

# Chapitre 12, Structure - Les verbes réfléchis

Français II

# L'usage de l'article défini avec les parties du corps

- **Note:**

- J'ai les cheveux bruns. I have brown hair. / My hair is brown.
- Tu as les yeux bleus. You have blue eyes. / Your eyes are blue.
- Lève la main. Raise your hand.
- Ferme la bouche. Close your mouth.

# L'usage de l'article défini avec les parties du corps

- In French, parts of the body are usually introduced by the definite article (le, la, l', or les) and NOT by a possessive adjective.

# Les verbes réfléchis

Washing, dressing, and going to bed are activities that we do every day.

In French, these activities (and activities like them), are called

**Reflexive Verbs**  
**(les verbes réfléchis)**

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# NOTE!

Je me lève à six heures.

I get up at 6am.

Tu te laves.

You are washing up.

Nous nous habillons avant le petit déjeuner.

We get dressed before breakfast.

# Parts of a Reflexive Verb:

se laver =

SE +LAVER

reflexive pronounverb

The reflexive pronoun tells you to/on whom the action is being performed.

It will ALWAYS reflect upon the same person who is performing the action.

# subject – reflexive pronoun - verb

The reflexive pronouns usually come before / precede the verb.

Il se réveille. He wakes up.

Elle se parle. She talks to herself.

Ils se parlent chaque jour.

They talk to each other every day.



# Reflexive pronouns

- me/m' = myself
- te/t' = yourself
- se/s' = himself or herself
- nous - ourselves
- vous - yourself or yourselves
- se/s' = themselves or each other (m/f)



# Present tense conjugation – se laver (to wash)

|                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Je<br>me lave         | Nous<br>nous lavons    |
| Tu<br>te laves        | Vous<br>vous lavez     |
| Il/elle/on<br>se lave | Ils/elles<br>se lavent |

# Immediate future tense

|                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Je<br><b>vais me laver</b>       | Nous<br><b>allons nous laver</b>  |
| Tu<br><b>vas te laver</b>        | Vous<br><b>allez vous laver</b>   |
| Il/elle/on<br><b>va se laver</b> | Ils/elles<br><b>vont se laver</b> |

# When to use a reflexive verb

A. The action – reflects upon the same person performing it.

B. The verb – contains a reflexive pronoun in its infinitive form.

C. The subject – is performing an action upon itself.

- Examples:
  - A. Je m'habille.
  - B. Tu t'excuses!
  - C. Mon é<sup>s</sup>tomac se mange!

# La construction: je me lave les mains

- Note:

Je me lave les mains.

I am washing my hands.

Tu te laves la figure.

You are washing your face.

Stéphanie se brosse les dents.

She is brushing her teeth.



# La construction: je me lave les mains

To describe actions that one performs on one's own body, the French use the construction:

subject + reflexive + definite + body part  
verb article

# Vocabulaire

These are some common reflexive verbs.

se préparer

To get ready

Je me prépare...



s'amuser

To have fun

Je m'amuse...



se reposer

To rest, relax

Je me repose...

s'appliquer  
le parfum/le cologne/le  
déodorant

To apply perfume/cologne/  
deodorant

Je m'applique...

se déshabiller

To undress / to get  
undressed

Je me déshabille...

s'arrêter

To stop

Je m'arrête...

s'excuser

To apologize / To  
excuse oneself

Je m'excuse!

se souvenir (de + infinitif)

To remember (to do something)

Je me souviens Nous nous souvenons

Tu te souviens Vous vous souvenez

Il/Elle se souvient Ils/Elles se souviennent

## se taire

To be quiet / to shut up

Je me taisNous nous taisons

Tu te taisVous vous taisez

Il/Elle se taitIls/Elles se taisent

Tais-toi!Taisez-vous!

# s'asseoir

To sit down

Je m'assieds Nous nous asseyons

Tu t'assieds Vous vous asseyez

Il/Elle s'assied Ils/Elles s'asseyent

Assieds-toi! Asseyez-vous!