

Le futur proche et les lettres

Plans and postcards

6 Exercises • Duration: 20 min.

The festival

French

Read & listen online 



Plans and postcards

For plans and intentions, this module prefers the **futur proche**: present **aller** + infinitive. It is simple and very common in everyday French. Example: **Je vais écrire à Anna.**

You can use it for near future plans and predictions: **Le concert va commencer à huit heures, Je vais acheter un timbre demain, Nous allons regarder les photos ensemble.** This is easier at A1 than the full future tense.

The postcard at the end uses very simple letter language: **Chère Anna**, then short past sentences, then a future plan, and finally **Salut ! Bien à toi.** These are useful chunks.

Je voudrais is also common in French, but here it is a polite chunk for requests, not a future form.

If you see a more advanced fixed expression in a real letter, learn it as a whole chunk. But for this course, short clear models are enough.

Form	Example	Meaning
aller + infinitive	Je vais écrire à Anna.	I am going to write to Anna.
nous allons + infinitive	Nous allons regarder les photos.	We are going to look at the photos.
Chère...	Chère Anna,	Dear Anna,
Bien à toi	Bien à toi, Lukas / Lena	Yours / Best wishes

Je vais écrire à Anna ce soir.

I'm going to write to Anna tonight.

Nous allons regarder les photos ensemble.

We are going to look at the photos together.

Demain, je vais acheter un timbre.

Tomorrow I'm going to buy a stamp.

Le concert va commencer à huit heures.

The concert is going to start at eight o'clock.

Zoé va chanter avec les enfants.

Zoé is going to sing with the children.

Thomas ne va pas danser... peut-être.

Thomas is not going to dance... maybe.

Chère Anna,

Dear Anna,

Bien à toi, Lena (Lukas)

Yours, Lukas / Lena

GRAMMAR**G1) NOTICE THE USEFUL PATTERN**

Underline the form practised in this unit.

- 1 Je vais écrire à Anna ce soir.

Meaning: I'm going to write to Anna tonight.

- 2 Nous allons regarder les photos ensemble.

Meaning: We are going to look at the photos together.

- 3 Demain, je vais acheter un timbre.

Meaning: Tomorrow I'm going to buy a stamp.

- 4 Le concert va commencer à huit heures.

Meaning: The concert is going to start at eight o'clock.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM

Use the English meaning and the pattern in this unit.

1 Je _____ à Anna ce soir.

- ☐ A vais écrire
- ☐ B écrirai
- ☐ C écris

Meaning: I'm going to write to Anna tonight.

2 Nous _____ les photos ensemble.

- ☐ A regarderons
- ☐ B allons regarder
- ☐ C regardons

Meaning: We are going to look at the photos together.

3 Demain, je _____ un timbre.

- ☐ A vais acheter
- ☐ B achète
- ☐ C achèterai

Meaning: Tomorrow I'm going to buy a stamp.

4 Le concert _____ à huit heures.

- ☐ A commencera
- ☐ B va commencer
- ☐ C commence

Meaning: The concert is going to start at eight o'clock.

5 Zoé _____ avec les enfants.

- ☐ A va chanter
- ☐ B chantera
- ☐ C chante

Meaning: Zoé is going to sing with the children.

6 Thomas _____... peut-être.

- ☐ A ne va pas danser
- ☐ B ne danse pas
- ☐ C ne dansera pas

Meaning: Thomas is not going to dance... maybe.

7 ----- Anna,

- ☐ A Chère
- ☐ B Salut
- ☐ C Bonjour

Meaning: Dear Anna,

8 Bien à toi, -----

- ☐ A Merci
- ☐ B Bonjour
- ☐ C Lena

Meaning: Yours, Lukas / Lena

G3) COMPLETE THE MESSAGES

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

vais acheter achète

Demain, je _____ un timbre.

Meaning: Tomorrow I'm going to buy a stamp.

va commencer commence

Le concert _____ à huit heures.

Meaning: The concert is going to start at eight o'clock.

va chanter chante

Zoé _____ avec les enfants.

Meaning: Zoé is going to sing with the children.

ne va pas danser ne danse pas

Thomas _____... peut-être.

Meaning: Thomas is not going to dance... maybe.

Chère Salut

_____ Anna,

Meaning: Dear Anna,

Lena Bonjour

Bien à toi, _____

Meaning: Yours, Lukas / Lena

G4) BUILD A SENTENCE

Put the words in order.

1

Anna

soir.

écrire

ce

Je

à

vais

Meaning: I'm going to write to Anna tonight.

2 ensemble. les allons photos Nous regarder

Meaning: We are going to look at the photos together.

3 acheter je Demain, vais timbre. un

Meaning: Tomorrow I'm going to buy a stamp.

4 commencer huit heures. Le concert va à

Meaning: The concert is going to start at eight o'clock.

5 chanter avec va enfants. les Zoé

Meaning: Zoé is going to sing with the children.

- 6 Thomas danser... pas ne va peut-être.

Meaning: Thomas is not going to dance... maybe.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 I'm going to write to Anna tonight. You say:

- ☐ A Je vais écrire à Anna ce soir.
- ☐ B Je écris à Anna ce soir.

2 We are going to look at the photos together. You say:

- ☐ A Nous regardons les photos ensemble.
- ☐ B Nous allons regarder les photos ensemble.

3 Tomorrow I'm going to buy a stamp. You say:

- ☐ A Demain, je achète un timbre.
- ☐ B Demain, je vais acheter un timbre.

4 The concert is going to start at eight o'clock. You say:

- (A) Le concert commence à huit heures.
- (B) Le concert va commencer à huit heures.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) Thomas ne va pas danser... peut-être. | (A) Thomas is not going to dance... maybe. |
| (2) Bien à toi, Lena | (B) Zoé is going to sing with the children. |
| (3) Je vais écrire à Anna ce soir. | (C) The concert is going to start at eight o'clock. |
| (4) Zoé va chanter avec les enfants. | (D) We are going to look at the photos together. |
| (5) Nous allons regarder les photos ensemble. | (E) Tomorrow I'm going to buy a stamp. |

⑥ Demain, je vais
acheter un timbre.

⑦ Yours, Lukas / Lena

⑦ Chère Anna,

⑧ Dear Anna,

⑧ Le concert va
commencer à huit
heures.

⑨ I'm going to write to Anna
tonight.