

Leçon 1

Chacune des 50 leçons commence par une liste de mots dont vous aurez besoin pour réussir vos examens et concours. Apprenez-les méthodiquement en lisant systématiquement la phrase d'exemple.

to abide

supporter, endurer, durer

The managing director kept repeating he couldn't abide laziness.

abiding

constant, durable

My sister has an abiding passion for horses.

to abide by

respecter

Lots of countries still do not abide by human rights.
North Korea still does not abide by international law.

an about-turn

un changement complet (d'opinion, d'attitude, de politique...)

This is the government's first about-turn on the issue of immigration.

to abound

abonder

Theories on climate change abound.

above board

honnête et légal

His plans for opening a plant in Korea are totally above board.

to be/to keep abreast of something se tenir au courant de quelque chose

If you study politics or economics, you must keep abreast of current events.

It is abundantly clear that

il est tout à fait évident que

It is abundantly clear that the new CEO has little experience.

abysmal

insondable, sans limite/très mauvais, désastreux

abysmal working conditions

des conditions de travail désastreuses

Over the past three years the losses of the company have been abysmal.

to account for

représenter

Non-Hispanic whites now account for about three-quarters of the deaths in the Golden State but barely a third of the births.

By 2030, experts predict that the world will require about 60% more energy than in 2000, with economic growth in developing countries accounting for most of this increase.

to be accountable for

être responsable de

Pinochet has been declared accountable for all the outrage committed in Chile (*responsable des atrocités commises au Chili*).

to take account of (to take something into account) tenir compte de quelque chose, prendre en considération quelque chose

The editorial must have been written before the crisis: it does not take account of (it does not take into account) the most recent developments.

accuracy

l'exactitude, la précision

accurate

exact, juste

the degree of accuracy

le niveau d'exactitude, le degré de précision

Architecture is a skilled profession; you need a high degree of accuracy.

to achieve

exécuter, réaliser

We have finally achieved our objective.

to achieve a significant

réaliser une percée

breakthrough (in)

significative (dans le domaine de)

an achievement

une réalisation, une réussite, un exploit

He has broken the world record: this is quite an achievement!

to regard sth as a considerable/substantial achievement

an achiever

un gagnant

an under-achiever

un laissé-pour-compte, un paumé

to acknowledge

admettre, reconnaître, avouer

an acknowledgment

une reconnaissance

He acknowledged he had made a mistake.

actual

courant, actuel

His actual words were:

Il a dit textuellement ceci :

in actual fact

en fait

He thought the business was failing, but in actual fact they made a large turnover.

actually

effectivement, vraiment, en fait

Interest is only paid on the amount actually borrowed (*les intérêts ne sont dus que sur les sommes empruntées*).

an acumen

un don

business acumen

le sens (aigu) des affaires

Martha Stuart made a fortune thanks to her business acumen.

acute

grave/pénétrant, aigu

an acute problem

un problème grave

to live in acute poverty

The problem of infant mortality is particularly acute in Yemen.

adamant

catégorique

to be adamant that

maintenir catégoriquement que

The protesters adamantly refused to leave the Embassy premises.

Structurer votre discours écrit et oral

Pour construire un discours percutant, il est **indispensable** de recourir à **des liens logiques variés et nuancés**, qui non seulement donneront une véritable **structure** à votre pensée, mais qui, en plus, donneront du poids et de la force à votre argumentation.

Voici un choix de mots dans lequel vous pourrez puiser.

◎ POUR INTRODUIRE UN ARGUMENT

first, first of all, to begin with, in the first place, for a start, in the first instance → *en premier lieu*

first and foremost... → *d'abord et avant tout*

for one thing → *tout d'abord*

at first glance, on the face of it → *au premier abord*

on second thoughts → *à y réfléchir de plus près*

arguably (en début de phrase) → *on peut avancer que*

Ex.: Arguably the single currency still raises quite a few questions in the European Union (*on peut dire que la monnaie unique*).

an argument in support of this approach is that... → *un argument en faveur de cette approche est que...*

the fundamental reason for believing this assumption to be true is that... → *la raison majeure pour considérer que cette hypothèse est vraie est que...*

◎ INTRODUIRE UN ARGUMENT SIMILAIRE

second, in the second place, next...

for another thing (après for one thing) → *d'autre part*

similarly, in the same way, likewise → *de même*

as for, as regards → *quant à...*

as regards education → *en ce qui concerne l'éducation*

Exercice sur les expressions idiomatiques

◎ QUELLE EXPRESSION SE RAPPROCHE LE PLUS DU SENS DE L'EXPRESSION SOULIGNÉE ?

1. He means business.
 - a. he is very serious
 - b. he is very interested
 - c. he is very boring
 - d. he is very bored

2. That person's name rings a bell.
 - a. is very silly
 - b. is rather strange
 - c. sounds familiar
 - d. is unique

3. They're a dime a dozen.
 - a. not very common
 - b. very expensive
 - c. not sold in every shop
 - d. very easy to find

4. We've been here for hours. Let's call it a day.
 - a. it's late in the evening
 - b. we should quit
 - c. we have to take a break
 - d. fix our next appointment

5. We would like to iron out a few points in the contract.
 - a. re-negotiate a couple of major clauses
 - b. eliminate certain sentences
 - c. reformulate certain phrases
 - d. clarify certain details

corrigé : 1. A ; 2. C ; 3. D ; 4. B ; 5. D

Leçon 2

to address an issue	s'attaquer à un problème, à une question
The Prime Minister's speech failed to address the issue of social housing.	
admittedly	de l'aveu général, il faut reconnaître que
Admittedly, making one's mind up is not always as easy as it seems (<i>je reconnais qu'il n'est pas toujours facile de se décider</i>).	
to adopt a compromise (over)	adopter un compromis (à propos de)
The French government adopted a compromise over immigration.	
to present an advantage (over)	présenter un avantage sur
to present a big/considerable/marked/slight/slender advantage over	
to give advice (on)	conseiller (sur)
to give poor/sound advice on	
My father always gave me advice on girls.	
to advocate (a policy)	prôner, être partisan de
The Labour Party advocates a policy of high taxes for the rich.	
an advocacy	un plaidoyer
an advocate	un partisan, un défenseur
to afflict	affecter, affliger
Aids is one of the main scourges that currently afflict Africa.	
to afford	se permettre
You can't afford to turn down an offer like that.	
the aftermath	les suites, les séquelles (associé à une catastrophe, un élément malheureux)
Lots of workers lost their jobs in the aftermath of the economic downturn.	
More than five years after declaring "war on terror" in the aftermath of 9/11, President Bush does not have a lot to show for his efforts.	
against the grain	à contrecœur, à l'encontre de sa propre nature ou de ses propres convictions
I'll do it but it goes against the grain (<i>je le ferais, mais pas de bon cœur</i>).	
It goes against the grain for him to apologize (<i>ce n'est pas dans sa nature de s'excuser</i>).	
an agenda	un ordre du jour
Reducing taxation is not on the agenda even though the government is contemplating putting forward proposals.	
an agreement	un accord
to agree to a proposal	accepter une proposition
Everyone agrees that we should give up this project.	

to agree with He entirely agrees with me.	être d'accord
to be ahead of one's time Our company is 5 years ahead of its time.	être en avance sur son époque
to aim at The company aims at completing the project before November.	viser, avoir pour objectif de
to air an opinion about to air one's views	exprimer une opinion faire connaître ses idées
albeit The meeting was very useful, albeit a little bit too long.	quoique, encore que, bien que
alike	semblable, pareil, identique
to be alive and well (kicking) Despite bland (<i>fade, terne</i>) government claims, pensioners' poverty in Britain is alive and well.	exister bel et bien, être plein de vie
to be all to the good For this job, it's all to the good if you speak Spanish.	être un plus
all round These students are doing well all round.	totalement
to allay to allay suspicion	apaiser, soulager dissiper les soupçons
to allege The Prime Minister is alleged to have said that (le Premier Ministre aurait dit que) alleged illegal immigrants (les immigrants qui seraient en situation irrégulière) allegedly	prétendre à ce que l'on prétend, paraît-il
Today 40% of the local population are reported to allegedly speak a dialect at home.	
an allegation The newspapers made an allegation about the Prime Minister.	une allégation
to alleviate New taxes should alleviate the government's financial problems. Food aid saves millions of lives each year, but it doesn't alleviate the root causes of famine. It is time we rethink how we feed the poor.	soulager, alléger
all-out There was an all-out strike last week.	complet, général
an all-out effort an all-out war	un effort maximum une guerre totale
to allow My mother doesn't allow me to stay out after 11pm.	permettre
to allow for The government will have to allow for an increasing life expectancy in setting up an efficient pension system.	tenir compte de

Structurer votre discours écrit et oral (suite)

◎ POUR INTRODUIRE UN ARGUMENT SUPPLÉMENTAIRE

besides, moreover, furthermore, in addition/what is more → *de plus...*

in addition to... → *en plus de...*

Ex.: in addition to giving a general description of the situation, the article also expresses an original standpoint.

in other respects → *d'autre part...*

incidentally, by the way → *incidemment*

not to mention → *sans parler de...*

Ex.: Car fumes are dramatically noxious for children, not to mention people suffering from asthma: *les gaz d'échappement sont terriblement nocifs pour les enfants, sans parler des asthmatiques.*

let alone dans un contexte négatif → *sans parler de..., encore moins...*

Ex.: He can't speak English, let alone write it: *il ne sait pas parler anglais, encore moins l'écrire.*

Ex.: The government has not convinced the environmentalists, let alone the communists. ...: *le gouvernement n'a pas convaincu les écologistes, sans parler des communistes.*

as a matter of fact → *en fait...*

another (one of the most) striking aspects (features) of this problem is → *un autre aspect marquant de ce problème est*

◎ POUR INTRODUIRE UN ARGUMENT CONTRAIRE

conversely → *à l'inverse*

however, nevertheless, and yet, still → *cependant*

in return → *en revanche*

by contrast, on the contrary → *au contraire*

all the same → *quand même*

Ex.: She told him she was engaged, but he loved her all the same.

notwithstanding → *en dépit de*. Adverbe : *néanmoins*

though (placé après le verbe) → *cependant*

Ex.: We must consider though that this argument is debatable.

paradoxically, oddly enough, surprisingly enough → en début de phrase... : *paradoxalement*

on the other hand (après: **on the one hand**) → *d'autre part*

even if, even though → *même si*

whereas, while → *alors que*

hackneyed arguments (*des arguments rebattus*) **of this kind are scarcely convincing**

the other side of the coin is, however, that (de préférence à l'oral)

the snag about this argument is that... → *l'inconvénient à propos de cet argument est que...*

there is however another argument which cannot be ignored, namely, that...