**Asking Questions in French!**

There are TWO main ways of asking questions in French – the first way will be familiar; the other way can seem a bit tricky at first but with practice you will be able to ask all kinds of questions…

Ready? Est-ce que vous êtes prêts? Êtes-vous prêts?

1. Asking yes or no questions:

* In French, we use the phrase **“Est-ce que”** to show that we are asking a question that requires either a ‘yes’ or a ‘no’ as an answer:
  + If we were to translate to English, it would sound like… “is it that...?”
  + Ex. Is it that you are sick? Yes, I am sick! No, I am not sick!
  + This sounds awkward in English, but is very natural in French.
* So, if you want to ask a question that requires a ‘yes’ or ‘no’ answer – use the declarative sentence, and add “Est-ce que” to the beginning:
  + Declarative sentence: You are sick.
  + In French we say: Tu es malade.
  + So, to ask the question… « Est-ce que tu es malade? »
* Another example!
  + Do you want a puppy?
    - Declarative sentence: You want a puppy.
    - In French : tu veux un chiot.
    - So, to ask the question… “Est-ce que tu veux un chiot?”

1. Asking a variety of questions:

* In French, we use “the inversion” method most commonly to ask all kinds of questions. Why is it called this? Because we “invert” (or flip) the subject and the verb. CONFUSED?!?!!? Let me show you!
* Let’s use the same examples shown above:
  + You are sick.
  + Tu es malade.
  + Inversion question: Es-tu malade?

Do you see what happened?

Let me show you again! Jump to the next page!

* You want a puppy.
* Tu veux un chiot.
* Inversion question : Veux-tu un chiot?
* In our example above, we can break down the sentences into different parts:
* You = is the subject – the sentence is referring to “you” as it’s subject
* Want = is the verb – the action word of the sentence
* A = article (we learned about those in our last lesson!)
* Puppy = noun

So our sentence goes… **subject**, **verb**, **article**, **noun**.

**You want a puppy**.

Therefore, to ask our “inversion” question, we invert or flip the subject and the verb:

**You want** a puppy = **Want you** a puppy?

**Tu veux** un chiot = **Veux-tu** un chiot?

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1. **Can you see an example of “the inversion type” of question in our book – “Rendez Moi Mon Chapeau”?**
2. **Challenge yourself: Can you turn these statements into questions? Look up the words you don’t know in French by using the website “word reference” and don’t forget your “articles” before your nouns:**
3. You like ice-cream.
4. You are happy.
5. You eat spaghetti.
6. You have sunglasses.

**Answers on the next page!!!!**

**Answers :**

1. **As**-**tu** vu mon chapeau?

**As** = have

**Tu** = you

Vu = seen

**Mon** = my

**Chapeau** = hat

« Have you seen my hat?”

* 1. Est-ce que tu aimes la crème glacée? Aimes-tu la crème-glacée?
  2. Est-ce que tu es content? Es-tu content?
  3. Est-ce que tu manges le spaghetti? Manges-tu le spaghetti?
  4. Est-ce que tu as les lunettes de soleil? As-tu les lunettes de soleil?