

Study Plans

Divided by level and schedule
(20 min/day, 40 min/day....)



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Study Plan for Beginners

This study plan is ideal for beginners who have no previous experience with French, or even those with a limited background in French.

How to use this guide

First of all, *congratulations on deciding to embark on a new journey!* I am as thrilled as you are with your new pursuit. To help you figure out how to use this study guide, here are some things you should understand before proceeding.

- **The frequency of study is categorized into different levels of *busy-ness***

This study plan is designed to accommodate your level of busy-ness. See below for the schedule break-downs.

1. **Ultra Busy** – these are the *super-busy, running-around-all-day* kind of learners, those who can only allocate 15 – 20 minutes each day to studying. I value quality of learning over quantity, so that is better than nothing, right?
2. **Busy Bee** – these are the learners who are still quite busy but can spare 30 – 40 minutes daily to learn French.
3. **Slightly Busy** – these are the learners who can sneak in an hour per day to study French.
4. **Plenty of Time** – these are the learners who have the luxury to appropriate 2 hours every day to focus on French. In an ideal world, all language learners would be able to spare this much time.

- **Monthly objectives**

Due to the differences in the lengths of time spent by each learner on studying daily, each learner type will have a different pace of learning. Therefore, the target number of grammar topics will vary. See the chart below for a guide on the monthly objectives.

Busy-ness level	Number of grammar topics per week	Number of topics per month
Ultra Busy	1 – 2	6 – 8
Busy Bee	2 – 3	8 – 12
Slightly Busy	3	12
Plenty of Time	4 – 5	15

• Beginner level vocabulary topics

To get you started, here is a list of the vocabulary topics you should focus on at this point in your learning journey. Use this list to guide you as you set the vocabulary foundation you will build your studies upon.

For the most extensive vocabulary list, grab a copy of the e-book “[Improving French Vocabulary](#).” It has a comprehensive list of vocabulary you will need, including the words on this list. You can also review this article for [tips on how to efficiently memorize vocabulary](#).

o Age	o Food
o Appearances and Describing People	o Greetings
o Asking for Directions/ Giving Directions	o Hobbies
o Asking for Favors	o Introductions
o Clothing	o Jobs & Occupations
o Countable & Uncountable Nouns/ Numbers	o Making Plans
o Daily Routines	o Months
o Days of the Week	o Telling Time
o Family	o Weather
o Feelings/ Emotions	o Weekends

• Beginner level grammar topics

To guide you on which topics to focus on, here is a list of grammar topics for your level of learning. Grab a copy of the “[Beginner's French Grammar e-book](#)” as a resource.

o Les Salutations (greetings)	o Using Avoir in Perfect Tense (Passé Composé)
o Les Articles (articles)	o Using être in Perfect Tense (Passé Composé)
o Le verbe “être”	o The Imperfect Tense
o La negation (negation)	o Comparative and Superlative
o Il y a (there is)	o Possessive and Demonstrative Adjectives
o Poser des questions (asking questions)	o Direct and Indirect Object Pronouns
o Le présent simple (simple present)	o Adverbs
o The Quick Way to Express Past, Present, and Future	o Relative Pronoun (que/ that)
o Expressing Causes and Results	o Numbers
o Directions and Locations	o Time, Duration, and Related Expressions

- **Resource materials**

Before you move on to the daily plan for the first 7 days, it is highly recommended that you download the free Talk in French learning package here:
<http://www.talkinfrench.com/french-free-package>.

It contains a wide range of resources that you can use to kick-start your learning. You can also find a lot of articles on talkinfrench.com that are specifically designed for beginners. Explore those [articles here](#).

Recommended e-books from Talk in French: You will need a [good grammar book](#), such as those previously mentioned, as well as an extensive vocabulary book that you can still use even as you progress to higher learning levels. You can get the “[Improving French Vocabulary](#)” e-book now.

You can also purchase my French phrasebook with tons of great phrases that will help you sound like a natural French speaker. Get my French Phrasebook [here](#).

The 7-Day Plan

Day 1: 1 hour

No matter how busy your schedule is, it is highly recommended that you allocate 1 hour to studying for the first day of your French language journey. Your first task is the following:

Start by studying pronunciation for 50 minutes

Get to know the different French alphabet sounds and their pronunciations, from the vowels to the consonants and the stress and accent marks. You can download the pronunciation guide [here](https://www.talkinfrench.com/download-pronunciation-guide-mp3). It comes with a free mp3 as well so you can practice listening.

<https://www.talkinfrench.com/download-pronunciation-guide-mp3>.

Tackling pronunciation first is the most logical way to go about studying, since doing so will give your listening skills an immediate boost. You can learn to recognize words, which will make vocabulary easier to remember and give your reading and speaking skills an instant boost.

After studying pronunciation, follow it up with studying the **basic greetings** for 10 minutes. Try pronouncing the greetings using the rules you have just learned.

Day 2

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Learn new vocabulary	5 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes	30 minutes
Grammar lesson	10 minutes	20 minutes	20 minutes	40 minutes
Practice listening	5 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes	20 minutes
Practice reading			10 minutes	10 minutes
Practice speaking (alternative writing)				20 minutes

Day 3

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Learn new vocabulary	5 minutes	10 minutes	10 minutes	30 minutes
Grammar lesson	10 minutes	20 minutes	15 minutes	30 minutes
Practice listening			15 minutes	20 minutes
Practice reading				10 minutes
Practice speaking (alternative writing)	5 minutes	10 minutes	20 minutes	30 minutes

Day 4

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Learn new vocabulary	5 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes	30 minutes
Grammar lesson	10 minutes	20 minutes	20 minutes	30 minutes
Practice listening			15 minutes	30 minutes
Practice reading	5 minutes	10 minutes	10 minutes	10 minutes
Practice speaking (alternative writing)				20 minutes

Day 5

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Learn new vocabulary	5 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes	30 minutes
Grammar lesson	10 minutes	20 minutes	20 minutes	30 minutes
Practice listening	5 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes	20 minutes
Practice reading			10 minutes	20 minutes
Practice speaking (alternative writing)				20 minutes

Day 6: Review

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Review vocabulary	5- 10 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes	20 minutes
Review grammar lesson	5- 10 minutes	20 minutes	20 minutes	30 minutes
Practice listening			10 minutes	20 minutes
Practice reading				20 minutes
Practice speaking (alternative writing)	5 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes	30 minutes

Day 7: Rest (Watch a French movie or, even better, a TV series with French subtitles)

Repeat this schedule during the coming weeks until you learn all the grammar points and vocabulary topics for your level.

Since you are just starting out, it is important for you to begin strong and keep yourself motivated. To do that, 15 – 30 minutes of learning per day just won't cut it. However, I am aware that you likely have a busy schedule, so I have created a guide to help you continue learning at a successful rate.

Here is a recommended list of additional activities that you can weave into your daily routine. Take note that the time indicated is just a guide and you can change it to fit your lifestyle. Likewise, feel free to pick and choose among the suggested activities and stick to the ones that are the most fun for you. The important thing is to get French into your system to solidify a lasting learning habit.

Morning:

- **(6 am)** On your morning jog, listen to French techno music in **TuneIn** or **Spotify**. For starters, you can look for the album 1, 2, 3 Techno: Songs for Learning French. It has easy to follow songs that are perfect for beginners.
- **(8 am)** During your commute to work, listen to the Absolute Beginner podcast in **FrenchPod101** or season 1 of **Coffee Break French**. Talk In French will also be releasing a new podcast soon, so watch out for it!

Afternoon:

- **(2 pm)** While sipping coffee, take out your smartphone and sign in to **memrise.com**. Use the app to learn new vocabulary easily with its fun memory games. Some days you can also mix it up with **Anki**. You can decide which works best for you.
- **(3:30 pm)** Need a breather from all the hard work you are putting in at the office? Then it is definitely time for a social media break. Visit the [Talk In French Facebook page](#) and learn the word of the day. You can check it out on Instagram, too. Search for the account name @talkinfrench.
- **(5 pm)** Head home while listening to French songs through **TuneIn Radio** or **Spotify**. There are tons of good French songs you can listen to from a variety of genres.

Evening:

- **(6 pm)** It is time for your daily study! Whether it is 20 minutes or 2 hours, make the most of it and learn as much as you can without pushing yourself past the limit. Learning should be fun, after all.
- **(9 pm)** It is time to relax and reflect on all of the knowledge you have gained during the day.

Note:

If you have found a native French speaker online (or a tutor) to practice speaking with, the schedule for your speaking practice will vary depending on which time zone you are in. Take into account the time difference and work out your schedule based on what works for you and your conversation partner. If you are in Australia, it could be during the evening while it is morning in France and most French-speaking countries; if you are in the US or Canada, it could be some time during the morning or early afternoon.

Study Plan for Intermediate Learners

This study plan is ideal for learners who already have previous experience studying the French language but have not yet achieved proficiency.

Focus Areas

If you are an intermediate-level learner, you are most likely facing problems understanding native speakers or quickly translating in your head before you speak. To address these issues, this study plan will focus on enhancing your listening and writing skills.

Here is a list of priority vocabulary that you should tackle at your stage. For the most extensive list of vocabulary, grab a copy of the e-book [Improving French Vocabulary](#). Covering 18,000 words, it includes a comprehensive list of the vocabulary you will need. Additional sources and descriptions are listed in the chart below. You can also review this article for [tips on how to efficiently memorize vocabulary](#).

Chores	<i>See vocabulary book</i>	Adverbs of Degree	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Colors	<i>See vocabulary book</i>	Adverbs of Frequency	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Comparatives	Here is a good article for comparatives	Agree/ Disagree	See the article 50 French expressions for agreeing/ disagreeing
Entertainment	<i>See vocabulary book</i>	Books & Reading	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Favorite Things	<i>See vocabulary book</i>	Cooking	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Fruit/ Vegetables	Review fruits and veggies here	Cultures	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Health	<i>See vocabulary book</i>	Drinks	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Body Parts	<i>See vocabulary book</i>	Environment	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Beauty & Physical Attractiveness	<i>See vocabulary book</i>	Goals	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
House/ Home	<i>See vocabulary book</i>	Hopes, Dreams, & Wishes	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Likes and Dislikes	<i>See vocabulary book</i>	In the Supermarket	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Movies	<i>See vocabulary book</i>	Invitations (How to Invite)	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Nationalities	<i>See vocabulary book</i>	Main Furniture and Home Kitchen/ Living Room/ Bathroom/ Bedroom	Review material here .
Personality & Character	See common vocabulary here	Buildings & Places	<i>See vocabulary book</i>

Restaurants & Eating Out	See additional slang phrases for dining and drinking and vocabulary for food and drink	Making a Complaint	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Seasons	Good material can be found here	Music	Vocabulary for music and dancing
Shapes	<i>See vocabulary book</i>	Opposites	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Shopping	You can also check out the article Clothes and Footwear	Parties	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Transportation	<i>See vocabulary book</i>	Sports	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Vacations (Holidays)	<i>See vocabulary book</i>	Summer Theme	<i>See vocabulary book</i>

Enhancing your grammar knowledge can also help you in this stage of your learning. Brush up on your skills with the following list of priority topics. You can grab a copy of the e-book “[French Grammar for Intermediate](#)” to help you. Additional materials are included in the chart below.

Imperative	Review it here: https://www.talkinfrench.com/learning-french-imperative-imperatif/
Cardinal Numbers vs. Ordinal Numbers	Review it here: https://www.talkinfrench.com/french-numbers
Telling the Time	Review it here: https://www.talkinfrench.com/tell-time-french/
The Weather	<i>See grammar book</i>
The Perfect Tense (Passé Composé) vs. The Imperfect Tense (Imparfait)	<i>See grammar book</i> <i>(French Beginner Grammar in 30 days from Talk in French)</i> <i>Chapter 10</i>
Simple Future Tense	<i>Intermediate's French Grammar in 30 days from Talk in French</i> <i>Chapter 6</i>
Placement of Adjective	Review it here: http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/adjectives_4.htm
The Subjunctive Mood	Review it here: https://www.talkinfrench.com/5-things-need-know-french-subjunctive/ and here: https://www.talkinfrench.com/french-subjunctive-phrases/
Conditionals/ Conditional Tense (Passé Composé)	A supplementary article can be found here: https://www.talkinfrench.com/french-conditional-tense/
en and y	A quick guide can be found here: https://www.talkinfrench.com/french-pronoun-en-y-use-grammar/
C'est and il est	Review it here: http://french.about.com/library/weekly/aa032500.htm
Stressed Pronouns	Check out this article: http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/pronouns_stressed.htm
Order of Double Object	<i>Intermediate's French Grammar in 30 days from Talk in French</i> <i>Chapter 6</i>

Pronominal Verbs Re-flexive Verbs	<i>Intermediate's French Grammar in 30 days from Talk in French</i> <i>Chapter 15</i>
Reciprocal Verb	<i>Intermediate's French Grammar in 30 days from Talk in French</i> <i>Chapter 13</i>
Idiomatic Pronominal Verbs	<i>Intermediate's French Grammar in 30 days from Talk in French</i> <i>Chapter 14</i>
Negation and Interrogation in Compound Tense	<i>Intermediate's French Grammar in 30 days from Talk in French</i> <i>Chapter 26</i>
Word Choice - Savoir or Connaître	<i>Intermediate's French Grammar in 30 days from Talk in French</i> <i>Chapter 27</i>
Coordinating Conjunctions	<i>Intermediate's French Grammar in 30 days from Talk in French</i> <i>Chapter 18</i>
Subordinating Conjunctions	<i>Intermediate's French Grammar in 30 days from Talk in French</i> <i>Chapter 17</i>

As a background, every language is divided into four different skills: reading and listening (receptive skills), and speaking and writing (productive skills). To be considered proficient in a language, you have to be adept at all four skills.

In order to tackle the different language skills mentioned, there are some prerequisites. These basic requirements will serve as the foundation for you to build your knowledge on.

Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Pronunciation · Vocabulary · Knowledge of grammar · An understanding of conversational patterns 	Listening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Pronunciation · Knowledge of grammar · Understanding of conversational patterns and colloquial uses · Vocabulary (formal and informal) · Access to materials or native speakers to practice listening
Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Vocabulary · Knowledge of grammar 	Speaking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Pronunciation · Low to mid-level grammar (to be able to get your message across) · Vocabulary (focus on the 1,500 high frequency words)

Recommended e-books from Talk in French: You will need a [good grammar book](#), such as those previously mentioned, as well as an extensive vocabulary book that you can use even as you progress to higher learning levels. You can get the “[Improving French Vocabulary](#)” e-book now.

The 7-Day Plan

Before you move on to the daily plan for the first 7 days, it is highly recommended that you check out the [intermediate level resources](#) available on the Talk In French website. You should also consider following the steps suggested [HERE](#) and [HERE](#) on how you can form a listening habit that sticks. For variety, a good book to have is “Learn French with Stories,” which you can get [here](#).

For grammar, check out the e-book “[French Grammar for Intermediate](#).” For vocabulary, this is a good resource book to have: <http://www.talkinfrench.com/french-vocabulary-ebook/>.

Day 1: (1 hour)

Start by going through a refresher course for 45 minutes

Review pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary here:

<https://www.talkinfrench.com/download-pronunciation-guide-mp3>

Follow up with a listening practice for 15 minutes. Check out this link for a good resource that includes transcription:

http://www1.rfi.fr/lffr/statiques/accueil_apprendre.asp

Day 2: Reading

For day 2, do a little bit of reading. Visit this link for some good reading exercises:

<http://www.bonjourdefrance.co.uk/learn-french-online/comprehension/exercices-elementary>

Practice your listening skills by choosing one of the resources provided earlier. For vocabulary practice, list 20 – 30 words you encountered during your reading and listening exercise and learn their meanings. Practice speaking and pronouncing these words.

How busy are you?

Check out the chart below to determine the length of time you should allot for each task depending on your schedule. Of course, a longer amount of time (1 to 2 hours per day) is ideal. However, if you are busy, a good 20 – 40 minute session is enough to learn the essentials.

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Grammar lesson		10 minutes	10 minutes	10 minutes
Practice listening	5 minutes	10 minutes	10 minutes	20 minutes
Practice reading	5 minutes	5 minutes	15 minutes	30 minutes
Learn new vocabulary	5 minutes	5 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes
Practice speaking				20 minutes
Practice writing	5 minutes	10 minutes	10 minutes	25 minutes

Day 3: Writing/ Speaking (If you can find a partner or tutor)

For day 3, it is time for a writing exercise! Think of a subject you are interested in and compose a short essay on the topic. Try to use some grammar points you recently learned, as well as 20 – 30 new vocabulary words, as you write.

How busy are you?

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Grammar lesson	5 minutes	10 minutes	10 minutes	10 minutes
Practice listening		5 minutes	5 minutes	20 minutes
Practice reading		5 minutes	5 minutes	10 minutes

Learn new vocabulary		10 minutes	10 minutes	20 minutes
Practice writing	15 minutes	30 minutes	20 minutes	20 minutes
Practice speaking			20 minutes	40 minutes

Day 4: Grammar

Choose a problem area in your grammar studies and focus on it. Here are some ideas for review: <http://french.about.com/od/intgram/>

How busy are you?

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Grammar lesson	15 minutes	15 minutes	30 minutes	50 minutes
Practice listening	5 minutes	5 minutes	5 minutes	15 minutes
Practice reading		5 minutes	5 minutes	10 minutes
Learn new vocabulary		10 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes
Practice writing		5 minutes	10 minutes	10 minutes
Practice speaking				20 minutes

Day 5: Reading Comprehension

Focus on reading for day 5. Go to <http://www.bonjourdefrance.co.uk/learn-french-online/comprehension/exercices-elementary> and practice reading to improve your comprehension.

List 20 – 30 words you encountered during your reading exercise and learn their meanings. Practice speaking and pronouncing these words.

How busy are you?

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Grammar lesson		10 minutes	10 minutes	20 minutes
Practice listening	5 minutes	5 minutes	10 minutes	20 minutes
Practice reading	15 minutes	15 minutes	20 minutes	40 minutes
Learn new vocabulary		10 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes
Practice writing			10 minutes	20 minutes
Practice speaking				

Day 6: Focus on Listening.

On day 6, it is time to devote your time to listening. Listen to French podcasts, music, clips of conversations, or the live journal (http://www1.rfi.fr/lffr/statiques/accueil_apprendre.asp).

List 20 – 30 vocabulary words you heard, study their meanings, and use them in sentences of your own.

How busy are you?

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Grammar lesson				
Practice listening	15 minutes	15 minutes	20 minutes	40 minutes
Read the transcripts		5 minutes	10 minutes	20 minutes
Learn new vocabulary	5 minutes	10 minutes	10 minutes	20 minutes
Practice speaking		10 minutes	20 minutes	20 minutes
Practice writing				20 minutes

Day 7: Recap or Practice Speaking With Someone.

Review everything you have learned in the last week, and treat yourself to a good French movie!

ULTRA BUSY	BUSY BEE	SLIGHTLY BUSY	PLENTY OF TIME
Set aside at least 25 minutes for review	Set aside around 50 minutes for review	Allocate around 75 minutes for review	Allocate the entire 2 hours, plus an additional 20 minutes, for review

Study Plan for Advanced Learners

This study plan is ideal for learners who have already developed an advanced level of proficiency in French. You can be considered an advanced learner if you:

- Can hold conversations for an extended period of time and can write lengthy texts.
- Can distinguish between formal and informal speech.
- Still make occasional mistakes in grammar but have little difficulty communicating about everyday topics and specialized subjects.
- Have a strong grasp of French pronunciation, though you do not yet sound like a native speaker.

If you have already reached this level, *great job!* You are well on your way to fluency. Continue studying at a steady pace and keep your motivation intact.

Focus Areas

At this stage, the most common trouble areas for learners are:

- Prepositions (à / de)
- Subjunctive
- Conditional
- Expressions
- Pronominal Verbs (especially idiomatic)
- Pronunciation (especially understanding French rhythm)
- Indefinite and Partitive Articles (De, du, de la, or des?)
- Verbs with Prepositions
- C'est vs Il est
- The different uses of *Le*
- Indefinite French
- Impersonal French
- Reflexive vs. Object Pronouns
- Agreement

As an advanced French learner, your focus should be on these troublesome areas. Aside from that, a wider vocabulary is also expected for you to move forward in your learning.

Recommended e-books from Talk in French: To expand your vocabulary, listed below are some priority vocabulary topics for you to focus on. For the most extensive list of vocabulary words, grab a copy of the e-book [Improving French Vocabulary](#). It covers 18,000+ words and all the vocabulary that you will need.

Annoying Habits / Bad habits	Book Review (Report)	Architecture	Addiction
Birthdays	Dieting	Body Language	Advertising
Countries & Capitals	Dreams, Daydreams, & Nightmares	Celebrities & Famous People	Creative Writing
Customs & Traditions	Fashion	Crime	Disability
Dating	Healthy Lifestyle	Fair / Not Fair / Unfair	Discrimination
Planning a Trip	Idioms	Fairy Tale & Fantasy	Drinking Alcohol
Exhibits / Museums	Internet	Government	Gambling
Fears & Phobias	Money	History	Gender Roles
Gardening	New Year's Resolutions	Honesty	Smoking
Machines	Dream House	Humor	Socializing
Manners	Making Promises	Inventions	Tolerance
Nature	Rules & Taboos	Jokes	Racism
Part-time Jobs	Vegetarianism	Lies / Lying	Charity / Volunteer Work
Pets	Writing a Letter	Politics	Natural Disasters
Playground	Gestures	Police, Detectives, & Prison	Poverty
Senses	Make-up	Prejudice	Retirement
Friendship	Science	Punishment	Flowers
Tools	Religion	Job Interview	Animals
Toys	Art	Radio	
Visiting a Doctor	Relationships	Culture Shock	

Further enhancing your grammar knowledge can also help you at this stage of your learning process. Brush up on your skills with the following list of priority topics.

Advanced Grammar Topics	Resources
Prepositions Par, Pour and En	Review par here: http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/preposition_par.htm , Review pour here: http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/preposition_pour.htm Review en here: http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/preposition_en.htm
Prepositions à and de	Review à here: http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/preposition_a.htm Review de here: http://french.about.com/library/prepositions/bl_prep_de.htm Review here: http://french.about.com/library/prepositions/bl_prep_a_vs_de.htm
Verbs with Prepositions de and à	http://french.about.com/library/prepositions/bl_prep_a_vs_de2.htm
Express the Objective	<i>Intermediate's French Grammar in 30 days from Talk in French</i> Chapter 24
Express Opposition and Restriction	<i>Intermediate's French Grammar in 30 days from Talk in French</i> Chapter 25
The Three Forms of 'If' in French	<i>Intermediate's French Grammar in 30 days from Talk in French</i> Chapter 7
Exclamation Sentence	http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/exclamations.htm
The Present Participle	http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/presentparticiple.htm

Using c'est...que / qui Sentence Structure for Emphasis	http://french.about.com/od/pronunciation/a/tonicaccent.htm
The Infinitive Mood	http://french.about.com/od/infinitive/
The Pluperfect	Review these pages: http://www.talkinfrench.com/french-pluperfect/ and http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/pastperfect.htm
Impersonal Verb	http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/impersonal-verbs.htm
The Passive Voice	http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/passivevoice.htm
The Future Perfect (Anterior Future)	http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/futureperfect.htm
The Historical Past Tense (Simple Past)	Review these pages: https://www.talkinfrench.com/french-past-simple-passe-simple/ http://www.french-linguistics.co.uk/grammar/passe_simple.shtml and http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/passesimple.htm
The Past Subjunctive	http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/pastsubjunctive.htm

Special Expressions with Subjunctive and Indicative	https://www.talkinfrench.com/french-subjunctive-phrases/
Modal Verbs	Visit these pages: https://www.talkinfrench.com/french-modal-verbs/ and http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/french-modal-verbs.htm
Sequence of Tenses - Concordance des temps	http://french.about.com/library/weekly/bl-concordancedestemps.htm

Here are additional (super) advanced topics that you can also work on. At this point, however, it is still completely optional.

Double Negation	http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/negation_double.htm
Indirect Speech	http://french.about.com/library/weekly/aa031100i.htm
French Causative - Le Causatif	http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/causative.htm
French Faux Adjectives ~ Adjectifs Occasionnels	http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/adjectives_faux.htm
French Expletive Ne - Formal French	http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/negation_form_2.htm
French Passive Infinitive	http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/passiveinf.htm

As a quick background, every language is divided into four different skills: reading and listening (receptive skills), and speaking and writing (productive skills). To be considered fluent in a certain language, you have to be adept at all four skills.

In order to tackle the different language skills mentioned, there are some prerequisites. These basic requirements serve as the foundation on which you should build your knowledge. As an advanced learner, a strong knowledge of the fundamentals for each skill is necessary.

Reading	Listening
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pronunciation • Vocabulary • Knowledge of grammar • An understanding of conversational patterns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pronunciation • Knowledge of grammar • Understanding of conversational patterns and colloquial use • Vocabulary (formal and informal) • Access to materials or native speakers to practice listening

Writing	Speaking
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Vocabulary · Knowledge of grammar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Pronunciation · Grammar · Vocabulary · Access to native speakers to practice speaking

Materials and Resources

For advanced learners, the key to moving forward with your studies is to focus on acquiring more vocabulary and expressions, and to strengthen your knowledge of more complicated grammar topics. Make sure to browse the available materials in [TalkInFrench.com](https://www.talkinfrench.com) created specifically for advanced learners like you. To exponentially increase your vocabulary, you can also check out the most comprehensive [vocabulary e-book in the market](#), covering 18,000+ translated French words on 50 topics.

To help you sound more like a native speaker, brush up on your colloquial phrases and slang words. You can check out some excellent material [here](#).

The 7-Day Plan

Day 1: (1 hour)

Start by going through a refresher course for 45 minutes

Review grammar and vocabulary and take stock of all that you have learned so far. Do a recap, focusing on any difficult points you might have encountered (see common areas listed in the beginning of this study plan); focus on those topics for your review.

Follow up with an **immersion activity for 15 minutes**. Stream [French songs](#), listen to French podcasts, or watch a [French TV series](#). You can find other good reading resources for advanced learners here: <http://french.about.com/od/advlist/>.

Day 2:

For day 2, it is time to work on improving your grammar. Review one of the grammar topics listed above.

How busy are you?

Check out the chart below to see the length of time you should allot for each task depending on your schedule. Of course, a longer amount of time (1 to 2 hours per day) is ideal. However, if you are busy, a good 20 to 40 minute session is enough to absorb the essentials.

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Grammar review	15 minutes	30 minutes	40 minutes	45 minutes
Practice listening				15 minutes
Practice reading	5 minutes	10 minutes	20 minutes	15 minutes
Learn new vocabulary				15 minutes
Practice speaking (For example: form sentences using the subjunctive/ conditional)				30 minutes

Day 3:

For day 3, it is time to focus on sounding better and mastering French conversations. Listen to conversational French podcasts and practice speaking with a native French speaker. If you do not have a regular conversation partner at this point, you can visit sites such as [Italki](#) or [Interpals](#) to find one.

How busy are you?

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Practice listening	5 minutes	10 minutes	20 minutes	40 minutes
Practice writing				20 minutes (learn colloquial phrases)
Practice speaking	15 minutes	30 minutes	40 minutes	50 minutes
Read supplementary material / Learn new vocabulary				10 minutes (review liaisons)

Day 4:

For day 4, let's put the spotlight on prepositions. Study the prepositions Par, Pour, and En, as well as de and à.

How busy are you?

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Grammar review	15 minutes	30 minutes	40 minutes	45 minutes
Practice listening				15 minutes
Practice reading				15 minutes
Learn new vocabulary				15 minutes
Practice writing (form sentences using prepositions)	5 minutes	10 minutes	20 minutes	30 minutes

Day 5:

Increase your vocabulary by memorizing sets of vocabulary words and phrases that you have not mastered yet. See the vocabulary priority topics listed above.

How busy are you?

TASKS	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Learn new vocabulary	20 minutes	30 minutes	40 minutes	80 minutes
Practice reading		10 minutes	20 minutes	
Practice speaking				40 minutes

Day 6:

On day 6, it is time to devote your time to reading and writing. Improve your comprehension by reading somewhat complicated material of your choice and follow it up by writing a lengthy essay about your opinion on the topic.

How busy are you?

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Practice reading	10 minutes	15 minutes	20 minutes	60 minutes
Practice writing	10 minutes	25 minutes	40 minutes	60 minutes

Day 7: Recap

Review everything you have learned in the last week, and treat yourself to a French movie!

<u>ULTRA BUSY</u>	<u>BUSY BEE</u>	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u>	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u>
Set aside at least 25 minutes for review	Set aside around 50 minutes for review	Allocate around 75 minutes for review	Allocate the entire 2 hours, plus an additional 20 minutes, for review

Study Plan to Improve Speaking and Listening Comprehension

Many French learners have trouble speaking and listening. If you have a particular weakness in:

- Translating your thoughts or forming French sentences on the fly, and
- Understanding conversational French as spoken by native speakers,

then this study plan is definitely for you!

Recommended e-books from Talk in French:

The most complete Slang e-book available: <http://www.talkinfrench.com/product/french-slang-ebook/>

To improve your listening comprehension: <http://www.talkinfrench.com/product/short-stories-french/>

Focus Areas

For learners like you who are having a bit of trouble in the areas of speaking and listening, it is important that you focus on expanding your vocabulary. Spend a lot of time learning new words and their correct pronunciations, and practice using these in sentences with a study buddy who can correct your mistakes for you.

Below is the list of vocabulary you should prioritize at this point. For the most extensive list of vocabulary, grab a copy of the e-book “[Improving French Vocabulary](#).” It has all of the vocabulary you need. Additional sources and descriptions are included in the chart below. You can also review this article for [tips on how to efficiently memorize vocabulary](#).

False Cognate and True Cognate	Learn this to give your vocabulary an immediate boost
Adjectives	Check out this article of the 129 most common adjectives , and this article for a quick refresher on adjectives
Adverbs	Here is a simple refresher on adverbs
Daily Routine	Aside from the e-book, you can also check out this article on Daily Routine
Expressions	Refer to the e-book " 365 Days of French Expressions "
Slang words	Refer to the e-book " French Slang "
Work	Aside from the vocabulary e-book, you can also refer to the article 30 Essential Work-related Words
Hobbies/ Sports	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Cinema	Additional material can be found in this article on Cinema vocabulary
Reading	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Express Opinion	Check out the article French Essay Phrases
Express Disagreement/ Agreement (articles)	See the article 50 French expressions for agreeing/disagreeing
Express Taste	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Social Media and Technology	A helpful article can be found here
Making Plans	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Previous Trips/ Past Experiences	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Shopping (clothes/ market)	You can also check out the article Clothes and Footwear
Restaurants	Check out this article on French slang words for dining and drinking and vocabulary for food and drink
Buying Tickets	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Describe Things	Learn to describe shapes, sizes, colors, etc.
Making Appointments	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Complain/ Claim Something	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Ask Someone to Clarify	<i>See vocabulary book</i>
Filler/ Connectors	<i>See bonus material</i>

Enhancing your grammar knowledge can also help you in this stage of your learning. Brush up on your skills with the following list of priority topics.

Pronunciation Rules for Liaisons	A quick review: https://www.talkinfrench.com/french-liaison/
Asking Questions	Here is a handy guide to use as a refresher
Present Tense for Irregular Verbs	Here are flashcards: http://www.cram.com/flashcards/french-irregular-verbs-present-tense-374818
Review Passé Composé vs Imparfait	Review it here: http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/pasttenses.htm
Placement of Adjectives	Review it here: http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/adjectives_4.htm
Homophones	Here is a helpful guide: http://french.about.com/od/vocabulary/a/homophones.htm

Informal Grammar	Visit this link: http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/informal.htm
French Pronouns	Visit this link: http://french.about.com/od/pronouns/
French Conjunctions ~ Les Conjonctions	Here is a good review article: https://www.talkinfrench.com/french-conjunctions/
c'est vs il est	Review it here: http://french.about.com/library/weekly/aa032500.htm
Prepositions	Check out http://french.about.com/library/weekly/aa010800.htm
Placement of Adverbs	Check out the bonus audio and vocabulary list
Conditional for Verbs for Requesting Something	Review it here: https://www.talkinfrench.com/french-conditional-tense/
Impersonal Pronouns	Here is review material: http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/pronouns_2.htm
Subjunctive for Specific Situations	This covers the 10 most common verbs
Pronominal Verbs	Idiomatic in particular
en and y	A quick guide can be found here: https://www.talkinfrench.com/french-pronoun-en-y-use-grammar/
The Quick Way to Express Past, Present, and Future	Review it here: https://www.talkinfrench.com/french-tenses-made-easy/
Direct and Indirect Object Pronouns	Review material here: https://www.talkinfrench.com/french-direct-indirect-speech/
Numbers	Brush up on your French numbers here: https://www.talkinfrench.com/french-numbers/
Stressed Pronouns	Check out this article: http://french.about.com/od/grammar/a/pronouns_stressed.htm

As a bit of background, every language is divided into four different skills: reading and listening (receptive skills), and speaking and writing (productive skills). To be considered proficient in a language, you have to be adept at all four skills.

In order to tackle the different language skills mentioned, there are some prerequisites. These basic requirements serve as the foundation for you to build your knowledge on. To complete your studies and reach fluency, a strong knowledge of the fundamentals for each skill is necessary.

Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Pronunciation · Vocabulary · Knowledge of grammar · An understanding of conversational patterns 	Listening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Pronunciation · Knowledge of grammar · Understanding of conversational patterns and colloquial uses · Vocabulary (formal and informal) · Access to materials or native speakers to practice listening
Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Vocabulary · Knowledge of grammar 	Speaking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Pronunciation · Low- to mid-level grammar (to be able to get your message across) · Vocabulary · Access to native speakers to practice speaking

The 7-Day Plan

Before you move on to the daily plan for the first 7 days, it is highly recommended that you have access to a native French speaker. A practice partner will help you master conversational French, plus you will have somebody to point your grammatical mistakes out to you.

Check out some options below:

- [Interpals](#) is the website you need if you are looking for someone to practice French with.
- [Italki](#) is a social networking and educational website for language learners. You can use the website to practice writing and receive corrections from native speakers, as well as find private teachers and native speakers to speak French with.
- [Couchsurfing](#) is another social networking website you can use to further your French studies. Couchsurfing is a community of travelers who regularly organize meetings; chances are, there is probably one near you. These meetings are great opportunities to meet French speakers with whom you can practice.
- [Meetup.com](#) is a website with 21 million members whose goal is to help people organize themselves into groups and communities. Here, you can find lots of language exchange meetings for you to take part in.

To help you sound more like a native speaker, brush up on your colloquial phrases and slang words. You can check out good material for this [here](#).

You can also brush up on your listening skills with [a book of stories](#) as well as by listening to conversational French on podcasts like [Learn French By Podcast](#), [French Voices](#), and season 4 of [Coffee Break French](#). Other options include streaming [French songs](#) and watching a [French TV series](#).

Now, for the daily plan.

Day 1: Review Pronunciation

Spend half an hour on the first day focusing on pronunciation. For a refresher, download this pronunciation guide that comes with audio files: <https://www.talkinfrench.com/download-pronunciation-guide-mp3>

As mentioned earlier, it would be ideal at this point for you to find someone who can help you improve your pronunciation.

The remaining 30 minutes should be focused on memorizing new vocabulary. Check out the vocabulary priority list above for specific topics to focus on.

Day 2:

Two words: active listening. Get inspired with an article on the Talk in French website that discusses how to practice your listening skills effectively. Read it here: <https://www.talkinfrench.com/practice-listening-french/>

To make your listening practice as efficient as possible, list 20 – 30 new vocabulary words gathered from your listening session and study those as well.

How busy are you?

Check out the chart below to determine the length of time you should allot for each task depending on your schedule. Of course, a longer amount of time (1 to 2 hours per day) is ideal. However, if you are busy, a good 20 – 40 minute session is enough to practice the essentials.

TASKS	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Practice listening	20 minutes Listen to the listening exercises at TalkinFrench.com	40 minutes Listen to the listening exercises at TalkinFrench.com and a podcast	1 hour Listen to: · Listening exercises · Podcast · French songs	2 hours divided into: · Listening exercises · Podcast · French songs · Audio books

Day 3:

It is time to practice speaking, first on your own. Practice commonly used phrases using a good phrasebook like this one, which also has an audiobook counterpart: <http://www.talkinfrench.com/product/french-expressions>.

Imitate the words and phrases and record yourself speaking. Replay the words until the sounds begin to flow effortlessly.

How busy are you?

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Practice listening		10 minutes	20 minutes	30 minutes
Practice speaking	20 minutes	30 minutes	40 minutes	60 minutes
Practice writing				20 minutes
Read supplementary material				10 minutes (review liaisons)

Day 4:

For day 4, work on mastering French conversations by reviewing vocabulary and grammar.

How busy are you?

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Vocabulary	15 minutes	30 minutes	40 minutes	60 minutes
Grammar	5 minutes	10 minutes	20 minutes	60 minutes

Day 5:

Increase your colloquial vocabulary by memorizing colloquial phrases and slang words. Click [here](#) for a sample of good material to use. It contains audio that you can listen to as well.

How busy are you?

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Practice listening	5 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes	20 minutes
Learn new vocabulary	20 minutes	20 minutes	30 minutes	60 minutes
Practice speaking		10 minutes	15 minutes	40 minutes

Day 6:

Call up your French conversation partner and spend an entire session practicing all the new vocabulary, grammar, and colloquial phrases you have learned from the previous days.

How busy are you?

<u>TASKS</u>	<u>ULTRA BUSY</u> (15-20 minutes per day)	<u>BUSY BEE</u> (30-40 minutes per day)	<u>SLIGHTLY BUSY</u> (1 hour per day)	<u>PLENTY OF TIME</u> (2 hours per day)
Practice speaking	20 minutes	40 minutes	60 minutes	120 minutes

Day 7: Recap

Review everything you have learned in the last week and treat yourself to a good French movie!

ULTRA BUSY	BUSY BEE	SLIGHTLY BUSY	PLENTY OF TIME
Spend at least 25 minutes on review	Spend around 50 minutes on review	Allocate around 75 minutes to review	Allocate the entire 2 hours, plus an additional 20 minutes, to review.

Frederic Bibard

Talk in French Founder