

Learn words in context

18 recognition notes from three complete French stories. Read a sentence, guess the marked meaning, then check the answer.

Use these pages on paper or import the companion two-column TSV into Anki as Basic notes. Visible square brackets mark the target; they are not Cloze syntax. Meanings are specific to each sentence. The file contains no audio or study history.

La dernière table (A1)

<https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/la-derniere-table/>

1. Nora cherche [une place] avec sa tasse à la main. What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

une place = a seat or place to sit. Nora looks for a seat with her cup in her hand. Une place is feminine. Its meaning here is a seat, rather than a town square. Source: La dernière table (A1); LingoReader.
<https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/la-derniere-table/>

2. « Vous pouvez [vous asseoir] ici. » What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

vous asseoir = sit down. "You can sit here." S'asseoir is a reflexive verb. Vous is the polite form used with Nora here. Source: La dernière table (A1); LingoReader. <https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/la-derniere-table/>

3. [J'attends] mon bus. What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

J'attends = I'm waiting for. "I'm waiting for my bus." Attendre takes a direct object in this sentence: attendre le bus. Source: La dernière table (A1); LingoReader. <https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/la-derniere-table/>

4. [Garde-moi une place] ? What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

Garde-moi une place = Save me a seat. Save me a seat? Garde is an imperative addressed to Julien's sister; moi means for me here. Source: La dernière table (A1); LingoReader.
<https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/la-derniere-table/>

5. Ils parlent du restaurant, puis de [leur quartier]. What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

leur quartier = their neighborhood. They talk about the restaurant, then about their neighborhood. Le quartier is masculine. Leur describes the shared neighborhood. Source: La dernière table (A1); LingoReader.
<https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/la-derniere-table/>

6. [Le lendemain], elle arrive au restaurant à sept heures, comme prévu. What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

Le lendemain = the next day. The next day, she arrives at the restaurant at seven, as planned. Le lendemain is the day after an event in the story; demain means tomorrow from the speaker's present. Source: La dernière table (A1); LingoReader. <https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/la-derniere-table/>

Trois cartes identiques (A2)

<https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/trois-cartes-identiques/>

7. Mercredi, Samira a trouvé une carte postale dans sa [boîte aux lettres]. What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

boîte aux lettres = mailbox or letterbox. On Wednesday, Samira found a postcard in her mailbox. La boîte aux lettres is feminine. Keep the whole expression together. Source: Trois cartes identiques (A2); LingoReader.

<https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/trois-cartes-identiques/>

8. [Au dos], quelqu'un avait écrit : Elle a bien changé. What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

Au dos = on the back. On the back, someone had written: It has really changed. Here le dos is the back of the postcard, rather than a person's back. Source: Trois cartes identiques (A2); LingoReader.

<https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/trois-cartes-identiques/>

9. En rentrant, elle a rencontré Nicolas au [rez-de-chaussée]. What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

rez-de-chaussée = ground floor. When she came home, she met Nicolas on the ground floor. Le rez-de-chaussée is the floor at ground level. Source: Trois cartes identiques (A2); LingoReader.

<https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/trois-cartes-identiques/>

10. Les trois cartes portaient le même [cachet de la poste] : Tours. What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

cachet de la poste = postmark. The three cards carried the same postmark: Tours. This is the postal mark identifying Tours, not the postage stamp. Source: Trois cartes identiques (A2); LingoReader.

<https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/trois-cartes-identiques/>

11. Samira [s'attendait à] un appel rapide. What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

s'attendait à = expected. Samira expected a quick call. S'attendre à means to expect. It differs from attendre, to wait for. Source: Trois cartes identiques (A2); LingoReader.

<https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/trois-cartes-identiques/>

12. Nicolas a mesuré la photo pour acheter [un cadre] le lendemain. What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

un cadre = a frame. Nicolas measured the photograph so he could buy a frame the next day. Un cadre is masculine. The intended meaning here is a picture frame. Source: Trois cartes identiques (A2); LingoReader.

<https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/trois-cartes-identiques/>

Une minute à crédit (B1)

<https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/une-minute-a-credit/>

13. À l'intérieur, une courte notice expliquait comment [emprunter une minute] : tourner la petite clé vers la gauche après six heures du soir. What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

emprunter une minute = borrow a minute. Inside, a short set of instructions explained how to borrow a minute: turn the little key to the left after six in the evening. Emprunter means to borrow here; prêter means to lend. Source: Une minute à crédit (B1); LingoReader. <https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/une-minute-a-credit/>

14. Étienne a d'abord pensé à [une plaisanterie]. What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

une plaisanterie = a joke. At first, Étienne thought it was a joke. Une plaisanterie is feminine. Source: Une minute à crédit (B1); LingoReader. <https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/une-minute-a-credit/>

15. Ce soir-là, il devait fermer [le guichet] à six heures trente. What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

le guichet = the ticket office or counter. That evening, he had to close the ticket office at six thirty. Le guichet is masculine. The railway setting gives this word its meaning. Source: Une minute à crédit (B1); LingoReader. <https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/une-minute-a-credit/>

16. Une voyageuse [venait de renverser] de l'eau sur son billet papier. What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

venait de renverser = had just spilled. A traveler had just spilled water on her paper ticket. Venir de plus an infinitive describes a recent action; venait places it in this past scene. Source: Une minute à crédit (B1); LingoReader. <https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/une-minute-a-credit/>

17. Le soir suivant, Étienne terminait [un compte rendu] quand le dernier bus pour son quartier est arrivé devant la gare. What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

un compte rendu = a report. The following evening, Étienne was finishing a report when the bus to his neighborhood arrived outside the station. Un compte rendu is masculine. Keep the expression together. Source: Une minute à crédit (B1); LingoReader. <https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/une-minute-a-credit/>

18. Chez lui, il a [réglé le réveil] à sept heures et posé le téléphone près de son lit. What does the marked word or phrase mean here?

réglé le réveil = set the alarm clock. At home, he set the alarm for seven and put the phone near his bed. Le réveil means the alarm clock here. Régler is to set or adjust it. Source: Une minute à crédit (B1); LingoReader. <https://lingoreaderapp.com/french/reading-practice/une-minute-a-credit/>

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