

Grammaire 2.2 H Bienfaits et dangers

The present tense of more irregular verbs

Although there are many irregular verbs in French, some of them are in recognisable groups and have the same forms, e.g. *prendre, comprendre, apprendre* or *venir, devenir, revenir*.

You will have come across a number of other irregular verbs in the reading and listening texts, e.g. *pouvoir, offrir, savoir, permettre, voir, recevoir, vouloir, dire, plaire, paraître, croire, faire, souffrir, connaître, vivre*.

In most cases (with the exception of *avoir, être, aller* and *faire*), the *-ons, -ez* and *-ent* endings are as you would expect. The stem of the verb however is irregular, e.g. *nous voulons* (we want), *ils disent* (they say).

The singular endings are often unpredictable and should be learnt as you encounter them, e.g. *je reçois* (I receive), *tu vis* (you live), *il offre* (he offers), *elle sait* (she knows).

Make a point of remembering as many forms of as many irregular verbs as you can. However, treat the *je* form as a priority as it allows you to talk / write about yourself.

1 Write the *je* form of each of these verbs and give the English meaning each time.

- 1 dire _____
- 2 faire _____
- 3 vouloir _____
- 4 pouvoir _____
- 5 avoir _____
- 6 être _____
- 7 aller _____
- 8 offrir _____
- 9 croire _____
- 10 savoir _____

2 Translate these sentences into English.

- 1 Elle sait ce qu'elle veut.

- 2 Ils disent que ça peut abîmer les yeux.

- 3 Ils reçoivent beaucoup de cadeaux à Noël.

- 4 Je crois que tu as raison.

- 5 Grâce à Internet, il se fait de nouveaux amis.

Technology in everyday life

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3 Write ten sentences of your choice in French, using the *je* verb forms you worked out in activity 1.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____
- 7 _____
- 8 _____
- 9 _____
- 10 _____