

Near Future, Recent Past & Present Progressive in French

French A1 Grammar · 22 cards



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Rules

How do you form the near future (« futur proche »)?

aller (in the present) + infinitive, for something that is going to happen or is planned
Je vais partir. (I'm going to leave.)

Where do « ne » and « pas » go in the near future?

Around « aller »
Je ne vais pas partir. (I'm not going to leave.)

How do you say that something has just happened?

venir de (in the present) + infinitive, with « d' » before a vowel or silent h
Je viens de manger. Il vient d'arriver. (I've just eaten. He's just arrived.)

How do you emphasize that something is happening right now?

être (in the present) + en train de + infinitive, with « d' » before a vowel or silent h
Je suis en train de lire. (I'm reading right now.)
French often uses the simple present when no emphasis is needed.

How do you tell « aller + infinitive » from « venir de + infinitive »?

aller + infinitive: it is going to happen or is planned
venir de + infinitive: it has just happened
Je vais sortir. Je viens de rentrer. (I'm going to go out. I've just come home.)

Exercises

Write your answer on the line. The answers are at the end.

1. Put in the near future: Je visite Paris.

2. Put in the near future: Il fait beau.

3. Put in the near future: Elles finissent le travail.

4. Put in the near future: Tu prends le train ?



5. Put in the near future: Nous dînon au restaurant.

6. Make negative: Je vais sortir ce soir.

7. Make negative: Ils vont venir.

8. Put in the recent past: Elle téléphone à sa mère.

9. Put in the recent past: Tu finis tes devoirs ?

10. Put in the recent past: Nous arrivons.

11. Put in the recent past: Le film commence.

12. Emphasize that it is happening right now: Je travaille.

13. Emphasize that it is happening right now: Ils regardent un film.

14. Emphasize that it is happening right now: Elle prépare le dîner.

15. Emphasize that it is happening right now: Nous attendons le bus.

16. Choose: Il ____ partir, il n'est plus là. (va / vient de)

17. Choose: Demain, nous ____ visiter le musée. (allons / venons de)



Answer key

1. Je vais visiter Paris.
(I'm visiting Paris. → I'm going to visit Paris.)
2. Il va faire beau.
(The weather is nice. → The weather is going to be nice.)
3. Elles vont finir le travail.
(They finish work. → They're going to finish work.)
4. Tu vas prendre le train ?
(Are you taking the train? → Are you going to take the train?)
5. Nous allons dîner au restaurant.
(We're having dinner at a restaurant. → We're going to have dinner at a restaurant.)
6. Je ne vais pas sortir ce soir.
(I'm going to go out tonight. → I'm not going to go out tonight.)
7. Ils ne vont pas venir.
(They're going to come. → They're not going to come.)
8. Elle vient de téléphoner à sa mère.
(She phones her mother. → She has just phoned her mother.)
9. Tu viens de finir tes devoirs ?
(Are you finishing your homework? → Have you just finished your homework?)
10. Nous venons d'arriver.
(We're arriving. → We've just arrived.)
11. Le film vient de commencer.
(The film is starting. → The film has just started.)
12. Je suis en train de travailler.
(I'm working. → I'm working right now.)
13. Ils sont en train de regarder un film.
(They're watching a film. → They're watching a film right now.)
14. Elle est en train de préparer le dîner.
(She's making dinner. → She's making dinner right now.)
15. Nous sommes en train d'attendre le bus.
(We're waiting for the bus. → We're waiting for the bus right now.)
16. Il vient de partir, il n'est plus là.
(He has just left, he isn't here anymore.)
17. Demain, nous allons visiter le musée.
(Tomorrow, we're going to visit the museum.)