

## Module 4: En famille

### Topic 3 Content: Modifying Adjectives

#### Modifying Adjectives

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Adjectives must agree in number and gender with the nouns they modify.

Start with the singular masculine form of the adjective.

If the adjective already ends in **e**, you do nothing.

#### Example

Jean-Luc est timide.

Geneviève est timide aussi.

In English, adjectives have just one form that is used to modify any noun, singular or plural. In French, adjectives must agree in number and gender with the nouns they modify. Let's take a look at how to form adjectives.

First, start with the singular masculine form of the adjective. In order to make it agree with a feminine noun you would follow these steps.

If the adjective already ends in “e”, you do nothing. For example:

Jean-Luc est timide.

Geneviève est timide aussi.

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#### Modifying Adjectives 2

#### Modifying Adjectives

If the adjective ends in a consonant or a vowel other than e, you will ordinarily add an e.

#### Example

Marius est strict.

Cosette est stricte aussi.

If the adjective ends in a consonant or a vowel other than “e”, you will ordinarily add an “e”. Take a look at the following examples:

Marius est strict.  
Cosette est stricte aussi.

Benoît est poli.  
Claudine est polie aussi.

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#### Modifying Adjectives 3

##### Modifying Adjectives

If the adjective ends in é, you will add an e.

##### Example

Florian est fiancé.

Marie-Claire est fiancéee aussi.

If the adjective ends in “é”, you will add an “e”. For example:

Florian est fiancé.  
Marie-Claire est fiancéee aussi.

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#### Modifying Adjectives 4

#### Modifying Adjectives

For any adjective that ends in -en, you will need to double the n and add an e.

If the adjective ends in -et, you will double the t and add e.

#### Example

Marc est mon frère cadet.

Alice est ma sœur cadette.

For any adjective that ends in “-en”, you will need to double the “n” and add an “e”. Take a look at the examples:

Sébastien est canadien.

Fantine est canadienne aussi.

Similarly, if the adjective ends in “-et”, you will double the “t” and add “e”. For example:

Marc est mon frère cadet.

Alice est ma sœur cadette.

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##### Modifying Adjectives

To make an adjective agree with a plural noun, simply add an s to either the masculine or feminine form according to the gender of the noun.

##### Example

Les deux petitss cousins sont poliss.

To make an adjective agree with a plural noun, simply add an “s” to either the masculine or feminine form according to the gender of the noun. You can see this in the example:

Les deux petitss cousins sont poliss.

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#### Conjugating the Verb Être

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Conjugate **être** according to the subject, and then add the appropriately modified form of the **adjective**.

#### Example

Mon cousin Paul **est impatient**.

Mes sœurs Chantal et Monique **sont intelligentes**.

When describing a noun, you will conjugate the verb être according to the subject, and then add the appropriately modified form of the adjective. Take a look at the following sentence.

Mon cousin Paul est impatient.

In this example, there is only one subject, Paul. Because there is one subject, the singular third person form of the verb être is used. Paul is masculine, so you would use the singular masculine form of the adjective.

Take a look at the next example.

Mes sœurs Chantal et Monique sont intelligentes.

In this example, there are two subjects, Chantal and Monique. Because there are two subjects, the plural third person form of the verb être is used. Chantal and Monique are feminine, so we use the plural feminine form of the adjective.

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#### Conjugating the Verb Être 2

#### Conjugating the Verb Être

When any group has **at least one masculine noun**, the whole group is considered to be masculine and **will require the plural masculine form** of the adjective.

#### Example

Pierre, Arianne, et Isabelle sont intéressants.

Remember, that when any group has at least one masculine noun, the whole group is considered to be masculine and will require the plural masculine form of the adjective. For example:

Pierre, Arianne, et Isabelle sont intéressants.