Your notes

GCSE French: revision notes

Travel and tourism

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Going on holiday

- Countries: en France, en Espagne (en for feminine countries), au Canada, au Portugal (au for masculine countries), aux États-Unis (aux for plural countries), à Paris (à for towns).
- Transport: en voiture (by car), **en avion** (by plane), en train, en car (by coach), en bateau (by boat), à vélo (by bike), à pied (on foot).
- Accommodation: l'hôtel, **le camping** (campsite), **l'auberge de jeunesse** (youth hostel), **le gîte** (holiday cottage), louer un appartement (to rent a flat), chez des amis (at friends' homes).
- Activities: **se baigner** (to swim in the sea), **bronzer** (to sunbathe), faire du ski, visiter des monuments, faire les magasins (to go shopping), goûter la cuisine locale (to try the local food).

Places of interest and weather

- un château (a castle), un musée (a museum), une cathédrale, un parc d'attractions (a theme park), la plage (the beach), la montagne (the mountains), la vieille ville (the old town).
- Il fait beau / chaud / froid (it's fine / hot / cold), il pleut (it's raining), il neige (it's snowing), il y a du soleil / du vent (it's sunny / windy).
- In the past: il faisait beau (it was fine), il a plu (it rained), il y avait du vent (it was windy).

Booking and problems

- Je voudrais **réserver** une chambre pour deux personnes (I'd like to book a room for two people) pour trois nuits (for three nights), avec douche (with a shower), avec vue sur la mer (with a sea view).

- C'est combien? (how much is it?), le petit-déjeuner est compris? (is breakfast included?), à quelle heure part le train? (what time does the train leave?), **un aller-retour** (a return ticket), un aller simple (a single ticket).
- Problems: j'ai perdu mon passeport (I've lost my passport), on m'a volé mon sac (my bag has been stolen), **la chambre** était sale (the room was dirty), le train était **en retard** (the train was late).

Past and future holidays

- L'année dernière, je suis allé(e) en Italie avec ma famille. Nous avons logé dans un hôtel. C'était génial (it was great).
- Perfect for what happened: j'ai visité, j'ai mangé, nous sommes allé(e)s. Imperfect for descriptions: c'était, il faisait chaud, l'hôtel était près de la plage.
- L'année prochaine, je vais aller... / j'irai... (next year I'm going to go / I will go). Mes vacances idéales seraient... (my ideal holiday would be...).

Key terms

les vacances	holidays (always plural)
en avion	by plane
à pied	on foot
l'auberge de jeunesse	youth hostel
le gîte	holiday cottage
le camping	campsite
louer	to rent (hire)
réserver	to book
la chambre	room (bedroom)
un aller-retour	a return ticket
se baigner	to swim (in the sea)
bronzer	to sunbathe
le château	castle
en retard	late

Quick questions

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

1. How do you say "in Spain" in French?
2. How do you say "in Canada" in French?
3. What does "à pied" mean?
4. What is "une auberge de jeunesse"?
5. How do you say "I'd like to book a room" in French?

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6. What does "Il faisait beau" mean?
7. What is "un aller-retour"?
8. What does "J'ai perdu mon passeport" mean?

Answers

1. en Espagne
2. au Canada
3. on foot
4. a youth hostel
5. Je voudrais réserver une chambre
6. The weather was fine
7. a return ticket
8. I've lost my passport

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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