



# ADVENTURES IN LANGUAGE



**FRENCH ACTIVITY**

*Near future and simple future in French*

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Near future, simple future, immediate future, present tense — are you feeling muddled up?! Or perhaps you just want to make sure you understand them all?

These exercises will help you get your head around the future tenses in French.

**A** Warm up:  
Project, promise, or command? For each sentence, determine if it is a plan for the future, a promise, or an order.

*Vous fermerez la porte avant de sortir.* → Command

1. *Tu me manqueras.*
2. *Tu donneras mes clés à Jules avant de partir.*
3. *On achètera une maison en bord de mer.*
4. *Tu es gentil, tu fermeras la fenêtre.*
5. *Nous ne vous oublierons jamais.*
6. *Tu me le paieras !*

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**B** What would you say? For each situation, choose the right phrase in the future tense. For an extra challenge, scroll down to level 2 to conjugate the verbs yourself instead!

## Example:

Your friend found out she was pregnant, what would you say in French?

**Level 1:** *Elle va avoir un bébé. Elle aura un bébé. Elle est sur le point d'avoir un bébé.*

**Level 2:** *(avoir un bébé) → Elle va avoir un bébé.*

## LEVEL 1

1. You are walking in the countryside with a friend. She's about to fall in a ditch, what would you say in French?  
*- Attention ! Tu tomberas ! Tu vas tomber ! Tu es sur le point de tomber !*
2. You heard tomorrow's weather forecast on the radio. What would you say in French?  
*Demain, il est sur le point de pleuvoir. Il pleuvra. Il va pleuvoir. Il pleut.*
3. Clouds are threatening your picnic. What would you say in French?  
*Oh la la ! Il pleut ! Il va pleuvoir ! Il est sur le point de pleurer ! Il pleuvra !*
4. You haven't slept much the night before and you suddenly feel very tired, what would you say in French?  
*Bon, je me couche - je me vais coucher - je suis sur le point de me coucher - je vais me coucher.*
5. You found the perfect gift for your friend and you know he'll feel emotional. You are about to give it to him, what would you say in French?  
*Je suis sûre qu'il pleure - il pleurera - il va pleurer - il est sur le point de pleurer.*



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## B

### LEVEL 2

1. You are walking in the countryside with a friend.  
She's about to fall in a ditch, what would you say in French?  
*Attention ! (Tu - tomber) .....* !
2. You heard tomorrow's weather forecast on the radio. What would you say in French?  
*Demain, (il - pleuvoir) .....*
3. Clouds are threatening your picnic. What would you say in French?  
*Oh la la ! (Il - pleuvoir) .....* !
4. You haven't slept much the night before and you suddenly feel very tired, what would you say in French?  
*Bon, (je - se coucher) .....*
5. You found the perfect gift for your friend and you know he'll feel emotional.  
You are about to give it to him, what would you say in French?  
*Je suis sûre qu'(il - pleurer) .....*



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**C** You are watching a French series in its original version without subtitles. (Good for you!) However, the background noise and the mumbling of the actors make it hard to understand. Can you find out what they'd be saying about their future plans?

Ça y est, j'ai réservé mes billets et l'hôtel : je ..... à la fin du mois ! (partir)

Quoi ??? Déjà ?

Oui ! J'en ai marre d'attendre. Je n'arrive à rien ici. Je ..... d'air. (changer)

Tu as sans doute raison de partir, ça ..... du bien. (te faire + peut-être)

Ah non, c'est sûr et certain que ça ..... un bien fou ! Je ..... à zéro. (me faire / repartir)

Tu me ..... ? Tu me ..... des emails ou moins, hein ? (appeler / envoyer)



## A little help

*J'en ai marre*  
*N'arriver à rien*  
*Changer d'air*  
*Sans doute*  
*(Faire) un bien fou*  
*Repartir à zéro*

I'm fed up  
not to succeed in anything  
to change scenery  
maybe (false friend!)  
(to do) wonders / a world of good  
to start anew



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**D** Translation. How would you say these sentences in French? Above all, which tense would you use?  
For a little help, check our word bank below.

1. If it rains, I'll stay at home.

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2. When he arrives, they'll be eating.

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3. While he sleeps, we will play cards.

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4. As soon as he turns 18, he'll go to Europe.

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5. Once she's here, we'll start the movie.

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## A little help

*Pendant que*

while

*Avoir 18 ans*

to turn 18

*Dès que / aussitôt que*

as soon as

*Une fois que*

once

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## A Warm up

1. Tu me manqueras. → projection
2. Tu donneras mes clés à Jules avant de partir. → command
3. On achètera une maison en bord de mer. → projection
4. Tu es gentil, tu fermeras la fenêtre. → command
5. Nous ne vous oublierons jamais. → promise
6. Tu me le paieras ! → promise (It's actually a threat...)

## B What would you say?

1. You are walking in the countryside with a friend. She's about to fall in a ditch, what would you say in French?  
- Attention ! ~~Tu tomberas!~~ Tu vas tomber ! Tu es sur le point de tomber !  
(The last option is too long, the person would be in the ditch before you even finished the sentence!)
2. You heard tomorrow's weather forecast on the radio. What would you say in French?  
Demain, ~~il est sur le point de pleuvoir.~~ Il pleuvra. Il va pleuvoir. Il pleut.
3. Clouds are threatening your picnic. What would you say in French?  
Oh la la ! ~~Il pleut!~~ Il va pleuvoir ! ~~Il est sur le point de pleurer!~~ (Watch out for the trap! pleurer = 'to cry')-Il pleuvra!
4. You haven't slept much the night before and you suddenly feel very tired, what would you say in French?  
Bon, ~~je me couche~~-je me vais coucher (Watch out! The reflexive pronoun goes between aller and the infinitive)  
~~-je suis sur le point de me coucher-~~ je vais me coucher.
5. You found the perfect gift for your friend and you know he'll feel emotional.  
You are about to give it to him, what would you say in French?  
Je suis sûre qu'~~il pleure~~ - ~~il pleurera~~ (You are 100 percent sure, so it can't be the simple future)  
- il va pleurer - ~~il est sur le point de pleurer.~~

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## C Subtitles

- Ça y est, j'ai réservé mes billets et l'hôtel :  
je **pars** OR **vais partir** à la fin du mois.  
→ Both work. Using the present tense makes it more vibrant.  
Je **vais changer** d'air.  
→ Result of the current situation.
- Tu as raison de partir, ça **te fera peut-être** du bien.  
→ *Peut-être* implies a doubt, hence the simple future.
- Ah non, c'est sûr et certain que ça **va me faire** un bien fou.  
→ *Sûr et certain* implies certainty hence the near future.  
Je **repars / vais repartir** à zéro.  
→ Both work.
- Tu **m'écriras** ? Tu **m'enverras** des emails au moins, hein ?  
→ There is a doubt, hence the future tense. Also, make sure *me* turns into *m'* in front of a vowel!

## D Translation

1. S'il pleut, **je resterai** à la maison.
2. Quand **il arrivera, on sera / nous serons en train de** manger.  
→ If you just translated it into "*on mangera / nous mangerons*" it would mean you'll start eating then, not that you will **already** be eating.
3. Pendant qu'**il dormira, on jouera / nous jouerons** aux cartes.
4. Dès qu'**il aura** 18 ans, **il ira** en Europe.
5. Une fois qu'**elle sera** là, **ils commenceront** le film.

