

# Masculine and feminine

**In French, there is a difference between masculine and feminine words** (adjectives, nouns, determiners...)

(In German, there is a difference between masculine, feminine and neutral)

## 1. Indefinite articles / determiners : (a cat / an elephant)

- **Un (masculin)**

**Un** ami = **un** copain (a friend)

**Un** frère (a brother)

**Un** père (a father)

**un** oncle (an uncle)

**Un** garçon (a boy)

- **Une (feminin)**

**une** amie = **une** copine (a friend - feminine)

**une** soeur (a sister)

**une** mère (a mother)

**une** tante (an aunt)

**une** fille (a girl)

## 2. Definite article / determiner - how to translate 'the'

- **Option 1 : LA (when the noun refers to a feminine object or person)**

**La** soeur (the sister)

**La** tante (the aunt)

**La** fille (the girl)

**La** mère (the mother)

- **Option 2 : LE (when the noun refers to a masculine object or person)**

**Le** père (the father)

**Le** frère (the brother)

**Le** garçon (the boy)

- **Option 3 : L' (when the following word starts with a vowel)**

L'oncle (the uncle)

L'ami (the friend - masculine) - L'amie (the friend - feminine)

### 3. Possessive determiners

- Mon (my - masculine noun following it) Ex : **mon** père (my father)
- Ma (my - feminine noun following it) Ex : **ma** mère (my mother)
- Mes (my - plural noun following it) Ex : **mes** parents (my parents)

- Ton (your - masculine noun following it + informal). Ex : **ton** oncle (your uncle) *when you talk to someone in your family or to a friend*
- Ta (your - feminine noun following it + informal) Ex : **Ta** tante (your aunt) *when you talk to someone in your family or to a friend*
- Tes (your -plural noun following it+ informal). Ex : **Tes** parents (your parents)

*when you talk to someone in your family or to a friend*

- Son (his or her -masculine noun following it). Ex : **Son** père (even when talk about a girl's father, 'father' is always going to be masculine)
- Sa (his or her -feminine noun following it) Ex: **Sa** mère
- Ses (his or her -plural noun following it). Ex : **Ses** parents

- Notre (our, when followed by a singular, feminine or masculine). Ex : **Notre** ami (our friend)
- Nos (our, when followed by a plural noun). Ex : **Nos** amis (Our friends)

- Votre (your, when followed by a singular, feminine or masculine noun+ formal) : **Votre** oncle (your uncle)
- Vos (your, when followed by a plural, feminine or masculine noun + formal) : **Vos** tantes (your aunts)

- Leur (their, when followed by singular,feminine or masculine noun) : **Leur** tante (their aunt)
- Leurs (their, when followed by a plural, feminine or masculine noun) : **Leurs** oncles (their uncles)

#### 4. Adjectives

- **Nationalities**

- Masculine : français, anglais, américain, canadien, mexicain, chinois, portoricain
- Feminine : française, anglaise, américaine, canadienne, mexicaine, chinoise, portoricaine

