



Talking About Travel and Transport in French

KS4 FRENCH

LANGUAGES

VOCABULARY

Ages 13-16 ⌚ 4 min read

Types of Transport in French

When you're learning **French**, knowing how to talk about getting from one place to another is super useful. Whether you're planning a holiday or chatting with a **French pen-pal**, you'll need transport vocabulary.

The main types of transport have their own French names. A **car** is **une voiture**, a **bus** is **un autobus** (or **un bus**), a **train** is **un train**, and a **plane** is **un avion**. A **bicycle** is **un vélo**, a **motorbike** is **une moto**, and a **boat** is **un bateau**. You might also hear **un métro** (underground train) or **un tram** (tram) in bigger cities.

Think of it like learning the names of different players on a sports team — each transport type has its own identity and French name to match.

How to Describe Your Journey

To talk about how you travel, you use the verb **aller** (to go). You might say "**Je vais à l'école en bus**" (I go to school by bus) or "**Je vais en France en avion**" (I go to France by plane). The key word here is **en**, which means "by" when talking about transport.

Some transport uses **à** instead. For example, you say "**à vélo**" (by bicycle) or "**à pied**" (on foot). This happens with smaller, more personal ways of moving.

Think of it like the difference between saying "I rode my bike" and "I took the bus" — different actions need different words.

Useful Phrases for Travellers

If you're travelling in a **French-speaking country**, you'll want to ask questions. "**Où est la gare?**" means "Where is the train station?" "**Combien coûte un billet?**" asks "How much does a ticket cost?" You can also ask "**À quelle heure part le train?**" (What time does the train leave?) or "**Où allez-vous?**" (Where are you going?).

Learning these words and phrases opens up conversations about travel plans, holidays, and daily routines. It's one of the most practical areas of **French vocabulary** because almost everyone travels!

Think of it like learning the menu at a restaurant — once you know the key words, you can order anything you need.