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ELEMENTARY FRENCH

THE ESSENTIALS OF FRENCH GRAMMAR
WITH EXERCISES

BY

FRED DAVIS ALDRICH, A.M.

MASTER IN MODERN LANGUAGES IN WORCESTER ACADEMY

AND

IRVING LYSANDER FOSTER, A.M.

PROFESSOR OF THE ROMANCE LANGUAGES
THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE



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PREFACE

This text-book for beginners is an outgrowth of *Foundations of French*. When a revision of this was first undertaken, the purpose was to adapt it to a wider range of use by the insertion of a greater variety of exercises and the addition of vocabularies. So many incidental alterations and additions have attended the work that an entirely new book has resulted. However, the logical arrangement of topics, and the clearness and simplicity of statement that characterized the earlier volume, are everywhere retained.

At the present time the ideas of American teachers are beginning to be fairly in accord touching the content of the elementary course in French. To meet the demands of this course is the aim of this book, as its title indicates, and it seeks to accomplish little more. It does endeavor, nevertheless, by the character and quantity of material presented, to secure sufficient flexibility to meet, as fully as may be, the diverse conditions that the American educational system presents. Such variations appear in the time allowed by the curriculum, the maturity of the class, the immediate aim of the work, and the method of the teacher. The exercises will readily lend themselves to the molding hand of the instructor who strives to impart a practical command of the living language. The book is equally well adapted to serve in a secondary school and to constitute the nucleus of the first year's work in a college course that does not demand French for entrance. It can be completed in a year and leave ample time for the reading of easy French texts.

Special attention is called to the following features :

(a) Unity and system are obtained by grouping the lessons in natural relations around a common topic, such as the verb, the pronoun, etc.

(b) The French text of each lesson consists of a connected paragraph, generally narrative, and serves as a center around which much of the exercise turns.

(c) The abundant exercises are constantly emphasizing the essential points in a variety of forms, a portion of each being connected discourse. Plenty of material is offered for thorough and effective review.

(d) A practical and simple phonetic reproduction of the earlier portions of the French text is given in the Appendix. Here it is fully available for those who desire it, while it does not, by its intrusion on the page, become an eyesore to instructors who entirely discard such aids.

(e) The lists of sentences taken directly from college papers should prove of great assistance in preparing for entrance examinations.

(f) A concise outline to elementary French inflection and syntax is furnished in the form of questions and references by the "Syllabus of French Grammar." For this we are indebted to Professor Roscoe J. Ham of Bowdoin College, whose scheme has been inserted intact, with the modifications which were necessitated by the arrangement of our text.

(g) The "tolerances" of the Revised French Syntax are disregarded in the body of the book, but the important points are summarized and illustrated in the Appendix. The consensus of the best opinion is that our text-books should not yet be shaped by these dicta, since they represent merely authorized license, and not prevailing usage.

(h) The completeness and analytical clearness of the English-French vocabulary will prevent many an error in the pupil's work.

Only the more mature and energetic classes will find it practicable to take a whole lesson at a single session. A convenient point of division into two parts is at the end of the Model; into three, after the Drill and the Theme. A concise and yet thoroughly complete and unified course can be secured by assigning only the *Résumé*, in connection with the grammar. In this way one closely follows the plan of the *Foundations*. Some, on the contrary, may prefer to omit the *Résumés* until a certain portion, or even the whole book, is covered, and then assign them in connection with review work.

We desire to acknowledge with gratitude the substantial aid and the valuable suggestions furnished by Professor Roscoe J. Ham of Bowdoin College, whose specific contribution has been mentioned above; by Professor Maro B. Jones of the Case School of Applied Science, Cleveland, Ohio, Mr. Emerson A. Kimball of the Hill School, Pottstown, Pennsylvania, Professor F. M. Josselyn of Boston University, Miss Harriet A. Nichols of the Pennsylvania State College, Professor Albert Pernot of Worcester, Massachusetts; and by many others.

F. D. A.
I. L. F.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	x
INTRODUCTION	xi-xxii
Alphabet	xi
Capitals	xi
Orthographic Marks	xii
Syllables	xiii
Sounds	xiv
Sounds of Vowels	xiv
Sounds of Digraphs	xvi
Sounds of Nasal Vowels	xvii
Sounds of Consonants	xviii
Linking	xxi
Elision	xxii
Stress	xxii
LESSONS	1-214
I. Articles	1
II. Plural of Nouns	5
III. Adjectives — Agreement and Position	8
IV. Irregular Feminine of Adjectives	12
Review — Lessons I-IV	16
V. Comparison of Adjectives and Adverbs	17
VI. Articles — Use and Contraction	21
VII. The Partitive Construction	25
Review — Lessons V-VII	29
VIII. Regular Conjugations — Present Tense	31
IX. Regular Conjugations — Past Tenses	36
X. Regular Conjugations — Future and Conditional	42
XI. Regular Conjugations — Imperative and Subjunctive	47
Review — Lessons VIII-XI	52
XII. The Perfect Tense	53

	PAGE
XIII. Inflection and Use of <i>Avoir</i>	59
XIV. <i>Avoir</i> in Perfect Tenses	63
XV. <i>Être</i> in Perfect Tenses	68
Review — Lessons XII–XV	72
XVI. Interrogation	74
XVII. Negation	79
Review — Lessons XVI–XVII	85
XVIII. Conjunctive Personal Pronouns	86
XIX. Disjunctive Personal Pronouns	92
XX. <i>En</i> and <i>Y</i>	96
Review — Lessons XVIII–XX	101
XXI. Possessives	103
XXII. Demonstratives	108
XXIII. Relative Pronouns	114
XXIV. Interrogatives	120
Review — Lessons XXI–XXIV	125
XXV. Numerals — Cardinals	128
XXVI. Numerals — Ordinals	133
XXVII. Reflexive Verbs	138
XXVIII. Passive Voice	145
Review — Lessons XXV–XXVIII	151
XXIX. Orthographic Changes of the First Conjugation	153
XXX. Irregular Verbs	158
XXXI. Irregular Verbs	163
Review — Lessons XXIX–XXXI	167
XXXII. Irregular Verbs	169
XXXIII. Irregular Verbs	173
XXXIV. Irregular Verbs	177
XXXV. Irregular Verbs	181
Review — Lessons XXXII–XXXV	186
XXXVI. Infinitives — Participles — Prepositions	187
XXXVII. The Subjunctive Mood	193
XXXVIII. The Subjunctive Mood	199
Review — Lessons XXXVI–XXXVIII	204
XXXIX. Supplementary Lesson	206
Sentences for General Review	211

	PAGE
APPENDIX	215–278
I. Phonetic Transcription	215
II. Drill Sentences from College Papers	223
III. Syllabus of Essential Topics	235
IV. Revised French Syntax	243
V. Words Beginning with an Aspirate <i>H</i>	245
VI. Gender of Nouns	245
VII. Plural of Nouns	246
VIII. Position of Adjectives	247
IX. Formation of Adverbs	248
X. Verbal Endings	249
XI. Regular Verbs	250
XII. Irregular Verbs	258
XIII. Key to Irregular Verb Forms	274
VOCABULARIES	279–322
French-English	279
English-French	301
GENERAL INDEX	323

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

act.	= active	neg.	= negative
adj.	= adjective	num.	= numeral
adv.	= adverb	obj.	= object
ant.	= anterior	p.	= page
art.	= article	part.	= participle
cond.	= conditional	pass.	= passive
conj.	= conjunction	per.	= person
conj. pron.	= conjunctive pronoun	perf.	= perfect
def.	= definite	pers.	= personal
disj.	= disjunctive	pl.	= plural
ex.	= example	pluperf.	= pluperfect
f.	= feminine	poss.	= possessive
Fr.	= French	prep.	= preposition
fut.	= future	pres.	= present
imp.	= imperfect	pret.	= preterit
imv.	= imperative	pron.	= pronoun
ind.	= indicative	ref.	= reflexive
indef.	= indefinite	reg.	= regular
indir.	= indirect	rel.	= relative
inf.	= infinitive	Sec.	= section
int.	= interrogative	sing.	= singular
intj.	= interjection	sub.	= subject
intr.	= intransitive	subj.	= subjunctive
irr.	= irregular	syn.	= synopsis
m.	= masculine	tr.	= transitive
n.	= noun	v.	= verb

The asterisk (*) indicates an aspirate h.

INTRODUCTION

ALPHABET

1. The letters of the French alphabet are the same as those of the English. **K** and **w** are used only in words derived from other languages.

2. The French names of the letters are :

a	a	g	gé	m	emme	s	esse	y	i grec
b	bé	h	ache	n	enne	t	té	z	zède
c	cé	i	i	o	o	u	u		
d	dé	j	ji	p	pe	v	vé		
e	é	k	ka	q	ku	w	double vé		
f	effe	l	elle	r	erre	x	iks		

NOTE. In oral spelling the consonants are sometimes pronounced with the sound of **mute e**. Thus **d** is pronounced *de*; **g**, *gue* or *je*; etc.

3. The alphabet is divided into vowels and consonants.

The letters **a**, **e**, **i**, **o**, **u**, and **y** are vowels; the rest are consonants.

NOTE. **I**, **o**, **u**, and **y** often have the value of a consonant when they precede a vowel.

CAPITALS

4. The French use of capital letters is the same as the English, except that proper adjectives, the names of months and days, titles of rank or office, and the personal pronoun *je* (*I*) are not capitalized.

NOTE. In titles of books, names of corporations, and the like, French aims to capitalize but one word, generally the first noun unless it be preceded by a preposition. To this one capital there is

added a capital on any adjective preceding the noun, on any noun connected coördinately with the capitalized noun, and on any adjective preceding this second noun. If an article is used as the first word of a title, it is not capitalized unless it begins a sentence.

ORTHOGRAPHIC MARKS

5. There are certain marks in written French, called accents, placed over vowels. These are not used, as in English, to indicate that the syllable where they stand is to be pronounced more strongly, but, in general, they serve to distinguish the sounds of the vowels.

6. There are three accents: the acute (*aigu*) (´), the grave (*grave*) (`), and the circumflex (*circonflexe*) (^): *étant, père, tête*.

NOTE 1. The acute accent occurs only on *e*; the grave, usually on *e*, rarely on *a* or *u* to distinguish words otherwise spelled alike; the circumflex on any vowel (except *y*).

NOTE 2. The circumflex accent is usually a sign of contraction in the formation of the word, especially of the omission of an *s*: *fête*, from Latin *fésta*; compare English *feast*.

NOTE 3. Vowels, except *e*, omit their accent when capitalized.

7. The other orthographic marks are:

(a) The cedilla (*cédille*) (¸), placed under *c* to indicate a soft sound: *ça*.

(b) The diæresis (*tréma*) (¨), placed over the second of two consecutive vowels to denote that it does not unite with the first to form a digraph, but is pronounced separately: *haïr*.

(c) The apostrophe (*apostrophe*) (´), which indicates the omission of a vowel: *j'ai*.

(d) The hyphen (*trait d'union*) (-), used to join words in close connection: *avez-vous?*

SYLLABLES

8. In dividing words into syllables:

(a) There are as many syllables in a word as there are vowels (or digraphs): *a-mi, par-lent, cou-pe-rai, vic-toi-re, pro-pri-é-tai-re*.

NOTE 1. *E* or *u* when added as explained in Sec. 34, *b*, note, do not form a syllable: *man-gea, guer-re*.

NOTE 2. A mute *e* (Sec. 12, *b*) in the middle of a word following a vowel does not form a syllable: *é-taient, joue-rai*.

NOTE 3. *I, y, o, ou, and u*, when preceding other vowels are often sounded as consonants (Sec. 3, note, Sec. 24, note), and then do not form a syllable: *bien, é-tions, yeux, loin, fouet-ter, lui, é-cuel-le*.

(b) A single consonant (except *x*) at the point of division belongs to the following syllable: *a-mi, a-vant, pa-ro-les, i-né-ga-li-té*.

NOTE. At the end of a line in writing or printing, division is usually avoided between *x* and a vowel (Sec. 45) and before or after *y* followed by a vowel (Sec. 17, note 2).

(c) When there are two or more consecutive consonants the last of these is grouped with the following syllable, the remainder going with the preceding: *ad-mi-ra, es-poir, par-la, don-nai, fil-les, ins-tant*.

(d) Combinations of two consonants, however, consisting of *l* or *r* preceded by *b, c, d, f, g, p, t, v*, are not divided but are treated as a single consonant; also *ch, ph, th, and gn*: *ta-ble, cou-vrit, mai-griv, a-che-ta, ga-gna, com-bler, per-dra, ins-trui-re*.

NOTE 1. Observe that these combinations correspond roughly to those that may begin a word.

NOTE 2. Since *h*, unless aspirate (Sec. 36), has no consonantal value, a preceding consonant is put with such an *h* in the following syllable: *si-lhouet-te*.

SOUNDS

To acquire a good pronunciation of French one should hear and imitate a person who pronounces it correctly. Consequently no exhaustive discussion of French sounds is attempted here. The essential points are given in a way that will prove of practical aid, it is hoped, to the English-speaking student. It must be understood, however, that there are numerous exceptions to the following rules. Those found in words most frequently used, especially in words employed in this book, are mentioned.

Sounds of Vowels

9. A has two sounds :

(a) The usual sound is between that of a in **father** and that of a in **pat** : *ami, malle, table, la*.

(b) When it has the circumflex accent, or is followed by s, it usually has a sound between that of a in **father** and a in **paw** : *classe, base, âme, gâter*.

NOTE. A is silent in *août*.

10. Ê has the sound of a in **fate** without the vanishing sound of e in **meet** which is heard in long a in English : *été, céda*.

NOTE. This sound is known as **closed e** (*e fermé*).

11. È and ê have the sound of e in **met**, often somewhat prolonged : *ève, tête*.

NOTE. This sound is known as **open e** (*e ouvert*).

12. E unaccented has two sounds :

(a) Not at the end of a syllable it has the sound of è (e in **met**, Sec. 11) : *tel, pressa*.

NOTE 1. Er when final in words of more than one syllable has the sound of é (a in **fate**, Sec. 10), the r being silent : *parler, premier*.

In *amer, cuiller, enfer, hiver*, however, final r is sounded, the e having its regular sound of è (e in **met**, Sec. 11).

NOTE 2. E has the sound of é (a in **fate**, Sec. 10) in final ez and in the words *pied, assied(s), clef*, and *et*.

NOTE 3. E in *femme* has the sound of French a (Sec. 9, a).

(b) At the end of a syllable it is sounded as little as possible, whatever sound it has approximating that of e in the expression **the man** when fluently pronounced. This sound is known as **mute e** (*e muet*). Three positions in which it occurs must be noted :

(1) At the end of a word of one syllable. Here it is sounded fully : *le, me*.

NOTE. When such words as *le* and *me* are closely connected in thought with other words, as is almost always the case, the e is more or less obscured. Thus in *le père* the e in *le* is sounded but slightly. In *je le fais* the e in *le* is silent when the expression is uttered fluently.

(2) At the end of a word of more than one syllable. Here it is silent : *malle, apporte, table*.

(3) Not at the end of a word. Here the fullness of its pronunciation is determined by the character of the sounds that precede and follow it. It is sounded rather clearly in *regarda, pesa*; it is sounded slightly in *petit, sera*: it is silent in *samedi, appela*.

NOTE 1. In **es** at the end of a word of more than one syllable, and in **ent** at the end of the third person plural of verbs, the e is **mute**, and the terminations are silent : *êtes, parles, parlent*.

NOTE 2. See Sec. 34, note, for silent e after g.

13. I (with or without accent) has the sound of i in **machine** : *il, île, midi*.

NOTE. Consonantal i (Sec. 3, note) has the sound of y in **yes** : *bien, étions*.

14. **Ô** has the sound of **o** in **holy** without the vanishing sound of **oo** in **moon** heard in long **o** in English: *côte, nôtre*.

15. **O** unaccented has two sounds:

(a) When it is the final sound of a word it has the sound of **ô** (**o** in **holy**, Sec. 14): *trop, cachot*.

(b) When it is not the final sound of a word it has a more open sound, somewhat like **o** in the Yankee pronunciation of **wholly**: *fol, robe, or*.

NOTE 1. **O** has the sound of **o** in **holy** (Sec. 14) in the terminations **ome** and **one**, and usually when followed by **s** and **z** sounds: *lome, grosse, rose, notion*.

NOTE 2. Consonantal **o** (Sec. 3, note) has the sound of **w** in **was**: *loin*. See also Sec. 25.

16. **U** has no equivalent sound in English. To produce its sound, round or pucker the lips as if to pronounce **oo** in **moon**, and then try to pronounce **e** in **meet**: *du, sucre, mûr*.

NOTE 1. See Sec. 34, note, for silent **u** after **g**.

NOTE 2. Consonantal **u** (Sec. 3, note) has no equivalent sound in English. Its sound may be produced by pronouncing the French vowel **u** in close connection with the following vowel: *lui*.

17. **Y** has the sound of French **i**: *style*.

NOTE 1. Consonantal **y** (Sec. 3, note) has the sound of **y** in **yes**: *yeux*.

NOTE 2. **Y** between vowels, and in **pays** and derivatives, is equivalent to **i-i**. The first **i** goes with the preceding vowel (Sec. 18, 25, 16, note 2); the second, except in **pays**, etc., is consonantal (Sec. 13, note). *Asseyant (assei-yant), appuyai (appui-yai), pays (pai-i)*.

Sounds of Digraphs

18. The vowels in the common groups **ai**, **ei**, **au** (**eau**), **eu** (**œu**), **ou**, however, are not sounded as above, but each group represents a single sound. These are called **digraphs** (or, when three, **trigraphs**).

19. **Ai** has two sounds:

(a) When final in verbs it has the sound of **é** (**a** in **fate**, Sec. 10): *parlai*.

NOTE. **Ai** has the sound of **é** also in *gai, quai, sais, sait*.

(b) Elsewhere it has the sound of **è** (**e** in **met**, Sec. 11): *vrai, faible*.

NOTE. In *faisant* and derived forms **ai** has the sound of **mute e**.

20. **Ei** has the sound of **è** (**e** in **met**, Sec. 11): *reine*.

21. **Au** and **eau** have the sound of **ô** (**o** in **holy**, Sec. 14): *autre, beau*.

22. **Eu** and **œu** have a sound somewhat like **u** in **fur**.

More exactly, their sound may be produced by rounding the lips as if to pronounce **o** in **note**, and pronouncing:

(a) In some words, **é** (Sec. 10): *feu, vœu*.

(b) In other words, **è** (Sec. 11): *neuf, sœur*.

NOTE. **Eu** in forms of *avoir* is like French **u** (Sec. 16): *eus, eusse*.

23. NOTE. **œ** in *œil* and **ue** in *cueillir, orgueil*, and a few other words have the same sound as **eu** (Sec. 22, b).

24. **Ou** has the sound of **oo** in **moon**: *fou*.

NOTE. In a few words **ou** has the sound of **w** in **was**: *oui*.

25. **Oi** is usually classified with the digraphs. It has the sound of **wa**, the **a** being sometimes that of Sec. 9, **a**: *moi*; sometimes that of Sec. 9, **b**: *roi*.

Sounds of Nasal Vowels

26. A vowel or digraph followed immediately in the same syllable by a single **m** or **n** acquires a nasal quality. The **m** or the **n** is silent: *bon, mon-trer, temps, faim*.

NOTE 1. From the rule for dividing words into syllables it will be seen that (disregarding a few exceptions) **m** or **n** must be final or followed by a consonant to produce the nasal sound.

NOTE 2. If the **m** or the **n** be doubled, the preceding vowel is usually not nasal: *bonne*.

27. There are four nasal vowels, represented as follows:

an	am	} have the sound of a in <i>far</i> (more exactly, the sound of a of Sec. 9, <i>b</i>) pronounced through the nose: <i>enfant, temple</i> .
en	em	
in	im	} have the sound of a in <i>fan</i> (more exactly, the sound of è , Sec. 11) pronounced through the nose: <i>fin, simple, nymphe, pain, fain, sein</i> .
yn	ym	
ain	aim	
ein	eim	
on	om	} have the sound of a in <i>fawn</i> (more exactly, the sound of o of Sec. 15, <i>b</i>) pronounced through the nose: <i>bon, nom</i> .
un	um	
eun	eum	} have the sound of u in <i>fur</i> (more exactly, the sound of eu of Sec. 22, <i>b</i>) pronounced through the nose: <i>brun, humble, jeun</i> .

NOTE 1. Final **en** after **é**, **i**, or **y**, has the sound of the nasal **in**; also nasal **en** after **i** in the verbs *tenir* and *venir*: *bien, moyen, tiens, viendra*.

NOTE 2. Before the nasal **in**, **o** has its consonantal sound of **w** in *was*: *loin, moins*.

NOTE 3. **On** in *monsieur* has the sound of **mute e**.

NOTE 4. For final **ent** in verbs, see Sec. 12, *b*, 3, note 1.

Sounds of Consonants

28. Consonants in general have approximately the same sounds as in English. The principal differences are given below.

29. Final consonants are not sounded except **c**, **f**, **l**, and **r**. Likewise of final groups of consonants only **c**, **f**, **l**, and **r** are sounded: *nid, trop, des* (silent); *sec, neuf, nul, pour* (sounded); *neufs* (**f** sounded); *corps* (**r** sounded).

30. (*a*) **C** before **e**, **i**, and **y**, and likewise **ç**, have the soft sound, that of **c** in *certain* (that is, English initial **s**): *cette, ça*.

(*b*) **C** in other positions (except in **ch**) has the hard sound, that of **c** in *cast* (that is, **k**): *col, avec*.

NOTE 1. Final **c**, usually sounded, is silent after nasal **n**: *blanc*; also in *clerc, estomac, porc, tabac*, and a few other words.

NOTE 2. **C** in *second* has the sound of **g** (Sec. 34, *b*).

31. **Ch** usually has the sound of **ch** in *machine*: *chat, chercher*.

NOTE. In some words, mostly those derived from the Greek, **ch** has the sound of **k**: *chrétien, écho, chœur*.

32. NOTE. In pronouncing the English **d**, **l**, **n**, **t**, the tip of the tongue is placed against the hard palate some distance back of the roots of the upper teeth. In French it is generally placed against the upper teeth. An appreciably different sound is produced: *dame, ronde, les, aller, nette, donner, tête*.

33. NOTE. Final **f**, usually sounded, is silent in *clef* and in the plurals *bœufs, nerfs, œufs*.

34. (*a*) **G** before **e**, **i**, and **y** has the sound of **s** in *measure*: *geler, large*.

(*b*) **G** in other positions (except in **gn**) has the sound of **g** in *get*: *gai, grand*.

NOTE. After **g**, **e** is often inserted before **a**, **o**, and **u**, to indicate the former (*a*) sound of the **g**, and **u** is often inserted before **e**, **i**, and **y**, to indicate the latter (*b*). In these cases the **e** and the **u** are silent: *mangea, guerre*.

35. **Gn** has the sound of **ny** in *canyon*: *gagner*.

36. **H** is never sounded: *homme, thé*.

In some words, however, initial **h** has sufficient force to prevent elision and linking, as in *huit, haut*. The **h** is then called **aspirate**: otherwise it is called **mute**.

NOTE. A list of words beginning with aspirate **h** is given in the Appendix, page 245.

37. **J** has the sound of **s** in **measure**: *je, jardin*.

38. (a) In **il** final preceded by a consonant, the **l** is sometimes sounded, as in *fil, mil, civil*; sometimes silent, as in *gentil, fusil*.

(b) **Il** final preceded by a vowel has the so-called **liquid** sound. In this position **il** is sounded like the English consonant **y** in **yes**. The preceding vowel (or digraph) does not unite with the **i**, but retains its individual sound, the **e** of the ending **eil** having the sound of **è** (Sec. 11): *travail, sommeil, seuil*.

(c) **III** when not initial has in most words the liquid sound explained above, that of English **y**: *veille, fille*.

NOTE 1. In the following words **il** has the sound of single **l**: *mille, ville, tranquille*, and compounds.

NOTE 2. For the tongue position in **l** see Sec. 32.

NOTE 3. In *fil*s (meaning "son") **l** is silent.

39. NOTE. **M** is silent in *automne*. For **m** and **n** nasal, see Secs. 26 and 27. For the tongue position in **n** see Sec. 32.

40. NOTE. **P** is silent in *sept* and *compter*.

41. **Qu** generally has the sound of **k**: *quel, quoique*.

42. **R** is pronounced more prominently than in English: *rose, très, tenir, vrai*.

NOTE 1. Two different sounds of this letter are in common use in France. One is a trill of the tip of the tongue, the other a trill of the extremity of the soft palate. Either is correct, though the best usage now favors the latter.

NOTE 2. **R** is silent in *monsieur*.

NOTE 3. For final **er**, see Sec. 12, a, note 1.

43. **S** is usually like English initial **s**, but between two vowels has the sound of **z**: *rose, maison*.

NOTE. Final **s**, usually silent, is sounded in *fil*s, *jadis*, *lis* (usually), *mars, mœurs, ours, sens* (usually), *tous* (as a pronoun).

44. **T** in the combinations **tion, tial, tiel, tieux**, and **tie** usually has the sound of **s**. This is true especially in words that correspond in form and meaning to English words in which **t** has the sound of **sh** (not **ch**) or is represented by soft **c**: *nation, partial, essentiel, ambitieux, démocratie*.

NOTE 1. Final **t**, usually silent, is sounded in *dot, est* (point of compass), *net, ouest*.

NOTE 2. For the tongue position in **t** see Sec. 32.

NOTE 3. Since **h** is always silent, **th** is sounded like English **t**: *thé*.

45. **X** (a) usually has the sound of **ks**: *luxe, exposer*.

(b) has the sound of **gz** in **ex** initial before a vowel or mute **h**: *exemple*.

NOTE. **X** has the sound of **s** in *six, dix, soixante, Bruxelles*; the sound of **z** in *dix-huit, dix-neuf, deuxième, sixième, dixième*.

LINKING

46. A final consonant before an initial vowel sound is often pronounced with this vowel sound when the two words are closely connected in thought. The result of this is that the words are run together and pronounced as one. This is called **linking** (in French, *liaison*): *beaucoup à faire, est-il, un homme*.

47. In linking,

a final **d** is sounded like **t**: *grand enfant*.

a final **f** is sounded like **v**: *neuf hommes*.

a final **g** is sounded like **k**: *long hiver*.

a final **s** or **x** is sounded like **z**: *les amis, dix amis*.

NOTE. When the **m** or **n** of a nasal group is carried forward in linking, much of the nasal quality is lost: *mon ami*.

48. Many words, notably **et**, **and**, never permit their final consonant to be carried over to a following word.

ELISION

49. A final vowel is often dropped before an initial vowel or mute *h*, an apostrophe taking its place. This is called elision. *J'ai, s'ils, l'homme.*

50. The following words alone undergo elision :

- (a) All monosyllables ending in mute *e*.
- (b) *Jusque*; *lorsque*, *puisque*, and *quoique* before *il*, *ils*, *elle*, *elles*, *on*, and *un*.
- (c) *La*, both the article and the pronoun.
- (d) *Si*, before *il* and *ils*.
- (e) A few special cases, such as *quelqu'un*.

STRESS

51. French words do not, like English, have a strong accent, but each syllable (except most of those containing mute *e*) is clearly pronounced. There is, however, an apparent stress of voice that normally falls on the last syllable. Phrases likewise have a stress falling on the last syllable of their last word.

ELEMENTARY FRENCH

LESSON ONE

ARTICLES

1. In French all nouns, whether the names of animate or inanimate objects, are either masculine or feminine. There is no neuter gender. The gender of the names of animate objects is generally determined by sex; that of the names of inanimate objects must be learned by observation.¹

NOTE. French nouns derived from Latin masculines and neuters are regularly masculine in French; those from Latin feminines are regularly feminine. A considerable number from Latin neuter plurals are also feminine, on account of a misunderstanding as to their derivation.

2. The definite article *the* is expressed :

- (a) Before masculine nouns in the singular by *le*.
- (b) Before feminine nouns in the singular by *la*.
- (c) Before all nouns in the plural by *les*.

the father, <i>le père</i>	the fathers, <i>les pères</i>
the mother, <i>la mère</i>	the mothers, <i>les mères</i>

3. Before nouns beginning with a vowel or mute *h*, *le* and *la* become *l'*. See Introduction, Sec. 50.

the child, <i>l'enfant</i>	the children, <i>les enfants</i>
the man, <i>l'homme</i>	the men, <i>les hommes</i>

¹ See Appendix, p. 245.