

121. Verbs having an acute accent over the *é* of the last syllable but one, change this into a grave accent when the next syllable has a mute (except in the future and conditional)

: Le loir lèche la plaie du blessé, (lêcher)

On espère souvent contre toute espérance (espérer).

122. Verbs in **...yer** change *y* into *i* before *e*, etc.

: Payez bien, vous aurez des amis. (payer).

: Il paie sa pension toutes les semaines.

: J'emploie moins de temps que vous à mon travail.

(employer).

123. **Hair** (= to hate) is sounded as one syllable in the 1st and 2nd persons sing. of the Present indicative, and 2nd person imperative: Je hais, tu hais: hais: otherwise it retains the dieresis: nous haïssons.

124. **Compound verbs** may be written without apostrophe or hyphen: *Entraidons* nous! (= Let us help each other). Likewise: *Entrouvrir*, *entrecroiser*, etc.

☛ No hyphen need be used between the verb (interrogative) and the pronoun subject.

Obeît-il promptement? (= Does he obey promptly?)

125. **Interrogative verbs.** If a verb ends in a vowel and the subject begins with one, a *t* is inserted between the two verbs: Que gagna-t-il? (= What did he win?)

126. In the first person sing. *e* mute is accented *é*. *Porté-je?* (= Do I carry?)

☛ But a coined sentence is frequently used in the present and other tenses, which leaves the verb affirmative: *Est-ce que?*

Est-ce qu'il vend de la chandelle? (= Does he sell candles?)

Pourquoi est-ce qu'il n'ouvre pas? (= Why does he not open?)

127. *N'est-ce pas* is a form of speech equivalent to such English forms as: Do you? have you? etc.

: Vous le ferez, n'est-ce pas? (= You shall do it, will you?)

Nous ouvrirons la boîte, n'est-ce pas? (= We shall open the box, shall we?)

☛ A noun subject of a verb cannot be placed after the verb as in English, the following constructions must be adopted:

Votre serviteur a-t-il la lanterne?

Est-ce que votre serviteur a la lanterne? { (= Has your servant the lantern?)