

1 Celebrations Vocabulary

Celebrations:	Verbs:	Nouns:
l'Aïd – Eid	s'amuser - to have fun	le billet – ticket
le Carnaval – Carnival	apporter – to bring	le bûche de Noël – Yule Log
la Fête des Mères – Mothers' Day	assister à – to attend	le cadeau – present/gift
la Fête des Rois – Epiphany/Twelfth Night	célébrer - to celebrate	le char – float
la Fête du Travail – May Day	chercher - to look for	les crêpes – pancakes
la Fête Nationale – Bastille Day	se déguiser - to dress up	le défilé – parade/procession
le Jour de l'An – New Year's Day	diner - to dine	la dinde - turkey
le Noël - Christmas	donner - to give	l'église – church
le Pâques – Easter	fêter - to celebrate	le festival – festival
la Pentecôte – Whitsuntide	s'habiller - to dress	les festivités - celebrations
le poisson d'avril – April Fool's Day	manger – to eat	la fête – celebration/party
la Saint Sylvestre – New Year's Eve	ouvrir - to open	les feux d'artifice – fireworks
la Saint Valentin – Valentine's Day	passer du temps – to spend time	le jardin - garden
la Toussaint – All Saint's Day	recevoir - to receive	les jeux - games
la Veille de Noël – Christmas Eve	se reposer – to relax	le jouet – toy
le Réveillon – Christmas Eve	se réveiller - to wake up	le jour férié – public holiday
	vouloir – to want	le matin – the morning
		la messe – mass
		la mosquée – mosque
chrétien/ne - Christian	Adjectives:	le muguet – Lily of the Valley
juif/juive - Jewish	gratuit/e - free	la naissance - birth
musulman/e – Muslim	militaire – military	les oeufs - eggs
	religieux/euse – religious	le repas – meal
	rigolo/te - funny	la réunion - meeting
	traditionnel/le – traditional	le spectacle - show

2 Opinions continued

Comparatives

plus..... que	more..... than
moins..... que	less..... than
aussi..... que	as..... as
mieux que...	better than....
pire que	worse than...

Comparatives can be used in your justified opinions e.g.,

Je pense que la Saint-Valentin est **plus** romantique **que** le Fête Nationale. – I think that Valentine's Day is **more** romantic **than** Bastille Day.
Le Pâques est **mieux que** le Noël! – Easter is **better than** Christmas.

Superlatives

Superlatives translate the most or least. The article used before a superlative should agree with the gender and number of the subject being described.

le/la/les plus – the most

le/la/les moins – the least

le/la/les meilleur/e/s/es – the best

le/la/les pire/s – the worst

e.g.

L'Aïd el-Fitr est la fête **la plus** intéressante. – Eid al-Fitr is **the most** interesting celebration.

La Toussaint est **la pire** – quelle barbe! – All Saint's Day is **the worst** – what a bore!

3 Recent celebrations - The perfect tense with avoir

Choose the correct pronoun and part of Avoir	Add a past participle. These are some common regular and irregular ones
j'ai – I have	fêté – celebrated
tu as – you (singular/informal) have	donné – gave
il a – he has	mangé – eaten
elle a – she has	passé – spent (time)
on a – we have	regardé - watched
nous avons – we have	visité – visited (a place)
	rendu visite à – visited (a person)
vous avez – you (plural/formal) have	vu – saw
	bu - drank
ils ont – they have	reçu – received
elles ont – they have	été – been

Past tense time phrases

l'année dernière – last year

avant-hier – the day before yesterday

hier – yesterday

il y a – ago

samedi dernier – last saturday

la semaine dernière – last week

le weekend dernier – last weekend

Justifying opinions in the past tense

j'ai aimé.../ j'ai adore – I liked / I loved

je n'ai pas aimé / j'ai détesté – I didn't like / I hated

parce que c'était – because it was...

nul – rubbish

ennuyeux – boring

utile – useful

inutile - useless

2 Opinions

Verbs of like / dislike which are followed by the infinitive	Infinitives to talk about activities	
J'aime – I like	s'amuser	to have fun
J'adore – I love	s'habiller	to dress
J'apprécie – I appreciate	célébrer	to celebrate
Je préfère – I prefer	ouvrir	to open
Je n'aime pas – I do not like	donner	to give
Je déteste – I hate	fêter	to celebrate
Ça m'aide à – it helps me to	recevoir	to receive
Ça m'est égal de – I don't mind (literally: it's equal to me)	chercher	to look for
Ça me permet de - It allows me to	se déguiser	to dress up
Ça me plaît de – I like (literally: it pleases me)	dîner	to dine
Ça m'ennuie de – It bores me to		

4 The perfect tense with être

Choose the correct pronoun and part of être	Add a past participle. These are some common regular and irregular ones
Je suis – I am	allé (e) (s) – went / gone
tu es – you (singular/informal) are	venu (e) (s) – came devenu (e) (s) - became
il est – he is	arrivé (e) (s) – arrived
elle est – she is	sorti (e) (s) – went out
on est – we are	entré (e) (s) – entered
nous sommes – we are	resté (e) (s) – stayed
vous êtes – you (plural/formal) are	né (e) (s) – born
ils sont – they are	mort (e) (s) – died
elles sont – they are	parti (e) (s) – left / departed

Rappel!

When using the perfect tense with être, the past participle must 'agree' with the person/pronoun who is doing the action.

eg. il est entré – he entered

elle est partie – she left

nous sommes arrivés – we arrived

ils sont allés – they went

elles sont allées – they went (feminine)

après avoir/être + past participle

This translates the phrase *after doing / after having done*. It is followed by a past participle and the next phrase will still be in the past tense.

e.g. **Après avoir rendu** visite à mes grandparents, nous sommes allés à Messe en ville.

If the verb takes être in the past tense (e.g. aller), use être in the phrase and remember to agree your past participle with the subject of the sentence.

e.g. **Après être arrivée** en France, elle a voyagé à l'hôtel pour s'installer.

Additional language features

False friends:

assister – to attend (not to assist)

le journée – the day (not journey)

Préfix :

mal / mau/ mé / més = bad / mis / un



Speaking questions to be prepared this term

14 Quelle est ta fête préférée et pourquoi?

15 Qu'est-ce que tu as fait l'année dernière pour célébrer cette fête ?

16 Quelle fête française aimerais-tu célébrer et pourquoi?

Question words to remember

Quel(le)(s)? – what or which?

Pourquoi? – why ?

4 The Conditional Tense

-er verbs – fêter – to celebrate	-ir verbs - sortir – to go out	-re verbs – rendre – to make
je fêtera is - I would celebrate	je sortira is – I would go out	je rendra is – I would make
tu fêtera is – you (singular/informal) would celebrate	tu sortira is – you (singular/informal) would go out	tu rendra is – you (singular/informal) would make
il fêtera it – he would celebrate	il sortira it – he would go out	il rendra it – he would make
elle fêtera it – she would celebrate	elle sortira it – she would go out	elle rendra it – she would make
on fêtera it – we would celebrate	on sortira it – we would go out	on rendra it – we would make
nous fêtera ions – we would celebrate	nous sortira ions – we would go out	nous rendra ions – we would make
vous fêtera iez – you (plural/formal) would celebrate	vous sortira iez – you (plural/formal) would go out	vous rendra iez – you (plural/formal) would make
ils fêtera ient – they would celebrate	ils sortira ient – they would go out	ils rendra ient – they would make
elles fêtera ient – they would celebrate	elles sortira ient – they would go out	elles rendra ient – they would make
For regular verbs with an infinitive ending in -er or -ir, you form the conditional tense by using the infinitive as the 'stem' and adding the endings as shown above.		For regular verbs with an infinitive ending in -re, take of the final 'e' and use this stem and the endings.

Some common irregular verbs

Infinitive	English	Stem	Example
aller	to go	ir-	j' irais
être	to be	ser-	tu serais
avoir	to have	aur-	elle aurait
faire	to do	fer-	nous ferions

For these verbs. You need to learn the stem, and add the same endings as those used in regular verbs. Note: They are the same irregular verbs and stems as the Simple Future tense.

Negatives in the conditional future

Remember the "negative sandwich" image and wrap the negative indicators around the verb:

E.g. je **ne** fêtera**is pas** le Noël.

I would **not** celebrate Christmas.

Nous **ne** nous déguiserions **jamais**.

We would **never** get dressed up.