

Grammar in *Comme on dit*

Comme on dit uses authentic discourse as its organizing principle for the presentation of grammar, and grammar concepts are interwoven throughout every unit. This guide is provided to help instructors see the progression over the course of the textbook.

Unité 1 Formal and informal *you*, the formal and informal “you” forms of a few verbs
Asking questions by intonation
Masculine and feminine nouns
The feminine form of a few adjectives ending in *é*

Unité 2 Plural of nouns

Unité 3 Possessive adjectives equivalent to “my”
Questions using *est-ce que*
Negation *ne pas*, dropping of *ne* in spoken French

Unité 4 Subject pronouns
The verb *avoir* in the present
How to say “both”

Unité 5 Negation with *ne pas*
Elision (*j', n', l'*)
Definite article *le, la, l', les* after verbs of preference
Gender of foreign nouns and of nouns ending in *-ique*
Verbs ending in *-er* in the present
Answers *oui, si, non, moi aussi, moi non, moi non plus, moi si*
Pronoun *ça* or absence of a pronoun after verbs of preference

Unité 6 Verbs ending in *-cer* and *-ger* in the present
Definite article *le, la, l', les* meaning “the”
Expressing possession with *de*; preposition *de + le, la, l', les*

Unité 7 Indefinite article *un, une, des* and its negation
Contrasted usage of articles *les* and *des*
Use of *certain(e)s* after verbs of preference
A few noun endings linked to gender
Plural of nouns in *-au* (*des gâteaux*)

Unité 8 Partitive article *du, de la, de l'*, and as contrasted with the indefinite article *un, une, des*
Expression *il y a*
Possessive adjectives *mon, ma, mes, ton, ta, tes, votre, vos*
Negation of articles
Review of all articles and their negation

Recognizing a few conditional forms (*tu aurais*)

Unité 9 Verbs *prendre, boire, vouloir* in the present
Regular endings of non -er verbs in the present
Partitive article *du, de la, de l'* contrasted with definite article *le, la, l'*
Expressions *du café* and *un café* contrasted
Place of adverbs of frequency
Negations *ne jamais (de)* and *ne rien*
Expressions of quantity (including containers) + *de*

Unité 10 Structure noun + *de* + noun (*un cours de français*)
A few noun endings associated with gender (*-ique, -isme, -ie, -tion, -ure,*
etc.)
Verbs *faire* and *être*

Unité 11 Ordinal numbers
Verbs *aller* and *venir* in the present
How to ask *how often . . . ?* and *how long . . . ?*
Preposition *à* + definite article (*le, la, l', les*)
Pronoun *y* ("there")
Required use of *y* with *aller*; prepositions *à, dans, en, sur* meaning *to* with
verbs *aller* and *venir*
What preposition to use with different means of transportation
How to say *I walk to campus, etc.*

Unité 12 Adverbs and expressions of quantity (*beaucoup vs. beaucoup de*)
Preposition *chez*
Stressed pronouns (*moi, toi, lui, etc.*)
Verbs followed by a second verb in the infinitive
Verb tenses used to refer to the future; future tense with *aller* + infinitive
Expressions *dimanche* and *ce dimanche*
Demonstrative adjectives *ce, cet, cette, ces*
Expressions to speak about the future with *prochain*
Verbs *pouvoir* and *devoir* in the present
A few forms of the conditional of politeness
Pronoun *y* as object of a verb in the infinitive
Adverb placement (*révision*)

Unité 13 Relative pronoun *qui*
Prepositions *chez* and *à* contrasted
Verb *acheter* in the present

Unité 14 Review of articles
Expressions *soit...soit* to enumerate alternatives and *ne pas...ni* to make
negative enumerations
What prepositions to use with food items that have two ingredients (*jus de*
fruit vs. pain au chocolat)

Unité 15 Verbs like *sortir* in the present tense
Contraction of the definite article after prepositions ending in *de* and *à*

A few verb constructions that differ in French and in English (*chercher quelque chose* vs. *to look for something*)
Expression "*il faut* + infinitive"

Unité 16 Possessive adjectives *mon, ton, son, notre, votre, leur*
Agreement of a few adjectives used to describe family members
Object pronoun *en*
Translating *he is, she is, they are* + a noun ("she's my sister")

Unité 17 Agreement of adjectives
A few irregular adjectives
Feminine form of adjectives ending in *-eux, -if, -el, -al*; plural form of adjectives ending in *-al*
Negation *ne...ni...ni* (*rappel*)
Stressed pronouns (*moi, toi, etc.*) after prepositions (*rappel*)
Stressed pronouns used to emphasize the subject of a sentence
Expression "*quelqu'un de* + adjective"
Comparative of adjectives and verbs
How to compare ages
A few verb constructions that differ in French and English (*ressembler à, écouter, chercher*) (*révision*)

Unité 18 Use of articles with names of professions
How to translate *he/she is* and *they are* + nouns (names of professions and other cases)
Feminine forms of names of professions ending in *-er, -eur, -ien*
A few forms of the *imparfait*

Unité 19 Verb *vivre* in the present; verbs *vivre* and *habiter* contrasted
Questions with *où* (where)
Uses of *en* and *dans* contrasted
Use of the definite article in front of states and countries; gender of states and countries
Prepositions meaning "in" or "to" in front of cities, states, countries
Preposition *depuis* to refer to how long or since when something has been going on; using the preposition *depuis* + noun to translate "since" + verb

Unité 20 *Passé composé* with *avoir*
Negation of verbs in the *passé composé*
A few verbs that take *être* in the *passé composé*
Agreement of past participles in verbs that form the *passé composé* with *être*, including agreement with the pronoun *on*
French equivalents of the present perfect (present tense with *depuis, passé composé* in other contexts)
Preposition *pendant* used with verbs in the *passé composé*
Using a preposition + noun rather than a conjunction + verb after the French equivalents of "until," "after," "before"
Prepositions *pendant* and *depuis* contrasted as equivalents of "for" + duration

Unité 21 Capitalization for nouns of nationality and the lowercase for adjectives of nationality

Marking gender and number for adjectives and nouns of nationality
Pronominal verb *se débrouiller* in the present
Articles used with languages after various verbs
Verbs *dire, lire, and écrire* in the present and the *passé composé*
Adjectives *bon* and *meilleur* and adverbs *bien* and *mieux*
Comparative structures (*révision*)

Unité 22 Prepositions + seasons
Phrases to talk about the weather in the present and *passé composé*

Unité 23 Verb *courir* in the present and *passé composé*
A few noun endings associated with gender (*-isme, -tion*)
Articles in front of names of sports
Verbs *faire* and *jouer* used with sports
How to say how long or since when you have been doing something (*depuis*)
and how long you did something in the past (*pendant*) (*révision*)
Pronoun *en* (*révision*)
Negation *ne plus*
Articles after a negation (*révision*)
A few forms of the *imparfait*
Describing a situation in the *imparfait* versus recounting what happened in
the *passé composé*

Unité 24 Verbs like *préférer* (*é + one consonant + er*)
Articles *les* and *des* (*révision*)
Object pronoun *ça* or absence of a pronoun after verbs of preference
(*révision*)
Use of *certain* / *certaines* with verbs of preference (*révision*)
Object pronouns *me, te, nous, vous* and their placement (including with
negations)
Number agreement of the verb following *qui* (*révision*)
Verbs *rire, sourire, plaire, and déplaire* in the present and *passé composé*
Typical placement of adverbs in the *passé composé*
Expressions *bon, bien, pas mal, pas terrible, nul / nulle*
Uses of *imparfait* and *passé composé* (*révision*)

Unité 25 Verbs like *mettre* and *grossir* in the present and *passé composé*
Adjectives and nouns referring to colors
Placement of attributive adjectives (i.e., adjectives that are not separated by
a verb from the noun they modify)
"BAGS" adjectives (i.e., adjectives that are placed before the noun they
modify)
Irregular adjectives *beau, nouveau, vieux*

Unité 26 Prepositions meaning "to" and "in" in front of countries and states (*révision*)
Prepositions + means of transportation (*révision*)
Prepositions to situate a place (*north of, next to, etc.; révision*)
Phrases to talk about the weather (*révision*)
Formation of the *passé composé* (*révision*)
Agreement of the past participle of verbs that take *être* in the *passé composé*
(*révision*)

Uses of *j'ai été* vs. *je suis allé*
All non-pronominal verbs that take *être* in the *passé composé*
Use of prepositions after *sortir*, *partir*, *entrer*, *passer*
The verb *passer*
Expressions of exclamation (*Qu'est-ce que c'est beau!*)
Place of the adjective *dernier*
Uses of *passé composé* and descriptive *imparfait* contrasted (*révision*)
How to translate "Have you ever done X?" (*révision*)

Unité 27 The preposition *depuis* (*révision*)
The expression *il y a* (*ago*) (*révision*)
Verbs *connaître* and *savoir* in the present and *passé composé*
Conjunction *que* after verbs like *savoir*, *penser*, *dire*, etc.
Direct object pronouns *le*, *la*, *l'*, *les* with verbs in the present
Direct object pronoun *en* (*révision*) ; direct object pronouns *en* and *le*, *la*, *l'*, *les* contrasted
Object pronouns *me*, *te*, *nous*, *vous* (*révision*)
Object pronouns *lui*, *leur* with verbs in the present
All pronouns that replace names of people (*le*, *la*, *l'*, *les*, *lui*, *leur* and stressed pronouns) contrasted
Verbs *mentir* and *envoyer* in the present and *passé composé*
Verbs that are conjugated like *répondre* in the present and *passé composé*
Verbs that have two objects (*qqch à qqn*)
A few verb constructions that differ in French and in English
Reciprocal pronominal verbs in the present
Object pronouns *le*, *la*, *l'*, *les*, *lui*, *leur*, *me*, *te*, *nous*, *vous* with verbs in the *passé composé*, including past participle agreement
The relative pronouns *qui* and *que* contrasted
The relative pronoun *que* and the conjunction *que* contrasted

Unité 28 Conjugation of pronominal verbs in the present, infinitive and *passé composé*, including in the negative
Use of the *accent grave* and of double consonants with verbs ending in e + one consonant + er (*se lever* versus *s'appeler*)
Expressions *lundi* and *le lundi* contrasted (*révision*)
Telling the time (*révision*)
Verbs + (*à/de*) + infinitive
Verbs like *sécher*, *essuyer*, and *s'ennuyer* in the present and *passé composé*
Use of the definite article with parts of the body
Past participle agreement of pronominal verbs

Unité 29 Verbs *faire* and *jouer* used with musical instruments
Negation *ne plus* (*révision*)
A few noun endings associated with gender (*révision*)
Verbs *coudre* and *peindre* in the present and *passé composé*
Verbs *savoir* and *pouvoir* contrasted

Unité 30 Articles *le*, *la*, *l'*, *les*, and *du*, *de la*, *de l'*, *des* and pronouns *en* and *ça* (*révision*)
Expressions of food with the prepositions *à* and *de* contrasted (*révision*)