


The definite article (**le, la, l', les**) is often used with parts of the body instead of a possessive determiner (**mon, ma, mes**, etc.). Sentences with this structure always use the verb **avoir** to indicate that the possessor is the subject of the sentence. The following French sentences are equivalent.



 Tex rêve: Ah, Tammy! Tu as **les** yeux brûlants, **la** bouche pulpeuse, **les** cheveux si doux ...

Tex is dreaming: Ah Tammy! You have fiery eyes, full lips, such soft hair ...

Tex rêve: Ah Tammy! **Ton** regard est brûlant, **ta** bouche pulpeuse, **tes** cheveux si doux ...

Tex is dreaming: Ah Tammy! Your eyes are fiery, your lips full, your hair so soft ...

However, an **indefinite article** is used if an adjective comes **before** the part of the body:

 Tex continue: Tammy, tu as **un petit** nez pointu et **de grandes** oreilles décollées ...

Tex continues: Tammy, you have a little pointed nose and big ears which stick out ...

The definite article is also always used when **pronominal verbs** refer to parts of the body.



exercices

### fill in the blanks

Fill in the blank with the correct article : le, la, les, un, une, or de. HINT: adjective agreement in the sentences may help you discover the gender of each noun.

1. Corey a \_\_\_\_\_ yeux bleus. (blue eyes)
2. Tex a \_\_\_\_\_ poil gris. (grey coat)
3. Tammy a \_\_\_\_\_ jolie bouche. (pretty mouth)
4. Tex a \_\_\_\_\_ jolies jambes. (pretty legs)
5. Bette a \_\_\_\_\_ visage noir. (black face)
6. Tammy a \_\_\_\_\_ cheveux bouclés. (curly hair)
7. Tex a toujours \_\_\_\_\_ corps luisant. (glistening body)
8. Joe-Bob a \_\_\_\_\_ joues joufflues. (plump cheeks)
9. Fiona a \_\_\_\_\_ taille fine. (thin waist)

10. Tammy a \_\_\_\_\_ teint rose. (rosy complexion)
11. Bette a \_\_\_\_\_ peau douce. (soft skin)
12. Tex a \_\_\_\_\_ beau nez texan. (beautiful Texan nose)