

Les hirondelles sont *les* plus rapides des oiseaux (= The swallows are the swiftest of birds.)

44¹. **Adverbial form of the Superlative.** It is permitted to use *le* plus, *le* moins, etc., or *les* plus, *les* moins, in sentences such as: On a abattu les arbres *le* plus or *les* plus exposés à la tempête (= They have felled the trees most exposed to the storm.)

QUESTIONS FOR EXAMINATION.

1. What is the article?
2. How many kinds of articles are there?
3. What is the definite article?
4. Define the word *Elision*?
5. When are words elided?
6. What is the partitive article?
7. When is partitive *de* used?
8. When can you use either *de* or *du*, *de* *la*, etc.?
9. How is the possessive case expressed in French?
10. When is the definite article used in French?
11. Enumerate cases when no article is used.
12. When is definite article repeated?
13. What about *le* before *plus*, *mieux*, *moins*?
14. When is the neuter form *le* plus, allowed for *les* plus?

RECITATION.

Le lierre et le rosier.

Le lierre¹, en² serpentant³ le long⁴ d'une muraille⁵,
 Vit⁶ un petit⁷ rosier⁸ et se rit⁹ de sa taille¹⁰.
 L'arbuste¹¹ lui¹² répond¹³—“ Apprends¹⁴ que¹⁵, sans¹⁶ appui¹⁷,
 J'ai pu¹⁸ m'élever¹⁹ par²⁰ moi même²¹;
 Mais²² toi²³, dont²⁴ l'orgueil²⁵ est²⁶ extrême;
 Tu²⁷ ramperais²⁸ encor²⁹, sans le secours d'autrui³⁰.

—*Le Bailly.*

1. ivy. 2. whilst. 3. winding. 4. along. 5. wall. 6. saw. 7. small.
 8. rose-bush. 9. sneered. 10. size. 11. shrub. 12. to him (it). 13. replies.
 14. learn. 15. that (conj.). 16. without. 17. help. 18. I have been able.
 19. raise or rise. 20. by. 21. myself. 22. but. 23. thou. 24. whose.
 25. pride. 26. is. 27. thou. 28. wouldst be crawling. 29. still. 30. others.