100 French phrases from shows Les répliques

The tags: casual friends, family and people your age. polite strangers, older people, shops. rude hear it, don't say it. careful can offend. slang young, street French. Québec said in Canada. No tag: anyone, anywhere.

Greetings and goodbyes

Salut
casual
hi, and also bye

Bonjour
hello, good morning. Say it walking into any shop

Bonsoir
good evening, from about 6 pm

Coucou
casual
hey there, hiya

Ça va ?
casual
how's it going? The answer is the same: ça va

Comment allez-vous ?
polite
how are you?

Quoi de neuf ?
casual
what's new? what's up?

Enchanté
nice to meet you (a woman writes enchantée)

À plus
casual
see you, laters. Texted as A+

À tout à l'heure
see you later today

À demain
see you tomorrow

Bonne soirée
have a nice evening, said when parting

Allô ?
hello? only on the phone

Au revoir
goodbye

Reactions

Oh là là
oh dear, oh wow, for trouble more than romance

C'est pas vrai !
casual
no way! I don't believe it!

Grave
slang
totally, big time. Tu viens ? Grave !

Trop bien !
casual
so good! awesome!

Ça marche
casual
OK, deal, works for me

N'importe quoi !
casual
nonsense! that's ridiculous

J'hallucine !
casual
I can't believe this! (I'm seeing things)

Tant pis
oh well, too bad

Bof
casual
meh, not really

Génial !
great! brilliant!

Ah bon ?
oh really? is that so?

Sérieux ?
casual
seriously? for real?

Carrément
casual
totally, absolutely

Mon Dieu !
my God!

Tant mieux
good, so much the better

Merde !
rude
damn! (it means shit)

Putain !
rude
damn! the swear you hear most

C'est plate
Québec casual
that's boring, what a shame

French outside France. Most of these work everywhere. Québec has its own everyday words: **c'est plate**, **mon char**, **ma blonde**, **tiguidou**. In Belgium and Switzerland, 70 and 90 are **septante** and **nonante** instead of **soixante-dix** and **quatre-vingt-dix**.

Love and fights Amour et disputes

Love and drama

Je t'aime
I love you (a partner, family)

Je t'aime bien
I like you, as a friend

Tu me manques
I miss you

Je suis désolé
I'm sorry (a woman writes désolée)

Pardonne-moi
forgive me

Ne me quitte pas
don't leave me

Je suis amoureux
I'm in love (a woman says amoureuse)

Tu m'aimes ?
do you love me?

Ce n'est pas ce que tu crois
it's not what you think

Fais-moi confiance
trust me

Il faut qu'on parle
we need to talk

C'est fini
it's over

Tu m'as menti
you lied to me

Ma blonde Québec
my girlfriend, whatever her hair colour

Arguments

Laisse-moi tranquille !
leave me alone!

Tais-toi ! rude
shut up!

Ta gueule ! rude
shut your mouth!

Ça suffit !
that's enough!

Fiche-moi la paix ! casual
get off my back! leave me be!

C'est quoi ton problème ?
what's your problem? Never polite

Dégage ! rude
get lost! get out!

Va-t'en !
go away!

T'es fou ? casual
are you crazy? (to a woman: t'es folle)

Ne me touche pas !
don't touch me!

C'est pas juste ! casual
it's not fair!

Menteur !
liar! (to a woman: menteuse)

Arrête !
stop it!

Je m'en fiche casual
I don't care

Je t'aime or je t'aime bien? **Je t'aime** on its own is I love you, to a partner or family. Add **bien** and it gets smaller: **je t'aime bien** is I like you, as a friend. Say it to a crush and you've just put them in the friend zone.

Tu me manques works backwards. Word for word it's you are missing to me, so the person you miss comes first: **tu me manques**, I miss you. **Je te manque** means you miss me.

The ending follows the person: **désolé** and **désolée** sound the same, but **amoureux** becomes **amoureuse** and **fou** becomes **folle** for a woman. **Menteur !** to a man, **Menteuse !** to a woman.

Everyday and slang Le quotidien

Everyday and spoken French

J'ai la flemme
casual
I can't be bothered

On y va
let's go, shall we go?

Je sais pas
casual
I don't know

T'inquiète
casual
don't worry, no worries

Ça me saoule
casual
it's getting on my nerves

Il y a, y a
there is, there are. Speech says y a

Du coup
casual
so, as a result. Said all the time

Je suis crevé
casual
I'm wiped out (a woman: crevée)

Attends
casual
wait, hang on

On fait quoi ?
casual
what are we doing? what now?

J'arrive
coming! be right there

C'est bon
it's fine, done, enough. Also: it's tasty

Pas de souci
casual
no problem, sure

Je reviens
be right back

Vas-y
casual
go on, go ahead

Ça te dit ?
casual
fancy it? are you up for it?

Tiguidou
Québec
all good, perfect

Mon char
Québec
my car

Spoken French cuts corners. **T'inquiète** is **ne t'inquiète pas** cut in half, and **je sais pas** has lost its **ne**. **Du coup** starts half the sentences young people say: it's a filler, like so.

Verlan: words said backwards

Verlan flips a word's syllables. The name itself is **l'envers**, the reverse, said back to front: **l'en-vers** → **vers-l'en**. So **fou** becomes **ouf** and **louche** becomes **chelou**.

ouf
crazy, amazing
from **fou**

chelou
weird, shady
from **louche**

relou
annoying, a pain
from **lourd**

vénère
really angry
from **énervé**

zarbi
strange
from **bizarre**

meuf
woman, girlfriend
from **femme**

keuf
careful
cop
from **flic**

mec
casual
guy, boyfriend
plain slang

kiffer
to love, be into
plain slang

ouais
casual
yeah
plain slang

Keep slang for friends. You'll hear these in every show about young people. They're fine with friends, odd at work. **keuf** sounds hostile to police, so leave it on screen.

Calling people Tu ou vous ?

Two ways to say you. **tu** is close, **vous** keeps a polite distance. Shows mark the switch: **On se tutoie ?** means shall we say tu? and the characters have just got closer.

tu

casual

you, casual

Friends, family, kids, people your age, and anyone who offers it.

vous

polite

you, polite

Strangers, older people, bosses, shops. Also you all, to any group.

monsieur, madame

polite

sir, madam, Mr, Mrs

Strangers and staff: Bonjour, madame ! Shops expect it.

mademoiselle

careful

miss

Old-fashioned now. Fine for a little girl, odd for a grown woman.

mon chéri, ma chérie

darling, honey

Partners, and parents to their kids. Chéri on its own too.

mon cœur

sweetheart (my heart)

Partners and kids. Very common, never strange.

mon amour

my love

Partners. In a show, said at the big moments.

mon pote

casual

my mate, buddy

Friends, mostly guys: c'est mon pote, he's my mate.

frérot

slang

bro (from frère, brother)

A brother, or a close friend. Often cut to frère.

ma belle

careful

gorgeous, love

Friends to a girl or woman. From a stranger it can be creepy.

les gars

casual

guys

A group of friends: Salut, les gars ! Any group, men or mixed.

mon grand, ma grande

big boy, big girl

Adults to kids, to make them feel grown-up.

Not sure? start with **vous** and wait to be offered **tu**. Using **tu** too soon can sound rude, and using **vous** with a friend sounds cold.

Practice Entraînement

5 · ten lines to cover and recall

How: cover the right side with a strip of paper. Read the English, say the French out loud, then slide the strip down to check. Do it again tomorrow with the lines you missed.

1	**I miss you**	Tu me manques word for word: you are missing to me
2	**leave me alone!**	Laisse-moi tranquille ! tranquille: calm, in peace
3	**OK, deal, works for me**	Ça marche the answer when a plan is fixed
4	**I don't know**	Je sais pas written: je ne sais pas
5	**don't worry, no worries**	T'inquiète short for ne t'inquiète pas
6	**I can't be bothered**	J'ai la flemme la flemme: laziness
7	**no way! I don't believe it!**	C'est pas vrai ! for news, good or bad
8	**oh well, too bad**	Tant pis the opposite: tant mieux
9	**we need to talk**	Il faut qu'on parle in a show, trouble is coming
10	**that's enough!**	Ça suffit ! suffire: to be enough

The subtitle may look tidier than the audio. Spoken French drops **ne** and swallows sounds: **je suis** becomes **chuis**, **je sais pas** becomes **chais pas**, **tu es** becomes **t'es**. Subtitles often write the full form, so you may read **je ne sais pas** while the actor says **chais pas**. That's normal.

Meet a word you don't know? In Kitsumi, hover any word in French subtitles to see what it means.