

SCENE 16 • GRAMMAR

La famille : son, sa, ses

Family and ownership

6 Exercises • Duration: 20 min.

Photos on the wall

French

Read & listen online 



Family and ownership

In French, **son**, **sa** and **ses** mean "his", "her" or sometimes "its". The form agrees with the thing owned, not with the owner. So **son fils** means "her son" because **fils** is masculine, and **sa fille** means "her daughter" because **fille** is feminine.

Use **son** before a masculine singular noun: **son frère**, **son mari**. Use **sa** before a feminine singular noun: **sa sœur**, **sa mère**. Use **ses** before plural nouns: **ses parents**, **ses enfants**.

This is very useful for family talk: **mon fils**, **ma fille**, **son frère**, **ses parents**. Remember: look at the noun after **son/sa/ses**, not at the person who owns it.

You can also use these words with objects and pets: **son chat**, **sa photo**, **ses clés**.

Form	Example	Meaning
son	son fils	his/her son
sa	sa fille	his/her daughter
ses	ses parents	his/her parents
son	son chat	his/her cat
sa	sa photo	his/her photo

Mme Martin montre son fils.

Mrs Martin shows her son.

Zoé parle de sa mère.

Zoé talks about her mother.

Anne aime beaucoup ses enfants.

Anne loves her children very much.

Julien cherche son cadeau.

Julien is looking for his present.

Tu parles de ta sœur à Zoé.

You talk about your sister to Zoé.

Anne vous demande où habitent vos parents.

Anne asks you where your parents live.

Félix a ses places dans la maison.

Félix has his places in the house.

C'est sa photo préférée.

It's his/her favourite photo.

GRAMMAR**G1) NOTICE THE USEFUL PATTERN**

Underline the form practised in this unit.

- 1 Mme Martin montre son fils.

Meaning: Mrs Martin shows her son.

- 2 Zoé parle de sa mère.

Meaning: Zoé talks about her mother.

- 3 Anne aime beaucoup ses enfants.

Meaning: Anne loves her children very much.

- 4 Julien cherche son cadeau.

Meaning: Julien is looking for his present.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM

Use the English meaning and the pattern in this unit.

1 Mme Martin montre _____ fils.

- ☐ A ses
- ☐ B son
- ☐ C sa

Meaning: Mrs Martin shows her son.

2 Zoé parle de _____ mère.

- ☐ A son
- ☐ B sa
- ☐ C ses

Meaning: Zoé talks about her mother.

3 Anne aime beaucoup _____ enfants.

- ☐ A ses
- ☐ B sa
- ☐ C son

Meaning: Anne loves her children very much.

4 Julien cherche _____ cadeau.

- ☐ A sa
- ☐ B ses
- ☐ C son

Meaning: Julien is looking for his present.

5 Tu parles de _____ sœur à Zoé.

- ☐ A ta
- ☐ B ton
- ☐ C tes

Meaning: You talk about your sister to Zoé.

6 Anne vous demande où habitent _____ parents.

- ☐ A vos
- ☐ B ton
- ☐ C votre

Meaning: Anne asks you where your parents live.

7 Félix a _____ places dans la maison.

- ☐ A son
- ☐ B ses
- ☐ C sa

Meaning: Félix has his places in the house.

8 C'est _____ photo préférée.

- ☐ A ses
- ☐ B sa
- ☐ C son

Meaning: It's his/her favourite photo.

G3) COMPLETE THE MESSAGES

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

son ses

Anne aime beaucoup _____ enfants.

Meaning: Anne loves her children very much.

sa son

Julien cherche _____ cadeau.

Meaning: Julien is looking for his present.

ton ta

Tu parles de _____ sœur à Zoé.

Meaning: You talk about your sister to Zoé.

votre vos

Anne vous demande où habitent _____ parents.

Meaning: Anne asks you where your parents live.

son ses

Félix a _____ places dans la maison.

Meaning: Félix has his places in the house.

son sa

C'est _____ photo préférée.

Meaning: It's his/her favourite photo.

G4) BUILD A SENTENCE

Put the words in order.

1

montre

son

fils.

Mme

Martin

Meaning: Mrs Martin shows her son.

2 parle mère. Zoé de sa

Meaning: Zoé talks about her mother.

3 Anne beaucoup enfants. aime ses

Meaning: Anne loves her children very much.

4 son cherche cadeau. Julien

Meaning: Julien is looking for his present.

5 ta parles Tu sœur à Zoé. de

Meaning: You talk about your sister to Zoé.

- 6 où vous demande habitent parents. vos Anne

Meaning: Anne asks you where your parents live.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 Mrs Martin shows her son. You say:

- ☐ A Mme Martin montre sa fils.
- ☐ B Mme Martin montre son fils.

2 Zoé talks about her mother. You say:

- ☐ A Zoé parle de sa mère.
- ☐ B Zoé parle de son mère.

3 Anne loves her children very much. You say:

- ☐ A Anne aime beaucoup son enfants.
- ☐ B Anne aime beaucoup ses enfants.

4 Julien is looking for his present. You say:

- (A) Julien cherche son cadeau.
- (B) Julien cherche sa cadeau.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|--|--|
| (1) Julien cherche son cadeau. | (A) Julien is looking for his present. |
| (2) Anne aime beaucoup ses enfants. | (B) Félix has his places in the house. |
| (3) Félix a ses places dans la maison. | (C) It's his/her favourite photo. |
| (4) Anne vous demande où habitent vos parents. | (D) You talk about your sister to Zoé. |
| (5) Zoé parle de sa mère. | (E) Anne loves her children very much. |

- ⑥ Mme Martin montre son fils. ⑦ Zoé talks about her mother.
- ⑦ C'est sa photo préférée. ⑧ Anne asks you where your parents live.
- ⑧ Tu parles de ta sœur à Zoé. ⑨ Mrs Martin shows her son.