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**Step by Step
Simplified FRENCH
GRAMMAR Booklet 8**

**Le Subjonctif.
Qu'est-Ce que C'est?
Sample**

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Grammar Booklet

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Introduction: A Word about Grammar

Grammar. Just saying or reading the word makes most of the learners panic! People have a negative feeling about French grammar. They have heard about irregular verbs, weird tenses, nouns and gender...

That's why this booklet concentrates only on one grammar subject and is compiled with only very simplified grammatical points.

You will be guided step by step and all the points are defined and explained.

At the end of each mini lesson, you will be able to test your knowledge and learn new vocabulary by working with cultural and authentic literary texts.

Grammar, which knows how to control even kings." Molière

The subjunctive is a difficult tense that you need to be able to recognise in a text and to use it from time to time.

When is the subjunctive used?

- 1.** Unfortunately there is no equivalent in English.
- 2.** It is kind of the present tense but needs to be used with some specific verbs or following some specific words like **que** or **qui**
- 3.** To express subjective actions: **necessities, emotion, will, judgment doubt, possibility....**
- 4.** There is no future subjunctive. The present subjunctive will be used. However, there is a past subjunctive.

How is the subjunctive formed?

For all the regular verbs ending with **-ER, -IR, and -RE**, take the **3rd person plural form (ils)** of the **present tense** of the verb, **drop the -ent**, and **add the subjunctive endings** as follows:

-e
-es
-e
-ions
-iez
-ent

VERB	3 RD PERSONN PLURAL PRESENT	DROP THE -ENT	SUBJONCTIF
PARLER	ILS/ELLES PARLENT	PARL	QUE JE PARLE
CHOISIR	ILS/ELLES CHOISSSENT	CHOISS	QUE TU CHOISSSES
PRENDRE	ILS/ELLES PRENNENT	PRENN	QU'IL PRENNE

Note that -IR verbs like *sortir* and *partir* and -RE verbs like *mettre* which are irregular in the present tense are regular in the subjunctive.

Irregular Verbs at the Subjunctive Tense

✗ Let's take the verb **aller** (to go)

ALLER	Singulier	Pluriel
1 ^{ere} personne	Que j'aïlle	Que nous allions
2 ^{eme} personne	Que tu aïlles	Que vous alliez
3 ^{eme} personne	Qu'il/ Elle/On aïlle	Qu'ils/Elles aillent

✗ Let's take the verb **faire** (to do)

FAIRE	Singulier	Pluriel
1 ^{ere} personne	Que je fasse	Que nous fassions
2 ^{eme} personne	Que tu fasses	Que vous fassiez
3 ^{eme} personne	Qu'il/ Elle/On fasse	Qu'ils/Elles fassent

Let's take the verb **pouvoir** (to be able to)

POUVOIR	Singulier	Pluriel
1 ^{ere} personne	Que je puisse	Que nous puissions
2 ^{eme} personne	Que tu puisses	Que vous puissiez
3 ^{eme} personne	Qu'il/ Elle/On puisse	Qu'ils/Elles puissent

✗ Let's take the verb **savoir** (to know)

SAVOIR	Singulier	Pluriel
1 ^{ere} personne	Que je sache	Que nous sachions
2 ^{eme} personne	Que tu saches	Que vous sachiez
3 ^{eme} personne	Qu'il/ Elle/On sache	Qu'ils/Elles sachent

✗ Let's take the verb **vouloir** (to want)

VOULOIR	Singulier	Pluriel
1 ^{ere} personne	Que je veuille	Que nous voulions
2 ^{eme} personne	Que tu veuilles	Que vous vouliez
3 ^{eme} personne	Qu'il/ Elle/On veuille	Qu'ils/Elles veuillent

✗ Let's take the verb **être** (to be)

ETRE	Singulier	Pluriel
1 ^{ere} personne	Que je sois	Que nous soyons
2 ^{eme} personne	Que tu sois	Que vous soyez
3 ^{eme} personne	Qu'il/ Elle/On soit	Qu'ils/Elles soient

✗ Let's take the verb **avoir** (to have)

AVOIR	Singulier	Pluriel
1 ^{ere} personne	Que j'aie	Que nous ayons
2 ^{eme} personne	Que tu aies	Que vous ayez
3 ^{eme} personne	Qu'il/ Elle/On ait	Qu'ils/Elles aient

