


1. uses
2. placement


### uses

**En** is a pronoun that typically replaces **de** + a noun; this includes nouns introduced by **partitive** or **indefinite** determiners (**de, du, de l', de la, des**). **En** may be translated as 'some', 'any', or 'not any'.



- |   |   |
|---|---|
|  Tammy, Edouard et Tex sont à table. | Tammy, Edouard and Tex are eating.                              |
| Tammy: Edouard, tu veux de la soupe?  | Tammy: Edouard, do you want some soup?                          |
| Edouard: Oui, merci. Elle est délicieuse.   | Edouard: Yes, thank you. It is delicious.                       |
| Tex: Il y a du vin?   | Tex: Is there any wine?   |
| Tammy: Oui il y <b>en</b> a. Tu <b>en</b> veux?   | Tammy: Yes, there is <b>some</b> . Would you like <b>some</b> ? |

In a similar fashion, **en** replaces a noun introduced by a number or an **expression of quantity**. Notice that the equivalent of **en** is not always expressed in English, although **en** must still be used in the French sentence:

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|--|--|
|  Tammy: Edouard, tu as assez de pain? | Tammy: Edouard, do you have enough bread?  |
| Edouard: Oui, merci, j' <b>en</b> ai <b>assez</b> .  | Edouard: Yes, thank you, I have <b>enough (of it)</b> .                              |
| Tammy: Tex, tu veux un peu de pain?  | Tammy: Tex, do you want a little bread?  |
| Tex: Non, merci, je n' <b>en</b> veux pas. J' <b>en</b> ai encore <b>une tranche</b> .                                   | Tex: No, thank you, I do not want <b>any</b> . I still have <b>a slice (of it)</b> . |

**En** also replaces expressions introduced by the preposition **de** with the following verbs:

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|---|---|
|  <b>s'occuper de</b> , to deal with                                      |   |
| <b>parler de</b> , to speak of  |   |
| <b>remercier de</b> , to thank for  |   |
| <b>revenir de</b> , to return from  |   |
| <b>venir de</b> , to come from  |   |
|  Tammy: Alors Edouard, comment s'est passée ton interview au restaurant? | Tammy: So Edouard, how did your interview at the restaurant go? |
| Edouard: J' <b>en</b> reviens tout juste! C'était dégoûtant.  | Edouard: I've just returned <b>from it</b> ! It was disgusting. |

Tammy: Tu veux **en** parler?

Edouard: Tu sais bien que j'ai envie de gagner plus d'argent, j'**en** ai vraiment besoin, mais servir du barbecue! Jamais! Edouard ne travaillera jamais dans un restaurant qui s'appelle le Bon Barbecue!

Tammy: Do you want to talk **about it**?

Edouard: You know that I want to earn more money. I really need **some** (money), but serve barbecue! Never! Edouard will never work in a restaurant named Good Barbecue!

Note that a **disjunctive pronoun** is used with these verbs to replace expressions when the object of the preposition **de** is a person rather than a thing.

### placement

Placement of **en** is the same as **direct** and **indirect** pronoun objects. **En** precedes the verb it refers to, except in the affirmative imperative. In compound tenses (such as the passé composé), it precedes the auxiliary verb. Note that there is **no** agreement between **en** and the past participle, since **en** does not replace a direct object. When **en** is used with **il y a** ('there is, there are'), it comes between **y** and **a**: Du pain sur la table? **Il y en a** (Some bread on the table? There is **some there**.)



Tex: De nouveaux poèmes? Ne m'**en** parle pas!

Editeur: Mais si, parlons-**en**.

Tex: Je n'**en** ai pas écrit depuis longtemps et je ne vais plus **en** écrire. Ma muse m'a quitté et je n'ai plus d'idées.

Editeur: Mais si tu **en** as. Elles sont bizarres, tes idées, mais tu **en** as beaucoup quand même.

Tex: Some new poems? Don't talk to me **about them**.

Editor: But yes, let's talk **about them**.

Tex: I haven't written **any** for a long time and I'm not going to write **any** more. My muse has left me and I don't have any more ideas.

Editor: But yes, you have **some** (ideas). Your ideas are strange, but you have a lot **of them** nevertheless.



exercices

### fill in the blanks

Complete the answers to the questions using the pronoun 'en.'

1. Tex : Tammy, tu me demandes du gâteau au chocolat? Tammy : Oui, je/j' \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Tammy : Vous avez beaucoup d'argent? Tex et Edouard : Oui nous \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Tex : Fiona, tu bois du vin? Fiona : Non merci, je/j' \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Tammy : Parlons de notre mariage! Tex : Non, \_\_\_\_\_!
5. Joe-Bob: Il y a du popcorn? Tammy : Oui, \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Tammy : Tu as mangé assez de légumes? Bette : Oui, je/j' \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Tammy : Tu es folle de la cuisine d'Edouard? Bette : Oui, je/j' \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Tammy : Nous avons besoin de prendre des vacances! Tex : Tu as raison, nous \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Paw-Paw : Est-ce que nous avons parlé de la guerre de 40? Tex : Oui, nous \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Tammy : Tu joues du piano? Trey : Oui, je/j' \_\_\_\_\_.
11. Joe-Bob : Je reviens de UT. Tammy : Moi aussi, je/j' \_\_\_\_\_.

12. Tammy : Tu as du chocolat? Bette : Oui, je/j' \_\_\_\_\_.