

EPISODE 75 CHEAT SHEET

How to Ask Questions in French

75 How to Ask Questions in French



CLOSE-ENDED QUESTIONS

- Questions that require a yes or no answer.

Q: *Est-ce que le chat est dehors ?*
(Is the cat outside?)

OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

- Questions that require specific information.

Ex: *Où est le chat ?* (Where is the cat?)

PART I: HOW TO ASK CLOSE-ENDED QUESTIONS

1) By using intonation

Raise your pitch at the end of the sentence.

Tu parles français. (You speak French.) ➡ Tu parles français ? (Do you speak French?)

2) By using "est-ce que"

Add "est-ce que" (or "est-ce qu'" before a vowel) at the beginning of the sentence.

Tu parles français. (You speak French.) ➡ Est-ce que tu parles français ?
(Do you speak French?)

3) By using simple inversion

Switch the order between the subject pronoun and the verb, then add a hyphen between the subject pronoun and the verb. (This method is *mainly* used in formal writing.)

Tu parles français. (You speak French.) ➡ Parles-tu français ? (Do you speak French?)

For subject pronouns "il", "elle", "on," and a verb ending with a vowel, add the letter "t" between the verb and the subject pronoun.

Il parle français. (He speaks French.) ➡ Parle-t-il français ? (Does he speak French?)

⚠ *This method is valid for subject pronouns only. When the subject is a noun or a name, we use complex inversions. Topic for a future lesson!*

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