

**FRENCH LESSONS AND
EXERCISES: TO BE
USED WITH GRANDGENT'S
SHORT FRENCH**

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French Lessons and Exercises: to be used with Grandgent's Short French by C. H. Grandgent

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C. H. GRANDGENT

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Heath's Modern Language Series

FRENCH LESSONS AND
EXERCISES

TO BE USED WITH
GRANDGENT'S SHORT FRENCH GRAMMAR

BY
C. H. GRANDGENT

First Year's Course for Colleges
Number 1

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PREFACE.

THESE lessons and exercises are to be used, with my *Short French Grammar*, during a first year's course in colleges or a second year's course in schools. I mean to construct at least one more set of the same grade, in order that the work may be varied from year to year. There are sixty lessons and thirty exercises — that is to say, materials for three recitations a week during thirty weeks. The tasks have been made short, so that about half of every hour may be left for translation. It is taken for granted that some French reading-book is used from the very outset.

The lessons consist of references to the *Grammar*. The numbers indicate paragraphs; they are not intended to include any detached subdivisions that are not expressly mentioned, but they do cover all *tables*, *paradigms*, and *examples*. Numbers in heavy-faced type represent portions that are to be *thoroughly studied*; the others stand for paragraphs that should be *carefully read*. The instructor would do well to go over each lesson with the students beforehand, pronouncing for them all the French words, and calling their attention especially to the *examples*. Classes that have used the *First Year's Course for Schools* may substitute other irregular verbs for those given here.

The exercises, which illustrate the grammatical points discussed in the preceding lessons, are based on a French story printed in this pamphlet — a selection from *Sur l'Eau*, by Guy de Maupassant. Composition exercises are to be prepared with the help of this text and the grammar, but without the use of a dictionary. The story is provided with an interlinear translation and notes; it is to be used for practice in pronunciation and for grammatical analysis. The same selection is printed in phonetic spelling in the *First Year's Course for Schools*, Number 1, a pamphlet which may, if the instructor so desires, be used in colleges as an introduction to these college exercises.



FRENCH LESSONS AND EXERCISES.

FRENCH TEXT.

[When several English words are required to render one French word, and when the order of words in a phrase cannot be preserved in translation, the words of the English interlinear version are connected by hyphens. Words that are superfluous in English are enclosed in parentheses. A list of French verbs and verbal forms is to be found at the end of this text.]

1. Je pris le train de quatre heures¹ pour aller dîner avec un
I took the four-o'clock-train to go to-dine with a
ami dans la principauté de Monaco.² Je voudrais avoir le loisir
friend in the principality of Monaco. I should-like to-have the leisure
de parler longuement de cet État surprenant,³ moins⁴ grand qu'un
to speak at-length of this surprising-state, not-so big as a
village de France,⁵ mais où l'on trouve⁶ un souverain absolu,³
French-village, but where you-find an absolute-sovereign,
des évêques, une étiquette plus cérémonieuse que celle de feu
(some) bishops, an etiquette more ceremonious than that of the-late
Louis XIV, des principes d'autorité plus despotiques que ceux
Louis XIV., (some) principles of authority more despotic than those
de Guillaume de Prusse,⁷ joints à une tolérance magnifique⁸ pour
of William of Prussia, joined to a magnificent-tolerance for
les vices de l'humanité, dont vivent⁸ le souverain, les ministres,
the vices of (the) humanity, on-which live the sovereign, the ministers,
l'armée, la magistrature, tout le monde.⁹
the army, the magistrates, everybody.

¹ Literally, *train of four hours.*

² The tiny principality of Monaco is an independent state, situated on the southern shore of France, near Nice. It contains about eight square miles, and has some 10,000 inhabitants. Not far from the town of Monaco (3000 inhabitants) is the Casino of Monte Carlo, a famous gambling establishment.

³ Notice that French adjectives very often follow their nouns.

⁴ *Less.*

⁵ *Village of France.*

⁶ *One finds.*

¹ The present emperor of Germany.

² 'Dont vivent' may be translated freely, *which support*. The prince and the government of Monaco are supported by the receipts of the Casino.

³ Literally, *all the world*.

2. Saluons¹ ce bon roi pacifique² qui, sans peur des invasions *Let-us-do-homage-to this good-peaceful-king, who, without fear of (the) invasions* et des révolutions, règne en paix sur son heureux petit peuple *and of (the) revolutions, reigns in quiet over his happy little people,* au milieu des cérémonies d'une cour où sont conservées intactes *in-the midst of-the ceremonies of a court where are preserved intact* les traditions des quatre révérences, des vingt-six baisemains, et *the traditions of the four bows, of the twenty-six hand-kissings, and* de toutes les formules usitées autrefois autour des³ Grands *of all the formulas used of-old in-the-presence-of great* Dominateurs. Ce monarque pourtant n'est point⁴ sanguinaire *rulers. This monarch, however, is-not-at-all sanguinary* ni vindicatif; et quand il bannit, car il bannit,⁵ la mesure *nor vindictive; and when he banishes, — for he does-banish, — the punishment* est appliquée avec des ménagements infinis.⁶ *is inflicted with (some) endless-mitigations.*

¹ Literally, *let us salute*.

² 'Bon' = *good*, 'roi' = *king*, 'pacifique' = *peaceful*.

³ 'Autour de' = *around*; literally, 'autour des' means *around the*.

⁴ 'Est' = *is*. 'Ne'... 'pas' = *not*. 'Ne'... 'point' = *not at all*. 'Ne' loses its *e* before a vowel sound.

⁵ 'Il bannit' means *he banishes, he is banishing, and he does banish*. How shall we say *he is reigning*? Give three translations of 'je bannis' ('je' = *I*).

⁶ Freely, 'avec des ménagements infinis' = *most considerately*.

3. En faut-il¹ donner des preuves? Un joueur obstiné, dans *(Of-it) must-I give (some) proof(s)? An obstinate-gambler, in* un jour de déveine, insulta le souverain. Il fut expulsé par décret. *a day of bad-luck, insulted the sovereign. He was expelled by decree.* Pendant un mois il rôda autour du² Paradis défendu, craignant le *During a month he prowled around-the forbidden-paradise, fearing the* glaive de l'archange, sous³ la forme du sabre d'un gendarme. Un *sword of the archangel, in the form-of-the sabre of a policeman. One* jour enfin il s'enhardit,⁴ franchit la frontière, gagne en trente *day at-last he takes-courage, crosses the frontier, reaches in thirty*

secondes le cœur du pays, pénètre dans le Casino. Mais soudain
seconds the heart-of-the country, penetrates into the Casino. But all-at-once
 un fonctionnaire l'arrête⁵: "N'êtes-vous pas⁶ banni, monsieur?"
an official stops-him: "Aren't-you banished, sir?"
 "Oui, monsieur, mais je repars⁷ par le premier train."
"Yes, sir, but I am-going-away-again by the first train."
 "Oh! en ce cas, fort bien, monsieur, vous pouvez entrer." Et
"Oh! in that case, very well, sir, you may come-in." And
 chaque semaine il revient; et chaque fois le même fonctionnaire
every week he returns; and every time the same official
 lui pose⁸ la même question à laquelle il répond de la même façon.
asks-him the same question, to which he replies in the same way.
 La justice peut-elle être plus douce?⁹

Can-justice-be milder?

¹ 'Il faut' = *it is necessary*; 'faut-il' = *is it necessary?*

² See Paragraph 2, note 3. ³ *Under.*

⁴ Literally, *emboldens himself*. 'Enhardit' = *emboldens*. 'Se' = *himself*; 'se' loses its *e* before a vowel sound. 'S'enhardir' is a reflexive verb.

⁵ 'Arrête' = *stops*. 'Le' = *him*; 'le' loses its *e* before a vowel sound. Notice the position of the pronouns 'se' and 'le.'

⁶ See Paragraph 2, note 4. ⁷ See Paragraph 2, note 5.

⁸ 'Pose' = *puts*. 'Lui' = *to him*.

⁹ Literally, *(the) justice can it be more mild?* 'Justice' is feminine. 'Peut-elle' = *can she*. Nearly all French adjectives form their comparative by prefixing 'plus' to the positive, and their superlative by prefixing the definite article to the comparative: doux, plus doux, le plus doux.

4. Mais, une des années dernières,¹ un cas fort grave et tout
But a-few-years-ago a case, very grave and entirely
 nouveau se produisit² dans le royaume. Un assassinat eut lieu.³
new, presented-itself in the kingdom. A murder occurred.
 La Cour suprême se réunit⁴ pour juger ce cas exceptionnel, et le
The Supreme Court met to judge this exceptional-case, and the
 misérable fut condamné à mort à l'unanimité. Le souverain
wretch was condemned to death unanimously. The indignant-
 indigné ratifia l'arrêt. Il ne restait plus qu'à⁵ exécuter le
sovereign ratified the sentence. Nothing-remained but to execute the
 criminel. Alors une difficulté surgit. Le pays ne possédait ni⁶
criminal. Then a difficulty arose. The country possessed-neither
 bourreau ni guillotine.⁷ Que faire⁸? Sur⁹ l'avis du ministre
executioner nor guillotine. What to do? At the suggestion-of-the minister

des affaires étrangères, le prince entama des négociations avec
of (the) foreign-affairs, the prince entered-upon (some) negotiations with
 le gouvernement français¹⁰ pour obtenir le prêt d'un coupeur de
the French-government to obtain the loan of a head-
 têtes¹¹ avec son appareil.
chopper with his apparatus.

¹ Literally, *one of the last years*. 'Dernières' = *last*.

² *Produced itself*. See Paragraph 3, note 4.

³ *Took place*. 'Eut' = *had*.

⁴ *United itself*. See Paragraph 3, note 4.

⁵ Literally, *there remained now only to*. 'Ne' ... 'que' = *only*; 'que' loses its *e* before a vowel sound. 'Ne' ... 'plus' = *no more or no longer*. 'Ne' ... 'plus que' = *no more than or nothing more but*. Compare Paragraph 2, note 4.

⁶ 'Ne' ... 'ni' = *neither*.

⁷ In France, criminals condemned to death are beheaded with a guillotine.

⁸ *Freely, what was to be done?*

⁹ *On*.

¹⁰ Notice that French adjectives of nationality begin with small letters.

¹¹ *Cutter of heads*.

5. De longues délibérations eurent lieu¹ au ministère à Paris.
(Some) long deliberations' took place at-the minister's-office in Paris.
 On répondit² enfin en envoyant la note des frais pour déplacement
They answered finally by sending the list of-the expenses for moving
 des bois et du praticien. Le tout montait à seize mille francs.
(of) the wood and (of) the operator. The whole amounted to sixteen thousand francs.
 Sa Majesté songea que l'opération lui coûterait³ bien cher;
His Majesty reflected that the operation would-cost-him very dear;
 l'assassin ne valait certes pas⁴ ce prix. Seize mille francs pour
the murderer was-surely-not-worth this price. Sixteen thousand francs for
 le cou d'un drôle! Ah! mais non.⁵ On adressa alors⁶ la
the neck of a scoundrel! I-should-think-not! They then-addressed the
 même demande au gouvernement italien. Un roi, un frère
same request to-the Italian-government. A king, a brother,
 ne se montrerait pas⁷ sans doute⁸ si exigeant qu'une république.
would-not-show-himself, certainly, so exacting as a republic.

¹ Compare Paragraph 4, note 3.

² *One replied*. Compare Paragraph 1, note 6.

³ 'Lui' = *to him*. Compare Paragraph 3, note 8.

⁴ 'Valait' = *was worth*. 'Certes' = *surely*. See Paragraph 2, note 4.