

"First Aid"
French
for
American
Soldiers



"FIRST AID" FRENCH
for AMERICAN
SOLDIERS

with
VICTOR RECORDS



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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The American soldier in France will be cared for by his own officers, his own commissariat, his own hospitals; but there will nevertheless be many times when a knowledge of French may be not only desirable, but extremely necessary.

When a man can say a few phrases of a foreign language fluently, intelligibly and without embarrassment to himself, it is a very simple matter for him to find his way about and to provide himself with food, lodging and the other physical necessities.

These records were compiled by a man who had in France and in Latin America just the same sort of experience as our American soldiers will have in this respect, so that the "course" as furnished by these records is not a matter of theory, but of practical experience.

We have given no verbs except as they are used in the make-up of phrases. A tired man who wants a drink might be able to conjugate the verb "to give," but he will be much better off when without bothering about moods and tenses he can say "Give me a drink."

We are not attempting to furnish an academic course in French, but rather to give the American soldier something he can use the moment he steps ashore—the moment when for any reason, he has to depend on himself to find his way about or to provide for his own wants. The phrases given may be considered as verbal scaffolding which with a little modification can be made to serve many more purposes than those specifically given.

When a man knows how to say "I want to buy an overcoat," he also knows how to say "I want to buy"—whatever it may be that he needs. It is only a question of changing the name of the article desired.

This same rule applies all through. The time of day from three to four o'clock or any other hour of the day can be told or understood when you know the numerals and the general way in which the hours and fractions of hours are stated. In several instances following what might be called a guide phrase, the French names of allied or related objects have been grouped. (See pages 17 and 18.)

The French as given on these records is perfectly correct, but each syllable is separated a little more and given with a little more individual emphasis than is usual in strict conversation, but that is highly desirable for the beginner. It is easy enough to say the words more quickly and more smoothly as one becomes proficient.

Picking up the correct accent of any foreign language is like picking up a new tune in music—a question of ear. Learn to say these French words exactly the way they are pronounced in the records. Don't mumble them, don't "take a flier" at them—learn them correctly at the very first. Every one you learn makes it easier to learn the next, and if you start right you will stay right.

There are certain letters and combinations of letters which have a sound in French so different from English that it is impossible to give them correctly in type

by any system of phonetic spelling—hence the great value of these records.

We would especially call your attention to the letters "u," "e," and "n" when it occurs at the end of a word.

First, "u." It is not "you" as with us, nor is it "oo"; it is—well, play Lesson No. 2 and listen very carefully to the pronunciation of the "u" in the phrases du café, du thé, etc. In the same record there occurs a good illustration of the final "n" sound which is usually difficult for Anglo-Saxon tongues to enunciate. Hear and repeat as many times as may be necessary the words "du pain" (some bread) Lesson No. 2. Another equally good example will be found in Lesson No. 4, phrase 5.

The letter "e" when used without an accent has almost the sound of "uh." With an acute accent (´) it is pronounced "ay." Listen to the phrases "du café," "du thé."

Very frequently consonants at the end of a word are not pronounced at all. Our word "ready" is in French "prêt,"—but is pronounced as though there were no "t" on the end. See Lesson No. 2, phrases 9, 10 and 11. One of the marked distinctions between "book French" and French that is learned from the spoken words themselves is the way in which, when French is correctly spoken, certain words are run together. In Lesson No. 2, phrase 40, the words "voudrais" and "écrire" are not spoken with a clean break between the two, but are run together. Special attention should be paid to this point in working with the records.

An unaccented "e" at the end of a word is another item to which close attention must be given. In Lesson No. 1, phrases 5 and 6, the French word for "straight" is "droit"—the word for "right" is "droite," and in spoken words the only distinction is in the pronunciation of that final "T," with the aid of the final unaccented "E." Also in Lesson No. 5 notice the pronunciation of the word "aime" in phrase 34, and in Lesson No. 2 the pronunciation of the word "tasse" (cup).

These above special instructions may seem to indicate that there are many difficulties in the way. As a matter of fact there are very few. We have given them only to emphasize the need of listening to the French phrases with critical attention and learning to say the words *exactly as given*.

We do not claim for a moment that the French given on these records is *all* that anyone will need in France, but we know that these records afford a practical foundation and are sufficient to take care of the most immediate needs.

GETTING AROUND TOWN AND COUNTRY

(Lesson No. 1—Victor Record 18419-A)

What town is this?

Quelle est cette ville?

Which is the way to the station?

Quel est le chemin de la gare?

This way.

Par ici.

That way.

Par là.

Go straight on.

Allez tout droit.

Turn to the right.

Tournez à droite.

Keep to the left.

Restez sur la gauche.

Take the first street to the right and the
second to the left.

Prenez la première rue à droite et la
seconde à gauche.

Where is the best hotel?

Où est le meilleur hôtel?

Where is the hospital?

Où est l'hôpital?

the post office?

le bureau de poste?

the docks?

le dock?

Getting Around Town and Country

How far is it?

Est-ce loin?

Where is the ticket office?

Où est le guichet?

A first-class ticket to Paris.

Un billet de première classe pour
Paris.

How much does it come to?

A combien cela monte-t-il?

How long do we stop here?

Combien de temps resterons nous ici?

Five minutes.

Cinq minutes.

Where is the refreshment room?

Où est le buffet?

Where are the lavatories?

Où sont les cabinets?

Which is the train for Paris?

Quel est le train pour Paris?

What time do we leave?

A quelle heure partons nous?

Do I change anywhere on the journey?

Dois-je changer de voiture en route?

I wish to hire a carriage.

Je désire louer une voiture.

Where to?

Où désirez-vous aller?

Drive me to the hospital.

Conduisez-moi à l'hôpital.

Getting Around Town and Country

- Stop!
Arrêtez!
- Go on!
Continuez!
- Wait!
Attendez-moi!
- Where does this road lead?
Où conduit cette route?
- Is there a farm house near?
Y a-t-il une ferme près d'ici?
- a village?
un village?
- How long does it take to go there on foot?
Combien de temps faut-il pour y aller à pied?
- Please show me the way.
Veuillez m'indiquer le chemin.
- Am I on the right road?
Suis-je dans le bon chemin?
- Is there an inn in this village?
Y a-t-il une auberge dans ce village?
- I have lost my way.
Je me suis égaré.
- Where can I get something to eat and a bed for the night?
Où puis-je manger et passer la nuit?
- FOOD, LODGING, Etc.**
(Lesson No. 2—Victor Record 18419-B)
- Can you give me something to eat?
Pouvez-vous me donner à manger?

Food, Lodging, Etc.

- I should like to wash.
Je désire me laver.
- I want some hot water.
De l'eau chaude, s'il vous plaît.
- some soap.
du savon.
- a comb.
un peigne.
- a towel.
un essuie-mains.
- What time do you dine?
A quelle heure dînez-vous?
- What do you charge for dinner?
Combien est le dîner?
- Is my meal ready?
Mon repas est-il prêt?
- Is breakfast ready?
Le déjeuner est-il prêt?
- What have you ready?
Qu'avez-vous de prêt?
- Please give me some water.
Donnez-moi de l'eau, s'il vous plaît.
- some coffee.
du café.
- some milk.
du lait.
- some tea.
du thé.

Food, Lodging, Etc.

some sugar.
du sucre.

some meat.
de la viande.

some bread.
du pain.

vegetables.
des légumes.

potatoes.
des pommes de terre.

a knife.
un couteau.

a fork.
une fourchette.

a spoon.
une cuillère.

a plate.
une assiette.

a cup.
une tasse.

a glass.
un verre.

a napkin.
une serviette.

May I trouble you for the salt?
Veuillez me passer le sel?

Give me some more butter, please.
Donnez-moi encore du beurre, s'il
vous plaît.

Food, Lodging, Etc.

Bring some more.
Apportez m'en encore.

Take this away.
Veuillez emporter ceci.

Nothing more, thank you.
Rien de plus, merci.

I am in a hurry.
Je suis très pressé.

How much do I owe you?
Combien vous dois-je?

Waiter, let me have my bill.
Garçon, l'addition.

I want a bed room.
Je désire une chambre.

Can I have a warm bath?
Pourrais-je prendre un bain chaud?

Please give me a candle and some matches.
Veuillez me donner une bougie et des
allumettes.

Call me at six o'clock.
Appelez-moi à six heures.

I want to write a letter.
Je voudrais écrire une lettre.

Some postage stamps, please.
Avez-vous des timbres?

I wish to send a telegram.
Je veux envoyer une dépêche.

I want this linen washed.
Je veux faire blanchir ce linge.

Campaigning

- This is too small.
Ceci est trop petit.
- That is too large.
Cela est trop grand.
- Can you mend these shoes?
Pouvez-vous raccommoder ces souliers?
- How long will it take you?
Combien de temps vous faudra-t-il?
- When will it be ready?
A quelle heure sera-t-il prêt?
- Without fail?
Sans faute?
- Where can I buy provisions?
Où puis-je acheter des vivres?
- Is there anyone here who speaks English?
Y a-t-il quelqu'un ici qui parle anglais?
- I would like to buy some chocolate.
Je voudrais acheter du chocolat.
- I would like to buy a glass of beer.
Je voudrais acheter un boc.
- What is this called in French?
Comment appelez-vous ceci en français?

CAMPAIGNING

(Lesson No. 4—Victor Record 18420-B)

- Have you seen any American soldiers?
Avez-vous vu des soldats américains?
- Where are they?
Où sont-ils?

Campaigning

- Where are our headquarters?
Où est notre quartier général?
- I want to find my regiment.
Je veux rejoindre mon régiment.
- I have lost my canteen.
J'ai perdu mon bidon.
- my blanket.
ma couverture.
- Where can I get some water?
Où y a-t-il de l'eau?
- Is it dangerous to go along this road?
Est-il dangereux de passer par ce chemin-ci?
- Will you lend me your knife?
Voulez-vous me prêter votre couteau?
- Have you seen the enemy?
Avez-vous vu l'ennemi?
- We are Americans.
Nous sommes Américains.
- I am short of cartridges.
Il me faut des cartouches.
- Can you give me any information about the enemy?
Pouvez-vous me donner des renseignements sur l'ennemi?
- We are going to attack.
Nous allons attaquer.
- Look out, a shell!
Attention, un obus!

Campaigning

Advance!
Avancez!

Retreat!
Reculez!

Run!
Courez!

Walk fast!
Marchez vite!

Faster!
Plus vite!

Move to the right!
Allez vers la droite!

the left!
la gauche!

Kneel down!
A genoux!

Lie down!
Couchez-vous!

Keep silent!
Silence!

Halt, or I fire!
Halte, ou je fais feu!

The enemy is advancing.
L'ennemi s'avance.

Here they come.
Les voilà.

We are surrounded.
Nous sommes entourés.

Campaigning

Keep your head down!
Baissez la tête!

Hurry up!
Dépêchez-vous!

I am wounded.
Je suis blessé.

Help!
Au secours!

Raise me up.
Soulevez-moi.

I am in great pain.
Je souffre beaucoup.

Give me a drink.
Donnez-moi à boire.

Where is the dressing station?
Où est le poste de secours?

Where are you wounded?
Où êtes-vous blessé?

The lungs.
Les poumons.

The heart.
Le cœur.

The stomach.
Le ventre.

The head.
La tête.

The arms.
Les bras.

Getting Acquainted

- The legs.
Les jambes.
- The feet.
Les pieds.
- The knees.
Les genoux.
- The hand.
La main.
- The fingers.
Les doigts.

GETTING ACQUAINTED

(Lesson No. 5—Victor Record 18421-A)

- Good day, Sir.
Bonjour, Monsieur.
- Good evening, Miss.
Bonsoir, Mademoiselle.
- How do you do?
Comment allez-vous?
- Permit me to present my friend.
Permettez-moi de vous présenter mon ami.
- I am delighted to know you.
Enchanté de vous connaître.
- The pleasure is mine.
Moi de même.
- You are very kind.
Vous êtes bien aimable.
- What did you say?
Qu'avez-vous dit?

Getting Acquainted

- What's new?
Qu'est-ce qu'il y a de nouveau?
- Please do not speak so fast.
Ne parlez pas si vite.
- Pardon me.
Pardon.
- Will you excuse me?
Excusez-moi.
- Do you understand me?
Me comprenez-vous?
- Give me a light, please.
Donnez-moi du feu, s'il vous plaît.
- What is your name?
Quel est votre nom?
- Bring me a chair.
Apportez-moi une chaise.
- What? When? Why?
Comment? Quand? Pourquoi?
- Allow me to offer you a cigarette.
Permettez-moi de vous offrir une cigarette.
- Not at all.
Pas du tout.
- Have you a match?
Avez-vous une allumette?
- Listen.
Écoutez.
- Go away.
Allez-vous en.

Getting Acquainted

Don't go away.

Ne vous éloignez pas.

Come in.

Entrez.

Will you sit down?

Veillez vous asseoir?

What do you want?

Que désirez-vous?

Can I be of any assistance to you?

Puis-je vous être utile?

What did you ask?

Qu'avez-vous demandé?

I do not understand.

Je ne comprends pas.

Don't trouble yourself.

Ne vous dérangez pas.

Speak louder.

Parlez plus haut.

What is the matter?

Qu'avez-vous?

Will you have the kindness—?

Voulez-vous avoir la bonté—?

I like. I do not like.

J'aime. Je n'aime pas.

I am sorry, Madame.

Je regrette, Madame.

May I ask—?

Puis-je demander—?

Additional Vocabulary

You are right.

Vous avez raison.

Will you have some tobacco?

Voulez-vous du tabac?

Tell yourself.

Servez-vous.

Will you be kind enough to—?

Auriez vous la bonté de—?

I do not know.

Je ne sais pas.

I think not.

Je ne crois pas.

Tell me where it is.

Dites-moi où c'est.

ADDITIONAL VOCABULARY
NATIONS AND NATIONALITIES
(Lesson No. 6—Victor Record 18421-B)

The United States.

An American.

Les États Unis.

Un Américain.

France.

A Frenchman.

La France.

Un Français.

Additional Vocabulary

As big as.	Early.
Aussi grand que.	Tôt.
As soon as.	Less.
Aussitôt que.	Moins.
At first.	More.
D'abord.	Plus.
At least.	Little.
Au moins.	Peu.
At last.	Much.
Enfin.	Beaucoup.
At once.	Near.
Tout de suite.	Près.
Before.	Far.
Avant.	Loin.
Behind.	Nothing.
Derrière.	Rien.
Below.	Not yet.
Dessous.	Pas encore.
Better.	Now.
Mieux.	Maintenant.
Between.	Nowhere.
Entre.	Nulle part.
Enough.	Of.
Assez.	De.
Every.	Often.
Chaque.	Souvent.
Inside.	Only.
Dedans.	Seulement.
Outside.	Opposite.
Dehors.	Vis-à-vis.
Late.	
Tard.	