

Hello, this is my French journal, where I document some struggles I face in the class. During lesson 7, I struggled on the three expressions of time, Pendant/Depuis/Il y a. I was confused about which to use during sentences. Il y a is referring to a past completed action. It is used as the past tense. Pendant is the word “for” in the past or future, with no connection to the present. Depuis is the word “since” or “for” that can be used for both the past, future, and present tense. This is where I was stuck between these two, Depuis and Pendant. I did not know which one to pick because both words could be in the same past and future. I asked my professor for help, and she explained to me that Depuis is used for something that has been going since a certain point and still continues.

Some strengths I had during my semester is learning Le partitif and L'imparfait. I used to be confused about L'imparfait because there was a point where we were learning so many tenses that it became confusing. However, I broke it down to myself, relied on my knowledge about the French pronouns, and realized that only the ending of the words would change. After learning the endings for each pronouns I was good.

One improvement that I want to make is to remember to add French Diacritical Marks. I have a habit where I forget to add diacritical marks. Diacritical Marks are vital because they can make or break a word. They can make a word sound very different. Accents give entirely different meanings to terms, and I do not want to find myself in an awkward situation where I write something and end up saying something rude or incorrect.