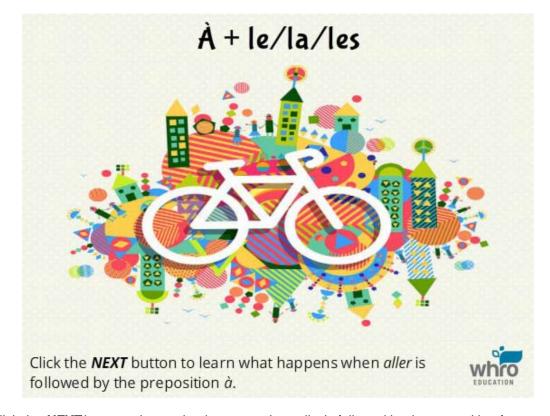
#### Introduction



Click the **NEXT** button to learn what happens when *aller* is followed by the preposition à.



### The Preposition À



À is a preposition that means to, at, or in. Because à is a preposition, it will typically be followed by a noun; and usually a noun related to a place, like la gare, l'hôtel, or le cinéma. For example, you may say, "Marc va à la gare."



#### Contractions



Two words combine to form a new word

Sophie et Marc vont au cinéma.

**No contraction:** vont à le cinéma

Contraction: à combined with le to form au

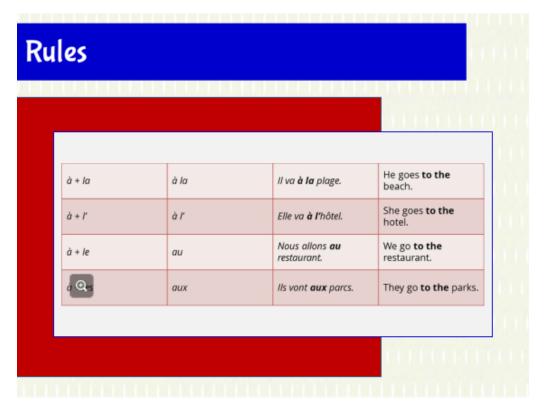


In English we can choose to contract or not (do not versus don't). In French, contractions are required.

Sometimes à is part of a contraction. A contraction is when two words combine together to make one new word. In English, for instance, rather than saying "do not" you can form the contraction "don't." In French, you may want to say, "Sophie et Marc vont au cinéma." The contraction in this sentence is *au*. Take a moment to break this sentence down so you can understand why *au* was used. Although not the proper way to say it, the sentence without a contraction would have read, "Sophie et Marc vont à le cinéma." Notice how by using the contraction, à combined with the *le* to form *au*.



#### Rules



Take a moment to study the rules for  $\dot{a}$  plus le, la, and les. When you are finished, you may exit the interactivity.

