

# INVERSIONS

## LESSON FOCUS

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### OBJECTIFS DE LA LEÇON

1. to learn how to ask questions using the **inversion** method

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### NIVEAU

A2 - [niveau usuel](#) (elementary)

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### UTILISATION DE L'INVERSION POUR POSER UNE QUESTION

The **inversion** method consists of **placing the verb before the subject**.

A hyphen is required between the verb and the subject pronoun.

**Do/did** do not exist in French. You simply place the verb at the beginning of the sentence.

The letter **t** is required in front of **elle(s)**, **il(s)** or **on** when the verb ends with a vowel. This is to avoid a break, making the sentence sound better.

#### PRÉSENT

- **Parlez-vous** français ? OR **Parles-tu** français ?

Do you speak French?

- **Parlent-ils** français ?\*

Do they speak French?

\*In this example, you need to make the **liaison** between the verb and the subject pronoun. So you need to pronounce the **t**.

- **A-t-elle** un chien ?\*\*

Does she have a dog

\*\*Notice the **t** between the verb **a** and the subject pronoun **elle**. This is to make the sentence sound better.

- **Vas-tu** au théâtre ce soir ? OR **Allez-vous** au théâtre ce soir ?\*\*\*

Are you going to the theatre tonight?

\*\*\*To translate the **-ing form**, we simply use the **present tense**.

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## EXERCICE

Convert the following sentences into questions using the inversion method:

1. Elles vont à la bibliothèque aujourd'hui.
  2. Elle a un chien
  3. Nous allons chez Alice.
  4. Ils parlent allemand.
  5. J'ai raison.
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## RÉPONSES

1. **Vont-elles** à la bibliothèque aujourd'hui ?
  2. **A-t-elle** un chien ?
  3. **Allons-nous** chez Alice ?
  4. **Parlent-ils** allemand ?
  5. **Ai-je** raison ?
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## NOTES

It is possible to use this method for the first person singular **je** and the auxiliaries **être** and **avoir**:

- **Ai-je deux chats ?**

Do I have two cats?

- **Suis-je fort ?**

Am I strong?

However, the inversion method cannot be used with **je** and **other verbs**. In this case, you need to use: **est-ce que**:

- **Est-ce que je mange ?**

Do I eat?