Your notes

GCSE French: revision notes

Identity and relationships

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Describing yourself and others

- Je m'appelle... (I'm called...). J'ai quinze ans (I'm 15): use avoir for age, not être.
- Il/Elle est... (he/she is...) grand(e) (tall), petit(e) (short), mince (slim), **drôle** (funny), sympa (nice), timide (shy), bavard(e) (chatty), gentil(le) (kind), égoïste (selfish), paresseux/paresseuse (lazy), travailleur/travailleuse (hard-working).
- J'ai les cheveux longs/courts/bruns/blonds/roux (I have long/short/brown/blond/red hair) et les yeux bleus/verts/marron (and blue/green/brown eyes). Marron never changes its ending.
- Use il/elle est for personality and height, and il/elle a for hair, eyes and age.

Family

- la mère, le père, les parents, **le frère**, **la sœur**, le grand-père, la grand-mère, l'oncle, la tante, le cousin, la cousine.
- **le demi-frère** / la demi-sœur (half- or stepbrother / half- or stepsister), le beau-père / **la belle-mère** (stepfather or father-in-law / stepmother or mother-in-law).
- Je suis **fils unique / fille unique** (I'm an only child). Mes parents sont divorcés / séparés (my parents are divorced / separated).

Relationships

- Je m'entends bien avec... (I get on well with...). Je ne m'entends pas avec... (I don't get on with...).
- Je me dispute avec... (I argue with...). Il/Elle m'énerve (he/she annoys me). On se dispute souvent (we often argue).
- Je peux **compter sur** mon ami(e) (I can count on my friend). Il/Elle me soutient (he/she supports me).
- Un bon ami est quelqu'un qui est **fidèle**, qui m'écoute et qui ne me juge pas (a good friend is someone who is loyal, listens to me and doesn't judge me).

- **se marier** (to get married), le mariage (marriage or wedding), vivre ensemble (to live together), avoir des enfants (to have children), l'égalité (equality).

Grammar to use

- Adjectives agree with the noun: add -e for feminine and -s for plural (grand, grande, grands, grandes). Some change more: gentil → gentille, sportif → sportive, paresseux → paresseuse, beau → belle, vieux → vieille.
- Possessives agree with the thing owned, not the owner: mon frère, ma sœur, mes parents. Sa sœur means his sister or her sister.
- Reflexive verbs need a pronoun: je m'entends, tu t'entends, il/elle s'entend, nous nous entendons.
- Give opinions and reasons: je pense que..., à mon avis... (in my opinion...), parce que... or car... (because...).

Key terms

la famille	family
le frère	brother
la sœur	sister
le demi-frère	half-brother or stepbrother
la belle-mère	stepmother or mother-in-law
fils unique / fille unique	only child (boy / girl)
s'entendre bien avec	to get on well with
se disputer avec	to argue with
énerver	to annoy
compter sur	to count on (rely on)
fidèle	loyal
se marier	to get married
drôle	funny
gentil / gentille	kind

Quick questions

Cover the answers and test yourself: remembering is what makes it stick.

1. What does "Je m'entends bien avec mon frère" mean?
2. How do you say "my sister" in French?
3. What does "Il m'énerve" mean?
4. Which word completes "J'ai les yeux ___" to mean "I have blue eyes"?
5. What does "Je suis fille unique" mean?

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6. What is the feminine singular form of "gentil"?
7. What does "se disputer" mean?
8. How do you say "his sister" in French?

Answers

1. I get on well with my brother
2. ma sœur
3. He annoys me
4. bleus
5. I'm an only child
6. gentille
7. to argue
8. sa sœur

What to do next

Practise 14 questions on this topic

Try 4 exam questions, with mark schemes

Read the lesson, one step at a time

Free revision for GCSE and KS3 at lycolearn.co.uk. Some notes are for one exam board only, and say so in brackets.

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