

What is Formal Register Vocabulary?

Worksheet

Formal register vocabulary consists of elevated French words and expressions used in professional, academic, or official settings, distinguishing formal language from everyday colloquial speech.

Questions

1. FORMAL: Veuillez trouver ci-joint... What does this phrase mean?

- A) Come see me soon
- B) Please find attached
- C) I am looking forward
- D) Regarding your request

2. Which negation is formal?

- A) J'ai pas faim.
- B) Je n'ai pas faim.
- C) Pas faim.
- D) Faim pas.

3. How would you formally say 'I think'?

- A) Je pense que
- B) À mon avis
- C) Il me semble que
- D) All of the above are formal

4. Formal French avoids which pronoun in favor of vous?

- A) je
- B) tu
- C) on
- D) ils

5. INFORMAL: Je pense que le projet, c'est pas mal. FORMAL:

6. INFORMAL: Fais-moi signe si t'as des questions. FORMAL:

7. INFORMAL: On peut se voir demain? FORMAL:

8. Define: What is formal register vocabulary?

9. Define: How is negation different in formal French?

10. Define: What is the formal way to say 'Hi'?

Answer Key

1. B) Please find attached — Veuillez trouver ci-joint is a formal French closing phrase often used in letters.
2. B) Je n'ai pas faim. — Je n'ai pas faim uses the full negation ne... pas, which is formal and correct.
3. D) All of the above are formal — All three are formal ways to express opinion; each has slightly different emphasis.
4. B) tu — In formal settings, second-person singular uses vous (not tu), and collective 'we' uses nous (not on).
5. Informal markers: 'je pense,' 'c'est pas mal' (negation without ne) Formal upgrade: 'Je suis d'avis que' or 'Il me semble que' Full formal version: Il me semble que le projet est satisfaisant.
6. Informal markers: tu form, casual imperative 'fais-moi signe' Formal upgrade: Veuillez + infinitive or Si vous avez Full formal version: Veuillez me contacter si vous aviez des questions.
7. Informal markers: on (indefinite we), casual question Formal upgrade: Nous pourrions, Serait-il possible de Full formal version: Serait-il possible de nous rencontrer demain?
8. Elevated language used in professional, academic, or official contexts; it includes sophisticated words and formal expressions.
9. Formal French uses full negation 'ne... pas' while informal often drops 'ne' — just 'pas.'
10. Bonjour (daytime), Bonsoir (evening), or Enchanté(e) — never casual Salut in formal contexts.

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