

# FRENCH DOUBLE PRONOUNS



## French Double Pronouns

When you start using pronouns, you quickly realize how useful they are to keep you from constantly repeating yourself. Once you have learned direct and indirect object pronouns, reflexive pronouns, and the adverbial pronouns *Y* and *EN*, you may have noticed that sometimes it would be nice to be able to use more than one pronoun at a time.

When you want to use more than one pronoun in a sentence, the order you put them in is very important. The order of pronouns is *almost* always the same.

As you have learned, object, reflexive, and adverbial pronouns precede the verbs that they modify in every tense (until you learn how to use more than one pronoun in affirmative commands, but we'll get to that later). The same is true when a verb has double pronouns.

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## Normal Pronoun Order

Pronouns precede the verb and must be placed in this order:

<b>ME</b>				
<b>TE</b>	<b>LE</b>			
<b>NOUS</b>	<b>LA</b>	<b>LUI</b>		
<b>VOUS</b>	<b>LES</b>	<b>LEUR</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>EN</b>

### Present tense examples - Pronouns before the main verb

Je lis une <u>histoire</u> <u>aux enfants</u> .	I am reading a story to the children.
Je <u>leur en</u> lis une.	I am reading them one.

Je ne lis pas une <u>histoire</u> <u>aux enfants</u> .	I am not reading a story to the children.
Je <b>ne</b> <u>leur en</u> lis <b>pas</b> une.	I am not reading them one.

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## Passé composé exemples - Pronouns before the helping verb

J'ai lu une <u>histoire</u> <u>aux</u> <u>enfants</u> .	I read a story to the children.
Je <u>leur</u> <u>en</u> ai lu une.	I read them one.

Je n'ai pas lu une <u>histoire</u> <u>aux</u> <u>enfants</u> .	I did not read a story to the children.
Je <b>ne</b> <u>leur</u> <u>en</u> ai <b>pas</b> lu une.	I did not read them one.

## Futur proche exemples - Pronouns before infinitives

Je vais lire une <u>histoire</u> <u>aux</u> <u>enfants</u> .	I am going to read a story to the children.
Je vais <u>leur</u> <u>en</u> lire une.	I am going to read them one.

Je <b>ne</b> vais <b>pas</b> lire une <u>histoire</u> <u>aux</u> <u>enfants</u> .	I am not going to read a story to the children.
Je <i>ne</i> vais <i>pas</i> <u>leur</u> <u>en</u> lire une.	I am not going to read them one.

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