

New Vocabulary

attrape	donne	nagent	rit (rire)
au	écrit (écrire)	parle	le sabot
couché	jette (jeter)	quelque chose	sourit (sourire)
le coup de pied	montre	le râteau (-x)	le téléphone

Usage: **est assis**

In different cultures, the same thing or action is sometimes perceived differently, and this is reflected in the language. In English, we say “The boy **is sitting**.” We use the present progressive tense. However, the French view this act as an accomplished state and use **est** (is) and a past participle to express this.

Le garçon **est assis**. The boy is sitting. (literally, “The boy is seated.”)

In this case, **assis** is an adjective derived from the past participle of a verb. As an adjective, it must agree in number and gender with the noun.

La femme est assise par terre. The woman is sitting on the ground.

When the French verb **s'asseoir** (to sit) is used in the present tense, it has yet a different meaning.

La fille **s'assied**. The girl sits down.

Grammar: More About the Present Indicative

Remember that the final **e**, **d**, or **t** of a third person singular verb is not pronounced and that the final **ent** of a third person plural verb is not pronounced. The result is that these verb forms sound identical in some verbs – **il marche** is pronounced the same as **ils marchent**.

To distinguish between verb forms, pay close attention to context (that is, the other words in the sentence). Because the **s** in plural nouns is also not pronounced, the definite or indefinite article is a good indicator of number.

La fille court. Les filles courent.
 Un homme danse. Des hommes dansent.

