

Rosa's Time-Travelling Verb Journal

Learning objective: To understand and apply present and past tense verb forms in French, identifying how actions change depending on the timeframe.

Help Rosa the parrot organise her French verb diary. Rosa has been flying through time and needs to record her actions. Use the word bank to fill in the sections, ensuring you choose the correct tense for the time described. Remember to look for clues like 'aujourd'hui' (today) for present tense and 'hier' (yesterday) for past tense.

Word bank: mange · a mangé · joue · a joué · regarde · a regardé · aujourd'hui · hier

1. The Present Moment: Describe an action you are doing 'aujourd'hui' (today) using a French verb from the bank. Explain why you chose this tense. (2 marks)

2. The Past Reflection: Describe what you did 'hier' (yesterday) using the past tense form of your verb. Compare and contrast how the French verb changed compared to the present tense. (3 marks)

3. Deep Dive: If you were to add a third tense, the 'future', what might happen to the structure of the French verb? Justify your prediction using linguistic patterns you have observed. (4 marks)

4. Analysis: Rosa says that French verbs 'agree' with the time they happen. Explain why it is important to include time-markers like 'hier' in a sentence. What might happen if we left them out? (3 marks)

5. Creative Synthesis: Create your own short French sentence about an adventure. Write it in the present tense, then rewrite it in the past tense. How does the meaning shift? (3 marks)

6. Critical Thinking: If an English speaker translates 'I ate' as 'J'ai mangé', but 'I eat' as 'Je mange', what rule can you deduce about how French constructs the past tense compared to English? (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph in French describing a sequence of three events in your day. Use a mix of present and past tenses to show the sequence of time clearly. Challenge: Try to include a negative construction (ne... pas) for at least one of your verbs.