

**frenchtoday™**



# Mastering French Numbers With Drills

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# Table Of Contents

<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>11</b>
1. How To Learn French Numbers .....	11
2. Changing The Way You Learn French Numbers .....	11
3. Speed And Mastering French Numbers .....	11
4. How To Study .....	12
<b>01. French Numbers 0 to 10 - The Essentials</b> .....	<b>14</b>
1. General Notes .....	14
2. French Digits Zero To Ten .....	14
3. How To Drill .....	15
1) Drill 0 To 5 - Slower 1 .....	16
2) Drill 0 To 5 - Slower 2 .....	17
3) Drill 6 To 10 - Slower 1 .....	17
4) Drill 6 To 10 - Slower 2 .....	18
5) Drill 0 To 10 - Slower 1 .....	18
6) Drill 0 To 10 - Slower 2 .....	20
7) Drill 0 To 10 - Faster 1 .....	21
8) Drill 0 To 10 - Faster 2 .....	22
9) Drill 0 To 10 - Very Fast 1 .....	22
10) Drill 0 To 10 - Very Fast 2 .....	23
4. Spelling The Numbers 0 to 10 .....	24
<b>02. Number Spelling: Upper or Lower Case? Hyphens?</b> .....	<b>26</b>

1. Upper or Lower Case .....26

2. The Hyphen Dilemma .....26

**03. Un and Une .....28**

1. Pronunciation Of "Un" And "Une".....29

2. Drilling "Un" And "Une".....29

**04. Number Pronunciation: Liaison And Glidings .....30**

1. Numbers Followed By A Vowel Or A Mute H. ....30

    1) What's A liaison?.....30

    2) What's A Gliding? .....31

    3) Pronunciation of French Numbers with Liaison And Glidings .....31

2. Drilling With Numbers + Vowels Or Mute H .....33

3. Cinq, Six, Huit And Dix + Consonant.....33

    Pronunciation Drill.....34

**05. Numbers 0 to 10 Additional Info .....36**

Zéro.....36

1. Un.....37

2. Deux .....38

3. Trois.....39

4. Quatre.....40

5. Cinq.....41

6. Six.....42

7. Sept.....43

8. Huit .....	44
9. Neuf .....	44
10. Dix .....	45
<b>06. French Numbers 11 to 19 - The Weird Ones .....</b>	<b>46</b>
1. Pronunciation 11 to 19 .....	46
2. How To Drill .....	47
3. Drills .....	47
1) Drill 11 To 15 - Slower 1 .....	47
2) Drill 11 To 15 - Slower 2 .....	48
3) Drill 16 To 19 - Slower 1 .....	48
4) Drill 16 To 19 - Slower 2 .....	49
5) Drill 11 To 19 - Slower 1 .....	50
6) Drill 11 To 19 - Slower 2 .....	50
7) Drill 0 To 19 - Faster 1 .....	51
8) Drill 0 To 19 - Faster 2 .....	52
9) Drill 0 To 19 - Very Fast 1 .....	53
10) Drill 0 To 19 - Very Fast 2 .....	54
11) Drill 0 To 19 - Very Fast 3 .....	55
12) Drill 0 To 19 - Very Fast 4 .....	56
4. Spelling 11 To 19 .....	57
<b>07. The "Easier" French Numbers: 20, 30, 40 and 50 .....</b>	<b>59</b>
1. Vingt .....	59
1) Drill Slower 1 .....	60
2) Drill Slower 2 .....	60
3) Spelling The Numbers With Vingt .....	61
2. Trente .....	62
1) Drill Slower 1 .....	62

Drill Slower 2 . . . . .	63
2) Drilling Trois, Treize, Trente - 1 . . . . .	63
3) Drilling Trois, Treize, Trente - 2 . . . . .	64
4) Spelling Numbers With Trente . . . . .	65
<b>3. Quarante . . . . .</b>	<b>65</b>
1) Drill Slower 1 . . . . .	66
2) Drill Slower 2 . . . . .	67
3) Drilling Quatre, Quatorze, Quarante - 1 . . . . .	67
4) Drilling Quatre, Quatorze, Quarante - 2 . . . . .	68
5) Spelling Numbers With Quarante . . . . .	69
<b>4. Cinquante . . . . .</b>	<b>69</b>
1) Drill Slower 1 . . . . .	70
2) Drill Slower 2 . . . . .	70
3) Drilling Cinq, Quinze, Cinquante - 1 . . . . .	71
4) Drilling Cinq, Quinze, Cinquante - 2 . . . . .	72
5) Spelling Numbers With Cinquante . . . . .	72
<b>5. Drilling Exercise - 20 to 59 . . . . .</b>	<b>73</b>
1) Drill Faster 1 . . . . .	73
2) Drill Faster 2 . . . . .	74
3) Drill Very Fast 1 . . . . .	74
4) Drill Very Fast 2 . . . . .	75
<b>08. The “Crazy” French Numbers: 60, 70, 80 and 90 . . . . .</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>1. Soixante and Soixante-dix . . . . .</b>	<b>76</b>
1) Soixante . . . . .	76
2) Soixante-dix . . . . .	77
3) Drill 60 to 79 - Slower 1 . . . . .	78
4) Drill 60 to 79 - Slower 2 . . . . .	78
5) Drill: Six, Seize, Soixante, Soixante-six - 1 . . . . .	79

Mastering French Numbers

6) Drill: Six, Seize, Soixante, Soixante-six - 2 . . . . .	79
7) Drill: Sept, Dix-sept, Soixante-dix, Soixante-dix-sept -1 . . . . .	80
8) Drill: Sept, Dix-sept, Soixante-dix, Soixante-dix-sept -2 . . . . .	81
9) Spelling Numbers With Soixante and Soixante-dix . . . . .	81
<b>2. Quatre-vingts and Quatre-vingt-dix . . . . .</b>	<b>82</b>
1) Quatre-vingts . . . . .	82
2) Drill With 80 - Slower 1 . . . . .	83
3) Drill With 80 - Slower 2 . . . . .	84
4) Quatre-vingt-dix . . . . .	84
5) Drill With 90 - Instructions . . . . .	85
6) Drill With 90 - Slower 1 . . . . .	85
7) Drill With 90 - Slower 2 . . . . .	86
8) Spelling Numbers With Quatre-vingts and Quatre-vingt-dix . . . . .	86
<b>3. Drilling Exercise - 60 to 99 . . . . .</b>	<b>87</b>
1) Drill - Slower 1 . . . . .	87
2) Drill - Slower 2 . . . . .	88
3) Drill - Faster 1 . . . . .	89
4) Drill - Faster 2 . . . . .	89
5) Drill - Very Fast 1 . . . . .	90
6) Drill - Very Fast 2 . . . . .	91
<b>09. Drilling Practice - From 0 to 99 . . . . .</b>	<b>92</b>
1) Drill Faster 1 . . . . .	92
2) Drill Faster 2 . . . . .	93
3) Drill Faster 3 . . . . .	94
4) Drill Faster 4 . . . . .	95
5) Drill Faster 5 . . . . .	96
6) Drill Very Fast 1 . . . . .	96
7) Drill Very Fast 2 . . . . .	97
8) Drill Very Fast 3 . . . . .	98
9) Drill Very Fast 4 . . . . .	99
10) Drill Very Fast 5 . . . . .	100

<b>10. French Numbers In The Hundreds</b> .....	<b>102</b>
1. Cent And Its Multiples.....	102
1) Cent = One Hundred.....	102
2) Hyphens.....	102
3) Above One Hundred in French .....	102
4) S or no S After Cent in French? .....	103
5) Quatre Cents.....	103
6) Cinq Cents, Six Cents, Huit Cents .....	103
2. Cent In Other Contexts .....	104
1) Homophones of Cent .....	104
2) Expressions With Cent .....	104
3) Cent And Centimes .....	105
3. Three Digit Number Drills.....	105
1) Drill – Slower 1 .....	105
2) Drill – Slower 2 .....	106
3) Drill – Faster 1.....	107
4) Drill – Faster 2.....	107
5) Drill – Very Fast 1 .....	108
6) Drill – Very Fast 2 .....	109
<b>11. One Thousand and Up.....</b>	<b>110</b>
1. Mille, Million, Milliard .....	110
2. Drilling With Mille .....	111
1) Drill Slower 1.....	111
2) Drill Slower 2.....	112
3. Remarks About Larger French Numbers.....	112
1) S or no S After Your French Number? .....	112
2) De or No De After Your Large French Number ? .....	113
3) Saying the Year in a Date in French .....	113
4) Watch Out For the Pronunciation of Cinq, Six, Huit, Dix .....	113
5) The Gliding With Quatre .....	114



## Mastering French Numbers

4. Expressions With Mille .....	114
5. Understanding The Logic Of Larger French Numbers .....	114
6. Comma Versus Period .....	115
7. How To Say Huge Numbers in French? .....	115
8. Large French Number Drills .....	116
1) Large Number Drill – Slower 1 .....	116
2) Large Number Drill – Slower 2 .....	117
3) Large Number Drill - Faster 1 .....	117
4) Large Number Drill - Faster 2 .....	117
9. A Few Huge Numbers Spelled .....	118
<b>12. Numbers and Prices .....</b>	<b>120</b>
1. Liaisons and Glidings With Euros .....	120
2. Centimes et Virgule .....	121
3. Place of Currency or Currency Sign .....	121
4. Drilling with Prices .....	121
1) Drill 1 .....	122
2) Drill 2 .....	122
<b>13. Numbers and Time .....</b>	<b>124</b>
1. Asking for the Time .....	124
2. Il Est .....	124
3. The 24-hour Clock .....	125
4. Liaisons with the Word “Heure(s)” .....	125
1) Morning .....	125
2) Afternoon/Evening .....	126
5. Official Time Drills .....	127
1) Drill Slower .....	127
2) Drill Faster .....	127

6. Minutes to the Hour .....128

7. Different Ways to Tell the Time .....129

    1) Noon and Midnight ..... 129

    2) Quarter past ..... 129

    3) Quarter to ..... 129

    4) Half past..... 130

    5) AM - PM ..... 130

8. What Should You Use in Everyday Situations? .....130

    Exercise ..... 131

9. Expressions Related to Time .....131

**14. Conclusion .....133**

**The À Moi Paris French Method .....134**

**Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)  
Equivalent .....139**

**Additional Products.....140**

**100% Money Back Guarantee .....141**

**Let's Connect! .....142**

# Introduction

## 1. How To Learn French Numbers

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Learning numbers in another language is not a very easy thing. The main problem is that most students “calculate” their French numbers: they think “twenty” and “five” to make “twenty five”.

But that is not how a native would think.

A French native is so accustomed to numbers that “twenty five” is one piece of information.

## 2. Changing The Way You Learn French Numbers

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**LEARNING THE NUMBER ITSELF, NOT PUTTING IT TOGETHER IS THE KEY TO UNDERSTANDING NUMBERS FAST.**

This is even more true in French where numbers can get really silly.

For example, the French number for 99 is “quatre-vingt-dix-neuf”. In other words “four twenty ten nine”...

If you think “four twenty ten nine” when you hear or try to come up with “99”, you will never get it fast enough!

You should think of it as “katrevindizneuf”: one sound, one piece of information.

The only way to get French numbers fast is to train with audio and do lots of repetition.

## 3. Speed And Mastering French Numbers

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Speed is also a big reason why students have trouble with French numbers: when numbers are all glided and meshed together, you have less time to think and break them apart, and it can get

challenging.

This is why I've included drills and exercises at different speeds.

Start with the beginning: conquering the smaller digits will unlock large numbers for you! I can't insist enough on this point. You should know 1 to 19 inside out: it's because of them that your larger numbers are challenging.

## 4. How To Study

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First, I'll explain some important things about the numbers and their pronunciation.

Then I'll read random lists of numbers at different speeds.

It is essential to train with lists of numbers recorded out of order, otherwise your brain will memorize and prioritize the order as well!

You may use the drills in three different ways:

1. Pronunciation/memorization tool

Look at the list of numbers. Say the number out loud before I say it. Compare your pronunciation to mine.

2. Drilling exercise

Don't look at the list of numbers. Listen to the number I say and write it down in digits. At the end of the exercise check your answers.

3. Dictation exercise

Once you've memorized the spelling, do the drilling exercise but write down the numbers in words. Note the dictation exercise won't work for the faster speeds since you won't have time to write down the letters!

In order to make the drilling lists easier to navigate with the French Today app, and to help you keep track of the numbers as you are drilling, I've cut longer lists in smaller chunks of numbers.

When I start reading the second part, I will say 'second part' in French: "deuxième partie". For a more challenging exercise, drill with part 1 and 2 without stopping, in one sitting.

Note that I've recorded all the numbers each time: unlike other methods, I didn't sample my voice and simply copy and paste it to avoid doing all the repetitions: I recorded every single number, every single time. So you'll get nuances of tone and speed for the same number, just like it happens in real life.

Mastering French Numbers

In this lesson more than in any other, repetition with audio is the key. So repeat, repeat, and repeat again!