

## CORRECTION DES ATELIERS D'ÉCRITURE

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# There is a word or words missing.

? \_\_\_\_?. Meaning not clear in the passage underlined

x \_\_\_\_ x. The passage underlined needs to be rewritten.

**A: ACCORD (agreement).** Proper agreement is not made in one of the following cases:

- between a noun and the adjective: agreement in number and gender (e.g., *\*des chaussures noir* (incorrect) for *des chaussures noires* (correct)).
- between a noun and the preceding article: agreement in number and gender (e.g., *\*des jour* (incorrect) for *des jours* (correct));
- between a subject [noun/pronoun] and the following verb: agreement in number, and person (e.g., *\*il viennent/ils vient* (incorrect) for *ils viennent/il vient* (correct).
  - when using the *passé composé*, there may be agreement for the past participle (e.g., *\*elles sont venu* (incorrect) for *ils sont venues* (correct)); see *Chez Nous* pp. 206-207, 229.

**ADJ: ADJECTIF.** Adjective required. Note: *bien* (adverb) vs. *bon* (adjective)

**ADV: ADVERBE.** Adverb required. Note: *bon* (adjective) vs. *bien* (adverb)

**AC: ACCENT.** The correct accent is missing, or the accent written is incorrect.

**AN: ANGLICISME.** The word or expression is an Anglicism, or an incorrect word-for-word translation from English. See the *lexique anglais-français* at the back of *Chez Nous* pp. A41-55.

**AP: ADJECTIF POSSESSIF.** The possessive adjective used is incorrect (see *Chez Nous* pp. 38, 48-49).

**AR: ARTICLE.** Incorrect use or omission of article. Most errors concern the choice of type of article: definite (*le/la/l'/les*), indefinite (*un/une/des*), or partitive (*du/de la/de l'/de/d'*); see *Chez Nous* pp. 188-189.

**AUX: AUXILIAIRE.** The auxiliary verb used is incorrect. For the *passé composé*, *avoir* is the default auxiliary. *Être* is required for verbs of motion (e.g., *aller, partir*) and for pronominal verbs (e.g., *se coucher, se marier*). For the *futur proche*, a form of *aller* needs to be used (see p. 93).

**C: CONJUGAISON.** There is an error in the conjugation of the verb. (For conjugations, there is a table of verbs in Appendix 5 of *Chez Nous* pp. A10-A14)

**CO: CONJONCTION.** Conjunction missing, not needed, or incorrect. Note that the conjunction *que* ('that') is normally required to introduce clauses that follow verbs of thought (e.g., *penser, savoir, imaginer*) or desire (e.g., *vouloir*): e.g., *Je pense que tu es en retard* 'I think (that) you are late.'

**E: ÉLISION / CONTRACTION.** The word or expression underlined is not elided properly (ex. *\*le arbre* (incorrect) for *l'arbre* (correct), *\*j'mange* (incorrect) for *je mange* (correct)), or the contracted form is incorrect (ex. *\*à le cinéma* (incorrect) for correct *au cinéma*; see *Chez Nous* pp. 84-85).

**F: FAMILIER (informal).** The word or expression, although it may be acceptable orally, is too informal in writing.

**IMPE: IMPÉRATIF.** Correct form of the imperative required; see Appendix 5 of *Chez Nous* pp. A10-14.

**INF: INFINITIF.** Correct form of the infinitive required.

**L: LETTRES.** Numbers from zero to ten should always be written out in a written assignment (e.g., *j'ai quatre ans* (correct) instead of *\*j'ai 4 ans* (incorrect)). Numbers greater than eleven do no need to be spelled out.

**↑M: MAJUSCULE/MINUSCULE (capitalization).** Word is written with an upper-case initial letter when the lower case is required (↓M), or vice versa (↑M).

- Days of the week and months are not capitalized in French.
- While names of people are capitalized (e.g. *les Français, un Américain* 'the French people, an American person'), the corresponding adjectives are written in lower case (e.g. *le cinéma français, un acteur américain* 'French cinema, an American actor').

**M/F: GENRE (gender).** The gender indicated is incorrect.

**NC: NOMBRE CARDINAL.** Cardinal number or adjective (e.g., *deux, trois*) required.

**NO: NOMBRE ORDINAL.** Ordinal number or adjective (e.g., *premier/ère, deuxième, troisième*) required. See *Chez Nous* p. 256.

**Orth: ORTHOGRAPHE (spelling).** Correct spelling required.

- Pay especially close attention to accents (e.g. âge ‘age’ vs. âgé ‘old’) and to English cognates whose French spelling may differ (e.g. *adresse* ‘address’, *appartement* ‘apartment’, *confortable* ‘comfortable’, *enveloppe* ‘envelope’, *exemple* ‘example’, *littérature* ‘literature’).

**OK.** Word or expression underlined or circled is ok—no correction needed.

**OM: ORDRE DES MOTS (word order).** The order of the words is incorrect.

- adjectives normally follow the noun they modify, except for a few exceptions (e.g., *beau, bon, grand, gros, jeune, petit, vieux*); see *Chez Nous* pp. 110-111, 121-122
- placement of *ne...pas* and other forms of negation, especially with the *futur proche* and the *passé composé* (see *Chez Nous* pp. 56, 327-328)
- placement of object pronouns (see *Chez Nous* pp. 147, 228-229, 235-236, 274)
- placement of an adverb, which cannot occur between the subject and verb (e.g., *\*Je souvent vais à la plage* (incorrect); normal placement of the adverb is just after the verb it depends on: *Je vais souvent à la plage*).

**PP: PARTICIPE PASSÉ.** Correct form of the past participle required (see *Chez Nous* pp. 196-197, or Appendix 5).

**PRE: PRÉPOSITION.** The preposition is incorrect, missing or unnecessary, or the combination of preposition and article is incorrect. For prepositions following a verb, see the entry for the verb in a dictionary, or the *lexique français-anglais* at the back of *Chez Nous*. Note the following cases:

- to express possession or relationship, *de* is used, with the order of words reversed from English: *l’anniversaire de ma mère* ‘My mother’s birthday’. The English possessive form ‘s does not exist in French.
- before dates, parts of the week, days, and parts of the day, the prepositions *sur* and *dans* are **never** used (unlike their English equivalents, e.g., ‘on the weekend’ and ‘in the morning’); the French article *le* sometimes is sometimes used; see *Chez Nous* p. 53.
- before months, *en* is used (e.g., *en décembre* ‘in December’)
- before seasons, see p. 336
- before place names, see pp. 354-355
- *chez* (‘at/to the home of’, ‘at/to the place of business of’) and is never used with another preposition: *Je vais chez moi*, (correct) instead of *\*Je vais à chez moi* (incorrect).
- the preposition *à* is typically used to express media, *à la télé*, *à la radio* (‘on TV’, ‘on the radio’), but *sur Internet* ‘on the internet’. *Sur la télé*, *sur la radio* both refer to the physical object, as in ‘on **top** of the television set, on top of the radio’.

**PRO: PRONOM.** Pronoun is incorrect or missing.

- subject pronouns: *je/j’, tu, il, elle, on, nous, vous, ils, elles* (e.g., *Tu es ici*. ‘You are here’)
- stressed pron.: *moi, toi, lui, elle, nous, vous, eux, elles* (e.g., *C’est pour toi*. ‘It’s for you’)
- reflexive pron.: *me/m’, te/t’, se/s’, nous, vous* (e.g., *Ils se couchent*. ‘They go bed’)
- direct object pron.: *me/m’, te/t’, le, la, l’, nous, vous, les* (direct, e.g., *Je les ai vus*. ‘I saw them’)
- indirect object pron.: *me/m’, te/t’, lui, nous, vous, leur* (indirect, e.g., *Je leur ai parlé* ‘I talked to them’)
- partitive pronoun: *en* (e.g., *J’en achète*. ‘I buy some’); see *Chez Nous* pp. 208-209.
- locative pronoun: *y* (e.g. *J’y vais*. ‘I go there’); see *Chez Nous* p. 346.

**PROR: PRONOM RELATIF:** Correct relative pronoun required. See *Chez Nous* pp. 365-367.

**S/P: SINGULIER/PLURIEL.** Singular form of a noun, pronoun, or adjective indicated when plural form required, or vice versa.

- Both *tout le monde* ‘everyone, everybody’ and *la/ma famille* are both grammatically singular (e.g., *Tout le monde est beau!* ‘Everybody is beautiful’; *Ma famille est grande*. ‘My family is large’).

**T: TEMPS (tense).** The verb is not conjugated in the required tense.

- For the alternation between *passé composé* and *imparfait*, see *Chez Nous* pp. 264-265, 272.
- Avoid trying to use word-for-word French equivalents for the English progressive tenses ‘I am doing’ or ‘I was doing’ (*\*Je suis faire* and *J’étais faire* make no sense); the present and imperfect are used instead:
  - *Je travaille* (présent) = I work, I am working, I do work
  - *Je vais travailler* (futur proche) or *je travaillerai* (futur) = I am going to work, I will work
  - *J’ai travaillé* (passé composé) = I worked, I did work, I have worked
  - *Je travaillais* (imparfait) = I worked, I was working, I used to work

**VOC: VOCABULAIRE.** The choice of vocabulary is incorrect.

**VP: VERBE PRONOMINAL.** Pronominal verb used when regular form required, or vice versa (see *Chez nous* pp. 178, 281-282).