# How to join sentences together in French

KS4 FRENCH GRAMMAR Ages 11-16 ⏰ 3 min read

## What Are Conjunctions?

**Conjunctions** are special words that join sentences together. In French, they help you link ideas and make your writing flow better. Instead of writing lots of short, choppy sentences, you can combine them into longer, smoother ones.

Think of it like building with blocks. Each sentence is a block, but conjunctions are the glue that sticks them together to make something bigger and stronger.

## Common French Conjunctions

The most useful conjunction in French is **et** (and). You use it to add ideas together: *Je suis allé à l'école et j'ai étudié le français* (I went to school and I studied French).

Other important conjunctions include **mais** (but), which shows contrast: *J'aime les fruits mais je n'aime pas les légumes* (I like fruit but I don't like vegetables). Then there's **ou** (or), which gives you choices: *Tu veux du chocolat ou de la vanille?* (Do you want chocolate or vanilla?)

For explaining reasons, use **parce que** (because): *Je suis heureux parce que c'est mon anniversaire* (I'm happy because it's my birthday).

## When and How to Use Them

You can use conjunctions in the middle of a sentence without a full stop. Just put the conjunction between the two ideas you want to join. For example: *Elle a mangé une pomme et elle a bu de l'eau* (She ate an apple and she drank water).

Think of it like connecting train carriages. The conjunction is the coupling that joins two carriages so they travel together as one train instead of separately.

You can also start a new sentence with some conjunctions like **Cependant** (however) or **Ensuite** (then). These **linking words** help your ideas connect smoothly across different sentences: *Je suis arrivé tard. Cependant, j'ai fini mon travail* (I arrived late. However, I finished my work).

## Making Your Writing Better

Using conjunctions is important for **GCSE** French because examiners want to see that you can write complex sentences. It shows you understand French well enough to express complicated ideas. Try to use at least one or two conjunctions in every paragraph when you're writing French essays or stories.


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