

GRAMMAR.—LESSON I.

1. THE INDEFINITE ARTICLES **a** and **an** are **un** and **une** in French.
un must be used before masculine nouns, **une** before feminine nouns.
 All nouns in French are either masculine or feminine, names of males always being masculine and females feminine. Names of things are always masculine or feminine, but those ending in *e* are usually feminine.
Examples: un père, a father; une mère, a mother; un homme, a man; un oncle, an uncle; une tante, an aunt; un fils, a son; une fille, a daughter; une femme, a woman.

2. THE DEFINITE ARTICLE *the* is expressed by
le for masculine nouns in singular, **la** for feminine nouns in singular.
les for masculine and feminine in plural.
 If the word following **le** or **la** begins with a vowel or *h*, use always *l'*.
 To form the plural of most nouns in French add *s*.
 If the word already ends in *s* it remains the same, but plural articles must be used.

Example: Le grand-père, the grandfather; la grand'mère, the grandmother; la fille, the daughter; les filles, the daughters; le fils, the son; les fils, the sons.

3. THE DEFINITE ARTICLES **Le, la, les**, combined with *du, de la* are expressed in French by

du for masculine nouns singular, **de la** for feminine nouns singular, **des** for masculine and feminine nouns plural, **de l'** before masculine or feminine nouns beginning with vowel or *h* mute.

Example: Le père du garçon, the father of the boy; la mère de la fille, the mother of the girl; les parents des enfants, the parents of the children.

Le frère de l'oncle, the brother of the uncle.

4. THE VERB Être, *to be*, Present Tense.

Singular.			Plural.		
1st Pers.	Je suis	I am	1st Pers.	nous sommes	we
2nd ..	tu es	thou art	2nd ..	vous êtes	you
3rd ..	il } elle }	he } she } it }	3rd ..	ils } elles }	they } are

THE VERB avoir, *to have*, Present Tense.

Singular.			Plural.		
1st Pers.	J'ai	I have	1st Pers.	nous avons	we
2nd ..	tu as	thou hast	2nd ..	vous avez	you
3rd ..	il } elle }	he } she } it }	3rd ..	ils } elles }	they } have

et—and.

Exercise.—Write or speak in English:—

- (a) Je suis le fils. Nous sommes les enfants. J'ai un père. Le père a un fils et une fille. Nous avons un père et une mère. Ils sont les parents. Le fils a une balle. Le bébé a la poupée.

- (b) Speak or write in French:—I have a sister. We have a father and a mother. We are the children of the father and the mother. The baby has a doll. The boy is the brother of the girl. I am the son. She is the daughter. They (*m*) are the children.

NOTE.—The bracket — between two words indicates that the end consonant of the first word is glided on to the next.