euros soixante-quinze. (€13.75)

Et la chemisier en coton? (And the cotton blouse?)

Vingt-neuf. (€29)

Et la chemisier en soie? (And the silk blouse?)

Trente-neuf euros soixante-quinze. (€39.75)

Activity 5

Now practice what you would say to tell a French visitor how much each item costs. We'll help and give you the cue:

The red silk scarf costs €29.75.

L'écharpe en soie rouge coûte...

L'écharpe en soie rouge coûte vingt-neuf euros soixante-quinze.

And the woolen scarf costs €14.50.

Et l'écharpe en laine coûte...

Et l'écharpe en laine coûte quatorze euros cinquante.

And the leather gloves cost €24.

Et les gants en cuir coûtent...

Et les gants en cuir coûtent vingt-quatre euros.

And the wool gloves cost €13.75.

Les gants en laine coûtent...

Les gants en laine coûtent treize euros soixante-quinze.

The cotton blouse costs €29.

La chemisier en coton coûte...

La chemisier en coton coûte vingt-neuf euros.

And the silk blouse costs €39.75.

Et la chemisier en soie coûte...

Et la chemisier en soie coûte trente-neuf euros soixante-quinze.

Good! Here is another learning tip: Practice the numbers by looking at price tags at your local supermarket or department store, then say them aloud in French.

Activity 6

Sylvie is helping you buy some presents. She points out the differences in price. Listen to what she says and repeat each statement.

L'écharpe en soie est plus chère que l'écharpe en laine. (The silk scarf is more expensive than the wool scarf.)

La chemise en coton est moins chère que la chemise en soie. (The cotton shirt is less expensive than the silk shirt.)

Les gants en cuir sont plus chers que les gants en laine. (The leather gloves are more expensive than the wool gloves.)

La cravate en cuir marron est moins chère que la cravate en soie rose. (The brown leather tie is less expensive than the pink silk tie.)

Le pull en laine est plus cher que le pull en coton. (The wool sweater is more expensive than the cotton sweater.)

Did you get that? Let's check each statement again. What's more expensive, the silk scarf or the wool scarf?

L'écharpe en soie est plus chère que l'écharpe en laine.

The silk scarf is more expensive. What about the shirts, which one is less expensive?

La chemise en coton est moins chère que la chemise en soie.

The cotton shirt is less expensive. What about the leather gloves? Are they more expensive or less expensive than the wool gloves?

Les gants en cuir sont plus chers que les gants en laine.

They're more expensive. How about the ties? Which one is less expensive?

La cravate en cuir marron est moins chère que la cravate en soie rose.

The brown leather tie is less expensive. Finally the sweater. Is the wool sweater more or less expensive than the cotton sweater?

Le pull en laine est plus cher que le pull en coton.

The wool sweater is more expensive.

Now listen again.

L'écharpe en soie est plus chère que l'écharpe en laine. (The silk scarf is more expensive than the wool scarf.)

La chemise en coton est moins chère que la chemise en soie. (The cotton shirt is less expensive than the silk shirt.)

Les gants en cuir sont plus chers que les gants en laine. (The leather gloves are more expensive than the wool gloves.)

La cravate en cuir marron est moins chère que la cravate en soie rose. (The brown leather tie is less expensive than the pink silk tie.)

Le pull en laine est plus cher que le pull en coton. (The wool sweater is more expensive than the cotton sweater.)

Activity 7

You are looking at some more items with Sylvie. Listen to her telling you what she thinks of them:

La jupe est trop courte, le pull est trop long, le pantalon est trop large, le jean est trop cher. (The skirt is too short, the sweater is too long, the pants are too wide, the jeans are too expensive.)

It seems nothing's working out for Sylvie. Here's what she's complaining about.

The skirt is too short. Repeat after her:

La jupe est trop courte.

The sweater is too long.

Le pull est trop long.

The pants are too wide.

Le pantalon est trop large.

The jeans are too expensive.

Le jean est trop cher.

Activity 8

Listen to each of the following dialogs in a department store. Imagine you are the customer.

Vous voulez payer comment? (How do you want to pay?)

Avec un chèque de voyage. (With a traveler's check.)

Je peux payer avec une carte de crédit? (Can I pay with a credit card?)

Non, je regrette. On n'accepte pas les cartes. (No, I'm sorry. We don't take credit cards.)

Avez-vous ce pull en bleu marine? (Do you have this sweater in navy blue?)

Non, je regrette, pas en bleu marine. (No, I'm sorry, not in navy blue.)

Vous faites quelle taille? (What is your size?)

Quarante. (40.)

Quelle couleur voulez-vous? (What color do you want?)

Noir. (Black.)

Now it's your turn to be the customer. Listen and answer the shop assistant's questions.

Vous voulez payer comment? (How do you want to pay?)

Say you want to pay by traveler's check.

Avec un chèque de voyage. (With a traveler's check.)

Non, je regrette, on n'accepte pas les chèques de voyage. (No, I'm sorry. We don't take traveler's checks.)

Ask if you can pay by credit card.

Je peux payer avec une carte de crédit? (Can I pay with a credit card?)

Oui, bien sûr. (Yes, of course.)

Ask if they have this sweater in navy blue.

Avez-vous ce pull en bleu marine? (Do you have this sweater in navy blue?)

Oui, vous faites quelle taille? (What is your size?)

Tell him what size you take.

Voilà.

Excellent! Now some pronunciation practice. Listen and repeat these phrases. Notice the difference in pronunciation between the masculine and feminine forms of the adjective.

Le pull (The sweater); **Il est trop long.** (It's too long.)

Le pantalon (The pants); **Il est trop cher.** (It's too expensive.)

Le manteau (The coat); **Il est trop court.** (It's too short.)

La chemise (The shirt); **Elle est trop longue.** (It's too long.)

La robe (The dress); **Elle est trop chère.** (It's too expensive.)

La veste (The jacket); **Elle est trop courte.** (It's too short.)

Chapter 16

J'y vais en voiture. I go there by car.

In this chapter you'll learn how to describe how to get to school or work.

Activity 1

Listen to Sylvie asking several people how they get to school and how long it takes.

Marie-Claude, tu prends le bus pour aller au collège? (Marie-Claude, do you take the bus to go to junior high school?)

Non, j'y vais en voiture. (No, I go there by car.)

Le voyage dure combien de temps? (How long is the ride?)

Quarante-cinq minutes. (45 minutes.)

You may have guessed how she gets to school and how long the ride is. Let's listen again. Sylvie is asking whether she takes the bus to school. Repeat:

Marie-Claude, tu prends le bus pour aller au collège?

No, she says. I go there by car. Repeat:

Non, j'y vais en voiture.

How long is the ride? Sylvie is asking. Repeat:

Le voyage dure combien de temps?

She responds 45 minutes. Repeat:

Quarante-cinq minutes.

Good. Did you notice the small word **y**? It is used to mean "there" when it refers to a place already mentioned and it comes in front of the verb as in:

J'y vais en voiture.

Now let's move on to the next person.

Françoise, tu prends le bus pour aller au collège? (Françoise, do you take the bus to go to junior high school?)

Oui, je prends le car de ramassage. (Yes, I take the school bus.)

Le voyage dure combien de temps? (How long is the ride?)

Quinze minutes. (15 minutes.)

Does she take the bus? Yes, she takes the school bus. Repeat:

Oui, je prends le car de ramassage.

And her ride is 15 minutes. Repeat.

Quinze minutes.

Very good. Let's see how Delphine, the third student, gets to school.

Delphine, tu prends le bus pour aller au collège? (Delphine, do you take the bus to go to junior high school?)

Non, j'y vais en vélo. (No, I ride my bike.)

Le voyage dure combien de temps? (How long is the ride?)

Vingt minutes. (20 minutes.)

Does she take the school bus? No, I ride my bike, she says. Repeat:

Non, j'y vais en vélo.

And how long does it take her? 20 minutes or 2 hours?

Vingt minutes.

That's 20 minutes. Correct.

There are two ways of saying "you" in French. **Tu** is used when talking to children, teenagers, family members, or good friends. **Vous** is used as the formal and polite way to address people you don't know very well. If in doubt use **vous** when addressing someone unless you have been invited to say **tu**.

Activity 2

Now listen to these people saying how they get to work and how long it takes them. Notice that the interviewer uses the **vous** form because he is talking to adults he doesn't know well.

Monsieur, Comment allez-vous au travail? (Sir, how do you get to work?)

J'y vais en voiture. (I am going by car.)

Il vous faut combien de temps? (How long does it take you?)

Vingt minutes. (20 minutes.)

Merci. (Thank you.)

Did you get that? The interviewer asked how the man gets to work: Repeat:

Comment allez-vous au travail?

And the man replied: I'm going by car. Repeat:

J'y vais en voiture.

And how long is his commute?

Vingt minutes.

The answer is 20 minutes.

Let's hear how the next interviewee gets to work.

Madame, comment allez-vous au travail? (Madam, how do you get to work?)

Ben...je travaille au centre ville et il n'y a pas de parking, alors je prends le bus.

(Well...I work in the center of town and there is no parking, so I take the bus.)

Et il vous faut combien de temps? (And how long does it take you?)

Une bonne demi-heure. (A good half hour.)

Merci. (Thank you.)

The woman says: Well, I work in the center of town and there is no parking. Repeat:

Ben...je travaille au centre ville et il n'y a pas de parking,

So, I take the bus. Repeat:

alors je prends le bus.

And it takes her a good half hour. Repeat:

Une bonne demi-heure.

Merci. (Thank you).

Let's hear what the next person has to say about his commute.

Monsieur, comment allez-vous au travail? (Sir, how do you get to work?)

Moi, j'habite en banlieue et je prends le train. (I live in the suburbs and I take the train.)

Et il vous faut combien de temps? (And how long does it take you?)

Bon...disons...trois quarts d'heure. (OK...let's say...45 minutes.)

Merci. (Thank you.)

The gentleman says: I live in the suburbs. Repeat:

Moi, j'habite en banlieue

And I take the train. Repeat:

et je prends le train.

And how long does it take him? Let's say 45 minutes. Repeat:

Bon...disons...trois quarts d'heure.

Activity 3

Here are three more people talking about their commute.

Madame, comment allez-vous au travail? (Madam, how do you get to work?)

Moi, j'y vais en vélo. C'est plus rapide. (I ride my bike. It's very fast.)

Et il vous faut combien de temps? (And how long does it take you?)

Dix minutes. (Ten minutes.)

Merci. (Thank you.)

Did you get it? Does she take her bike or her car to work? Repeat:

Moi, j'y vais en vélo.

She takes her bike. She says: It's very fast. Repeat:

C'est plus rapide.

And do you remember how long it takes her?

Dix minutes.

Right, that's ten minutes. Now on to the next commuter.

Et Monsieur, comment allez-vous au travail? (And sir, how do you get to work?)

Je prends le métro. (I take the subway.)

Et il vous faut combien de temps? (And how long does it take you?)

Ben...ça dépend...à peu près quinze minutes. (Well...it depends...about 15 minutes.)

This gentleman takes the subway. Repeat:

Je prends le métro.

And how long does it take him? Well, it depends...about 15 minutes. Repeat:

Ben...ça dépend...à peu près quinze minutes.

Listen to the last interviewee.

Madame, comment allez-vous au travail? (Madam, how do you get to work?)

Oh, j'y vais à pied. J'habite dans le coin. (Oh, I walk. I live near by.)

Et il vous faut combien de temps? (And how long does it take you?)

Ben...deux minutes. (Well...two minutes.)

This woman walks to work... repeat:

Oh, j'y vais à pied.

because she lives near by. Repeat:

J'habite dans le coin.

It takes her two minutes to get to work.

Ben...deux minutes.

Good for her! Now it's your turn. Can you answer the same questions about yourself? Try it!

Comment allez-vous au travail? (How do you get to work?)

Il vous faut combien de temps? (How long does it take you?)

Activity 4

Listen to these people discussing how they get to work and why.

Pour aller au travail, je préfère aller à pied parce que c'est bon pour la santé. (To get to work, I prefer walking because it's healthy.)

She prefers to walk

Je préfère aller à pied

because it's healthy.

parce que c'est bon pour la santé.

Je préfère aller en moto. C'est plus pratique. (I prefer going by motorcycle. It's more convenient.)

She prefers going by motorcycle.

Je préfère aller en moto.

It's more convenient.

C'est plus pratique.

Moi, je préfère aller en voiture. C'est plus confortable. (I prefer to go by car. It's more comfortable.)

He prefers to go by car.

Je préfère aller en voiture.

It's more comfortable.

C'est plus confortable.

Je préfère prendre le train. C'est plus rapide. (I prefer to take the train. It's very fast.)

He prefers to take the train.

Je préfère prendre le train.

It's very fast.

C'est plus rapide.

Je préfère prendre le bus. C'est moins cher. (I prefer to take the bus. It's less expensive.)

She prefers to take the bus.

Je préfère prendre le bus.

It's less expensive.

C'est moins cher.

Je préfère prendre un taxi. Il n'y pas de problème avec le parking. (I prefer taking a taxi.

There is no problem with parking.)

He prefers taking a taxi.

Je préfère prendre un taxi.

There's no problem with parking.

Il n'y pas de problème avec le parking.

Je préfère prendre le métro. C'est rapide. (I prefer to take the subway. It's fast.)

She prefers to take the subway.

Je préfère prendre le métro.

It's fast.

C'est rapide.

Now listen again.

Pour aller au travail, je préfère aller à pied parce que c'est bon pour la santé. (To get to work, I prefer walking because it's healthy.)

Je préfère aller en moto. C'est plus pratique. (I prefer going by motorcycle. It's more convenient.)

Moi, je préfère aller en voiture. C'est plus confortable. (I prefer to go by car. It's more comfortable.)

Je préfère prendre le train. C'est plus rapide. (I prefer to take the train. It's very fast.)

Je préfère prendre le bus. C'est moins cher. (I prefer to take the bus. It's less expensive.)

Je préfère prendre un taxi. Il n'y pas de problème avec le parking. (I prefer taking a taxi. There is no problem with parking.)

Je préfère prendre le métro. C'est rapide. (I prefer to take the subway. It's fast.)

Very good. Now it's your turn. Can you answer the same questions about yourself? How do you prefer to travel? And why?

Pronunciation Practice

Now let's practice the verb **prendre**, to take.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| I take | Je prends |
| You, singular, take | Tu prends |
| He takes | Il prend |
| She takes | Elle prend |
| We take | Nous prenons |
| You, plural, take | Vous prenez |
| They, masculine, take | Ils prennent |
| They, feminine, take | Elles prennent |

Listen and repeat. Remember that the final "s" and "t" sounds are not pronounced.

Je pars (I leave)

Tu pars (you leave – singular/informal)

Il part (he leaves)

Elle part (she leaves)

Nous partons (we leave)

Vous partez (you leave – plural/formal)

Ils partent (they leave – masculine)

Elles partent (they leave – feminine)

And we'd better not forget **arriver**. Let's say it too:

J'arrive (I arrive)

Tu arrives (you arrive – singular/informal)

Il arrive (he arrives)

Elle arrive (she arrives)

Nous arrivons (we arrive)

Vous arrivez (you arrive – plural/formal)

Ils arrivent (they arrive – masculine)

Elles arrivent (they arrive – feminine)

Good. Well done.

Chapter 17

Pour aller à la Tour Eiffel? How do I get to the Eiffel Tower?

In this section, you're going to learn how to ask for information about local transportation.

Activity 1

Here are various people asking about some famous locations in Paris. What is the best way to get there? Listen and find out which bus or subway they need and when it runs.

Pour aller à la Tour Eiffel, il faut prendre le bus ou le métro? (To get to the Eiffel Tower, should one take the bus or the subway?)

Le metro. (The subway.)

Quand est-ce qu'il y a un métro? (When is there a subway?)

Dans cinq minutes. (In five minutes.)

Did you get it? This man wants to go to the Eiffel Tower. Repeat:

Pour aller à la Tour Eiffel,

Should he take the bus or the subway? Repeat:

il faut prendre le bus ou le métro?

There's a subway. So, when is there a subway? Repeat:

Quand est-ce qu'il y a un métro?

The answer is in five minutes. Say it:

Dans cinq minutes.

Let's listen to the next conversation.

Pour aller à l'Arc de Triomphe, il faut prendre le bus ou le métro? (To get to the Arc de Triomphe, should one take the bus or the subway?)

Il faut prendre le bus. (One has to take the bus.)

Quand est-ce qu'il y a un bus? (When is there a bus?)

Dans huit minutes. (In eight minutes.)

This woman is asking about the Arc de Triomphe. Repeat:

Pour aller à l'Arc de Triomphe,

Should she take the bus or the subway? Repeat:

il faut prendre le bus ou le métro?

She should take the bus, the other woman says. Repeat:

Il faut prendre le bus.

When is there a bus? Repeat:

Quand est-ce qu'il y a un bus?

In eight minutes. Say it:

Dans huit minutes.

Listen to the next conversation:

Pour aller aux Halles, il y a un bus ou il faut prendre le métro? (Is there a bus to get to les Halles or does one have to take the subway?)

Il faut prendre le métro. (One has to take the subway.)

Quand est-ce qu'il y a un métro? (When is there a subway?)

Dans dix minutes. (In ten minutes.)

This woman is asking about Les Halles, a large indoor market. Repeat:

Pour aller aux Halles,

Is there a bus or does she have to take the subway? Repeat:

il y a un bus ou il faut prendre le métro?

She should take the subway?, the other woman says. Repeat:

Il faut prendre le métro.

When is there a subway? Repeat:

Quand est-ce qu'il y a un métro?

In ten minutes. Say it:

Dans dix minutes.

Listen to the last conversation:

Pour aller au Sacré-Coeur, on peut prendre le bus? (Can one take the bus to get to Sacré-Coeur?)

Non, il faut prendre le métro. (No, one has to take the subway.)

Quand est-ce qu'il y a un métro? (When is there a subway?)

Toutes les dix minutes. (Every ten minutes.)

This man is asking about Sacré-Coeur, a famous church. Repeat:

Pour aller au Sacré-Coeur,

Can one take the bus? Repeat:

on peut prendre le bus?

No, he has to take the subway, the woman says. Repeat:

No, Il faut prendre le métro.

When is there a subway? Repeat:

Quand est-ce qu'il y a un métro?

Every ten minutes is the answer. Repeat:

Toutes les dix minutes.

Very good.

By the way, when in Paris you can use the same tickets for the bus and the subway. It is cheaper to buy a booklet containing ten tickets for price of seven. Don't forget to validate your ticket when you get on the bus by putting it in the machine.

Activity 2

Now it's your turn to ask which bus or subway you need to get to various places and how long it takes. Listen first.

Pour aller au musée d'Orsay, c'est quelle ligne? (Which line takes you to the musée d'Orsay?)

Vous prenez la ligne douze, direction Mairie d'Ivry. (You take line 12 towards Mairie d'Ivry.)

Il faut combien de temps? (How long does it take?)

Dix minutes. (10 minutes.)

Now you try. Ask how to get to the musée d'Orsay. Listen carefully to the reply.

Pour aller au musée d'Orsay, c'est quelle ligne? (Which line takes you to the musée d'Orsay?)

Vous prenez la ligne douze, direction Mairie d'Ivry. (You take line 12 towards Mairie d'Ivry.)

Did you get that? Now ask how long it takes.

Il faut combien de temps? (How long does it take?)

Dix minutes. (10 minutes.)

It takes 10 minutes.

Now ask how to get to the Cité des Sciences.

Pour aller à la Cité des Sciences, c'est quelle ligne? (Which line takes you to Cité des Sciences?)

Ligne sept, direction la Courneuve. (Line 7 towards la Courneuve.)

Now ask how long it takes.

Il faut combien de temps? (How long does it take?)

Il faut...vingt minutes. (It takes...20 minutes.)

It takes 20 minutes.

Now ask how to get to the Louvre.

Pour aller au Louvre, c'est quelle ligne? (Which line takes you to the Louvre?)

Ligne huit, direction Balard. (Line 8 towards Balard.)

You have to take the subway. Ask how long it takes.

Il faut combien de temps? (How long does it take?)

Vingt minutes.

It takes 20 minutes. Now ask about getting to les Halles.

Pour aller aux Halles, c'est quelle ligne? (Which line takes you to the Halles?)

Ligne un, direction Grande Arche de la Défense. (Line 1 towards Grande Arche de la Défense.)

Now say thank you.

Merci.

Activity 3

Listen how people find out whether they are on the right bus or whether they need to transfer.

C'est bien le bus pour la Gare de Lyon? (Is that the bus that goes to the Gare de Lyon?)

Ah non. Il vous faut le cinq, et puis il faut changer à Châtelet, et vous prenez le six.

(Oh no, you must take bus #5 and then you have to switch buses at Châtelet and take bus #6.)

Did you get that one? She's asking: Is this the bus to the Gare de Lyon? Repeat:

C'est bien le bus pour la Gare de Lyon?

The answer is no. She must take bus number 5. Repeat:

Ah non. Il vous faut le cinq,

Then she has to change at Châtelet. Repeat:

et puis il faut changer à Châtelet,

and take the number 6 bus. Repeat:

et vous prenez le six.

Pronunciation Practice

Listen to and repeat the names of some of the sites in Paris.

la Tour Eiffel

l'Arc de Triomphe

le Sacré-Coeur

Notre-Dame

le Louvre

le musée d'Orsay

la Cité des Sciences

les Halles

And listen to and repeat some of the names of subway stations.

Château de Vincennes

Porte d'Orléans

Pont de Neuilly

Porte de Clignancourt

Chapter 18

Vous prenez un taxi alors? So you're taking a taxi?

This section covers the language you need to call for a taxi or rent a car.

Activity 1

Listen to these tourists at the hotel reception asking for a taxi. Where do they want to go? How long will the trip take?

Je voudrais un taxi pour aller au théâtre. (I would like to take a taxi to the theater.)

Vous le voulez pour quelle heure, monsieur? (For what time, sir?)

La représentation commence à huit heures. (The show starts at 8:00 p.m.)

Bon, disons à sept heures et quart. (OK, let's say at 7:15 p.m.)

Did you get it? Does the gentleman want a taxi to the theater or to the museum?

Right. He wants a taxi to go to the theater. Repeat:

Je voudrais un taxi pour aller au théâtre.

And when does the show start? At 8 or at 11?

The show starts at 8. Repeat:

La représentation commence à huit heures.

So, what time does the receptionist suggest for pick up? A quarter after 7 or a quarter after 8?

A quarter after 7. Repeat:

Bon, disons à sept heures et quart.

Let's listen to the next tourist.

Bonsoir, madame. Je peux vous aider? (Good evening madam. May I help you?)

Ah oui, je vais au Louvre. (Oh yes, I would like to go to the Louvre.)

Vous prenez un taxi alors? (So you are taking a taxi?)

Oui, un taxi. (Yes, a taxi.)

Il faut bien compter vingt minutes. (You'll need a good 20 minutes.)

Could you make out where the woman wants to go? To the Louvre or to the Eiffel Tower?

Right. She wants to go to the Louvre. Repeat:

Ah oui, je vais au Louvre.

So, the receptionist suggests a taxi. Repeat:

Vous prenez un taxi alors?

Yes, but how long will it take, a good 20 minutes or an hour?

The answer is a good 20 minutes. Repeat:

Il faut bien compter vingt minutes.

Let's listen to the next tourist.

Monsieur? (Sir?)

Je voudrais un taxi pour aller à la boîte de nuit Aux Étoiles de Nuit. (I would like to take a taxi to the Aux Étoiles de Nuit night club.)

C'est sur les Champs-Élysées. Vous pouvez prendre le métro. (It's on the Champs-Élysées. You can take the subway.)

Je préfère prendre un taxi. (I prefer to take a taxi.)

Je vais vous appeler un taxi. (I will call you a taxi.)

C'est loin? (Is it far?)

Ah non, ce n'est pas loin. A dix minutes seulement. (Oh no, it's not far. It takes only ten minutes.)

This man wants to take a taxi to a night club. Repeat:

Je voudrais un taxi pour aller à la boîte de nuit Aux Étoiles de Nuit.

But where is that club, on the Champs-Élysées or by the airport?

It's on the Champs-Élysées. Repeat:

C'est sur les Champs-Élysées.

The receptionist suggests to take the subway but the guest prefers to take a taxi. Repeat:

Je préfère prendre un taxi.

And he asks how far it is. Repeat:

C'est loin?

No, it's not far. Repeat:

Ah non, ce n'est pas loin.

Is it only half an hour or ten minutes?

Only ten minutes. Repeat:

A dix minutes seulement.

Now hear the last hotel guest. Where does she need to go?

Mademoiselle? (Miss?)

Je voudrais un taxi pour aller à l'aéroport de Roissy. (I would like to take a taxi to Roissy Airport.)

Pour quelle heure? (For what time?)

Le vol part à quatorze heures trente-cinq. (The flight leaves at 2:35 p.m.)

Alors disons...midi et demie. (So let's say...12:30 p.m.)

C'est cher? (Is it expensive?)

Ah oui, c'est cher. (Oh yes, it's expensive.)

Does she want to go to another hotel or to the airport?

Right, she wants a taxi to go to the airport. Repeat:

Je voudrais un taxi pour aller à l'aéroport de Roissy.

Her flight leaves at 2:35. So, at what time should the taxi arrive at the hotel, 12:30 or 2:30? Let's say 12:30. Repeat:

Alors disons...midi et demie.

Is it expensive or is it cheap?

It's expensive. Repeat:

Ah oui, c'est cher.

Activity 2

The alternative to a taxi is a car rental. Sylvie wants to spend a long weekend in the country with a few friends. Listen to her making arrangements for renting a car.

Quelle sorte de voiture voulez-vous? (What kind of car do you want?)

Une grande voiture. (A big car.)

Pour combien de personnes? (For how many people?)

Six personnes. (6 people.)

Comment vous appelez-vous? (What's your name?)

Sylvie Verlaine.

Vous voulez la voiture pour combien de jours? (For how many days do you want the car?)

Trois jours. (Three days.)

Comment voulez-vous payer? (How do you want to pay?)

Avec une carte de crédit. (With a credit card.)

The person at the car rental agency asks Sylvie a lot of questions. Let's look at them one at a time. First he wants to know what kind of car she wants. Repeat:

Quelle sorte de voiture voulez-vous?

And Sylvie answers: a large car. Repeat:

Une grande voiture.

For how many people? Repeat:

Pour combien de personnes?

And Sylvie answers:

Six personnes.

Was that five or six people?

Right. Six people. Then the agent asks for her name. Repeat:

Comment vous appelez-vous?

Sylvie Verlaine.

Then he wants to know for how many days she wants to rent the car. Repeat:

Vous voulez la voiture pour combien de jours?

Trois jours.

Does Sylvie want the car for ten days or for three days?

Three days, right. And how does she want to pay? Repeat:

Comment voulez-vous payer?

Does she want to pay with a credit card or cash? Repeat:

Avec une carte de crédit.

The correct answer is by credit card.

OK. Let's just repeat each question again:

Quelle sorte de voiture voulez-vous?

Pour combien de personnes?

Comment vous appelez-vous?

Vous voulez la voiture pour combien de jours?

Comment voulez-vous payer?

Now listen again.

Quelle sorte de voiture voulez-vous? (What kind of car do you want?)

Une grande voiture. (A big car.)

Pour combien de personnes? (For how many people?)

Six personnes. (6 people.)

Comment vous appelez-vous? (What's your name?)

Sylvie Verlainé.

Vous voulez la voiture pour combien de jours? (For how many days do you want the car?)

Trois jours. (Three days.)

Comment voulez-vous payer? (How do you want to pay?)

Avec une carte de crédit. (With a credit card.)

Activity 3

Now practice asking these questions after Sylvie:

How much is it?

C'est combien?

What is your name?

Quel est votre nom?

What kind of car?

Quelle sorte de voiture?

When do you want to leave?

Quand voulez-vous partir?

What do you want?

Que voulez-vous?

How do you want to pay?

Comment voulez-vous payer?

Where do you want to go?

Où voulez-vous aller?

Pronunciation Practice

You heard the use of the irregular verb **vouloir**, to want. Here are the forms. Listen and repeat after Sylvie.

I want

Je veux

You, singular/informal, want

Tu veux

He wants

Il veut

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| She wants | Elle veut |
| We want | Nous voulons |
| You, plural/formal, want | Vous voulez |
| They, masculine, want | Ils veulent |
| They, feminine, want | Elles veulent |

Perfect. That's very good.

Parfait. C'est très bien.

And this is the end of our program. We hope you enjoyed it.

Thank you and good-bye.

Merci et au revoir.