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*.

![Image](image.png)

Tex: Tu *ne* vas *pas* en cours aujourd'hui, Tammy?
Tammy: Non. Je *ne* vais *pas* bien. Je *ne* peux *pas* manger et j'ai mal à la tête.
Tex: Tu *n'as* *pas* de chance! Ce soir, il y a une fête chez Edouard!
Tammy: Tu *n'es* *pas* d'un grand réconfort, tu sais!

Tex: You're not going to class today Tammy?
Tammy: No. I am not well. I cannot eat and I have a headache.
Tex: That's too bad [literally 'you are not lucky']! Tonight there is a party at Edouard's!
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*.

![Image](image.png)

Tex *n'a* *pas* été très gentil.
Tammy *ne* va *pas* passer la soirée chez Edouard.

Tex was not very nice.
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.

![Image](image.png)

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.
7. Tex et Tammy jouent aux cartes.
8. Trey a envie d’aller en France.
10. Edouard étudie la cuisine texanne.
11. Tammy chante bien la Marseillaise.