Shopping in French: Asking for Things and Money

KS4 FRENCH LANGUAGES Ages 13-16 ⏰ 3 min read

Getting Started: The Basics

When you're shopping in **France** or any **French-speaking country**, you need to know how to ask for things politely. The most useful phrase is **"Je voudrais..."** (I would like...). This is more polite than just pointing at something! You could say **"Je voudrais une baguette, s'il vous plaît"** (I would like a baguette, please).

Another handy phrase is **"Avez-vous...?"** (Do you have...?) or **"Où sont les...?"** (Where are the...?). These help you find what you're looking for in a shop.

Think of it like using magic words at home—**"please"** and **"thank you"** open doors much faster than being rude!

Talking About Money and Prices

Once you've found what you want, you need to know about **money** and **prices**. In **France**, people use the **Euro (€)**, which is divided into **100 cents**. A useful phrase is **"Ça coûte combien?"** (How much does it cost?) or **"Quel est le prix?"** (What is the price?).

The shopkeeper might say **"Ça coûte cinq euros et cinquante cents"** (It costs five euros and fifty cents). Learning **French numbers** is really important here—from **zéro** (zero) to **cent** (one hundred) and beyond.

Think of it like learning a secret code—once you know the numbers, you can understand any price in **French**!

Paying and Getting Change

When you're ready to pay, say **"Je paie comment?"** (How do I pay?) or **"Vous acceptez les cartes?"** (Do you accept cards?). Most **French shops** accept **credit cards**, **debit cards**, and **cash**.

After paying, you might get **change** (la monnaie). The shopkeeper will say **"Voilà votre monnaie"** (Here is your change). Always count your change carefully—this is a good habit in any country!

Finally, say **"Merci beaucoup!"** (Thank you very much!) and **"Au revoir!"** (Goodbye!) as you leave. **French people** really appreciate politeness, and these words will make your shopping experience much friendlier.

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