

French (Textbook: Portails, 2nd edition for all FRE 100-level courses beginning fall 2023)

French 111:

Greetings, nouns, articles, present, near future, likes/dislikes and adjectives.

Talk (and write) about self, friends, and family in present and near future

Conjugate être, avoir, aller, and faire in these two tenses, as well as regular -er and -ir verbs and some irregulars. I can ask and answer basic questions

French 112:

The above, plus passé composé (including some pronominal verbs), imparfait, passé récent, adverbs, direct/indirect object pronouns.

What students can do after FRE 112: A student entering 115 should already be able to talk/write fairly confidently about their daily life in the present and near future and have a basic understanding of using *passé composé* and *imparfait* together to narrate about their past experiences. We review these concepts for one week at the start of the semester, but then it's on to new material and tenses. Can talk (and write) about things that are happening/happened in the present and past related to self, friends, and family (using a variety of regular and irregular verbs).

French 115:

Focuses on *conditionnel présent*, *futur simple*, and *subjonctif présent*. Relative pronouns *qui*, *que*, *dont*, *où* are also introduced. By the end of 115, they should be able to talk about hypotheses using "si" (*présent + futur simple* and *imparfait + conditionnel*) as well as express necessity, emotional reactions, doubt, etc., using the present subjunctive.

Reflexive/reciprocal verbs: both the literal "je me lève" type and the idiomatic "je me dispute" ones (and then reciprocal pronominals, like "nous nous aimons,")

What students can do after FRE 115:

- (I can talk about my daily life in the past, present and future)
- (I can usually distinguish between reporting about past events using the *passé composé* and describing background or habitual conditions in the past using the *imparfait*)
- I can talk about the future using the *futur simple*, including in "si" phrases with the present to talk about future possibilities
- I can speculate about hypothetical conditions using the *conditionnel*, including in "si" phrases with the *imparfait*
- I can express my opinions and my emotional and subjective reactions to ideas using the present subjunctive

and appropriate triggers, so that I can participate in simple debates/discussions around issues such as the environment and the importance of the arts

French 116:

A student entering 116 should thus have basic familiarity with the subjunctive and other tenses covered in 111-116. In 116 we review *passé composé* vs *imparfait* and introduce *plus-que-parfait*; we review *conditionnel présent* and introduce *conditionnel passé*; we review object pronouns and relative pronouns and add in more pronouns like indefinite relative pronouns, demonstrative pronouns and possessive pronouns; we review the *subjonctif présent* and introduce the *passé du subjonctif*; and we introduce the passive voice (aka past participles used as adjectives).

What students can do after 116:

- All of the above from 115, plus:
- I can narrate stories in the past, including specifying what had happened previously to make the main events of the story possible
- I can talk about not only what would happen under certain conditions, but also what would have happened in the past, had things been different
- I can make my speech/writing more complex sentences with object pronouns and relative pronouns
- I know who receives the action (who or what it affected) in my sentences, by using the passive voice
- I can read a poem, essay, literary excerpt, or folktale in French, or watch a short film, and describe the characters, basic plotlines, and social messages I see