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# Prepositions: à, en, au, aux & chez

## Lesson Objectives

- To practise using the right prepositions with a geographical location (town, country, region, etc.).

## Reminder

In French, we use specific prepositions to indicate a location.

### en

For countries, regions and **départements** which are feminine, as well as for countries which are masculine but start with a vowel and continents, we use **en**. This preposition can be used to indicate the place where we are, or where we are going to.

- J'habite **en** France (fem.), **en** Bourgogne, **en** Iran (masc.), **en** Amérique... I live in France, in Burgundy, in Iran, in America...
- Je vais **en** Espagne (fem.), **en** Alsace, **en** Ouganda (masc.), **en** Asie... I am going to Spain, to Alsace, to Uganda, to Asia...

### à

We use **à** before a city, town or village name.

- Nous habitons **à** Paris. We live in Paris.
- Nous allons **à** Lyon. We are going to Lyon.

Note that some town names include the article **le**, for example, Le Havre. In that case, **à** and **le** contract to form **au**

- Je vais **au Havre** I am going to the Havre.

We use **au** for countries which are masculine singular, and **aux** for countries which are masculine plural. This preposition can be used to indicate the place where we are, or where we are going to.

- Nous habitons **au** Mexique, **aux** États-Unis... We live in Mexico, in the United-States...
- Nous allons **au** Portugal, **aux** Pays-Bas... We are going **to** Portugal, **to** the Netherlands...

### chez

We use **chez** to indicate someone's place or a business/shop.

- Je suis **chez** Fred. I am at Fred's house.
- Nous allons **chez** le dentiste. We are going to the dentist.

## Practice

Please complete the sentences using the correct prepositions:

1. Elle a rendez-vous \_\_\_\_\_ le coiffeur à 15h.
2. Nicole habite \_\_\_\_\_ Toulouse.
3. Nous vivons \_\_\_\_\_ Provence.
4. Retrouvons-nous \_\_\_\_\_ moi.
5. Ils partent \_\_\_\_\_ Antilles.
6. Elles sont \_\_\_\_\_ Caire en ce moment.
7. Il y a de bons vins \_\_\_\_\_ Bourgogne.
8. L'école organise un voyage \_\_\_\_\_ Japon.
9. Je dois passer \_\_\_\_\_ l'avocat pour signer des papiers.
10. Je vais passer un mois \_\_\_\_\_ Canada, \_\_\_\_\_ mes amis.