

Basic negation is formed by placing **ne ... pas** around the conjugated verb. **Ne** becomes **n'** in front of a verb starting with a vowel or a mute **h**.



TU NE VAS PAS EN COURS AUJOURD'HUI ?



Tex: Tu **ne** vas **pas** en cours aujourd'hui, Tammy?

Tex: You're not going to class today Tammy?

Tammy: Non. Je **ne** vais **pas** bien. Je **ne** peux **pas** manger et j'ai mal à la tête.

Tammy: No. I am not well. I cannot eat and I have a headache.

Tex: Tu **n'**as **pas** de chance! Ce soir, il y a une fête chez Edouard!

Tex: That's too bad [literally 'you are not lucky']! Tonight there is a party at Edouard's!

Tammy: Tu **n'**es **pas** d'un grand réconfort, tu sais!

Tammy: You are not a lot of comfort, you know!

In compound tenses, like the passé composé, the **ne ... pas** are also placed around the conjugated verb, which is the auxiliary, **avoir** or **être**. In the periphrastic future, **ne ... pas** goes around the verb **aller**.



Tex **n'**a **pas** été très gentil.

Tex was not very nice.

Tammy **ne** va **pas** passer la soirée chez Edouard.

Tammy is not going to spend the evening at Edouard's.

Note that in spoken French, the **ne / n'** is sometimes dropped. In familiar speech, **tu** is often pronounced as **t'** before a vowel.



Tammy: Tex, t'es (tu es) **pas** très gentil.

Tammy: Tex, you are not very nice.



fill in the blanks

The following affirmative sentences are untrue. Correct the sentences by making them negative using ne...pas. You must rewrite the entire sentence in the blank. Include punctuation in your answer.

1. Tammy aime les tatous musclés ('muscular').
2. Rita voyage souvent.
3. Corey et Joe Bob étudient beaucoup.
4. Edouard adore le barbeque.
5. Tex adore Bette.

6. Joe-Bob déteste le ketchup.
7. Tex et Tammy jouent aux cartes.
8. Trey a envie d'aller en France.
9. Corey et Joe-Bob habitent à New York.
10. Edouard étudie la cuisine texanne.
11. Tammy chante bien la Marseillaise.
12. Bette adore Tammy.