



PODCAST TRANSCRIPT

Episode 13:

“Franglais buster: avoid confusion between ‘à’ and ‘at’ “

Duration: 09:40

How to use this transcript:

1. Print this transcript:

We try to reduce our paper consumption, but we really recommend that you print out this document.

2. Write on it and take notes:

Circle, highlight and note anything that you want. We have even provided space for you to do so!

3. Listen first **without** the transcript:

Don't worry about understanding every single word. Just focus on training your ears to the sound of English.

4. Listen again **with** the transcript:

Listen a second time with the transcript, pausing whenever you want to

00:04	<p>Hello there dear listeners, welcome to this new episode of the Déclic Anglais podcast!</p> <p>If you're new to the podcast, welcome! This is the podcast where motivated learners of English come to improve their English listening skills and gain confidence. This podcast is relaxed, informal, and the subjects we cover are dictated by our listeners.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
00:36	<p>Just for your information, a transcript (<i>une transcription</i>) is available for every episode of this podcast. If you are listening from Spotify or Deezer, you can download it directly from the show notes. Alternatively, go to www.declicanglais.com/podcast to find the transcript.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
01:06 01:21	<p>This episode will be especially useful to my Francophone listeners. This episode is the first in a series of “Franglais busters!” (x2)</p> <p>What is a “buster”? “To bust something” means to break something (<i>casser quelque chose</i>), or to catch someone or something, like when the police catches, or busts, a criminal. Just like in the movie Ghostbusters, “<i>les chasse-fantômes</i>”.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

<p>01:45</p> <p>02:15</p>	<p>So, what is Franglais? Franglais is a mixture of the French words <i>français</i> and <i>anglais</i>. This gives us the word Franglais. Franglais actually has a few different meanings. But here, we use it to mean words, vocabulary, expressions or grammar that come from French and are translated literally into English.</p> <p>This is a common mistakes for French learners of English, who maybe take a word from French and try to use it in English – but, it isn’t the right word.</p> <p>So then, Franglais buster could be translated as “la chasse au franglais!”. <i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
<p>02:35</p> <p>02:55</p> <p>03:11</p>	<p>Today we will be looking at how to say: “<i>je vais à...</i>” in English. Very often, I hear French speakers say “I go at home”, “I go at work”, “I go at the supermarket”.</p> <p>This is a direct translation from the French, and it’s true that the French preposition “à” does sometimes translate directly as the English preposition “at”.</p> <p>“<i>On se verra à une heure.</i>” “I’ll see you AT 1 o’clock.” “<i>Je suis au bureau.</i>” “I am AT the office.” <i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
<p>03:22</p> <p>03:38</p>	<p>But unfortunately, dear listener, this isn’t always the case. Don’t worry, I will explain it for you. Remember, you can pause and rewind this podcast to better understand if necessary.</p> <p>Ok, so the most important thing to know, is that the English preposition AT is really when you are static, when you are not moving, ok? Zero movement. <i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

<p>03:54</p>	<p>In French, you say: “<i>Je vais au bureau.</i>” “<i>Je suis au bureau.</i>” It’s the same preposition, isn’t it? <i>“Je vais au bureau”</i>. Here we have movement. <i>“Je suis au bureau”</i>. Here we don’t have movement. You’ve (you have) arrived at the office already. Yes? <i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
<p>04:20</p> <p>04:52</p>	<p>Well, listen to the English translation, OK: <i>Je vais au bureau:</i> I go TO the office. <i>Je suis au bureau.</i> I am AT the office. I go TO the office. Movement, I am travelling. I am AT the office. Static, no movement, I have arrived. Ok guys? So, we use to after a verb of movement: “go to, travel to, ride to, drive to...” And we use AT when we have arrived, when we are not moving. <i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
<p>05:12</p> <p>05:32</p> <p>05:51</p>	<p>“<i>Je vais au supermarché en voiture.</i>” I drive TO the supermarket. (Movement). “<i>Je fais mes courses au supermarché.</i>” I do my shopping AT the supermarket.” (No movement), Ok? Another example... “<i>Je vais chez mon ami.</i>” I’m going to my friend’s house. (Movement). “<i>Je suis chez mon ami.</i>” I’m at my friend’s house. (No movement) I’ve arrived. Ok? So far so good? <i>Tout va bien jusqu’ici ?</i> Here’s a good one to remember: “<i>Je suis à la maison.</i>” In English: “I’m at home.” (x2) <i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

06:07	<p>Being able to use the preposition “at” correctly, and not confusing it with the French “à” is really important for intermediate learners. If you are an intermediate learner preparing for a B2 exam in English, YOU MUST know the difference .</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
06:29	<p>Ok, let’s do a mini quiz. I will read some sentences out to you in French. I will pause. You must decide if the English sentence uses “to” or “at”. Don’t worry about translating the sentences into English, I will give you the English translation anyway <i>(de toute façon)</i>.</p>
07:02	<p>If you can translate, that’s brilliant. But here, we’re not concentrating on translating, I just want you to listen to the French, decide if there’s movement, or no movement. Then decide if the English sentence would use “to” or “at”. “To” means movement, “at” means still, static, no movement.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
07:27	<p>Ready? Ok, here goes.</p> <p><i>“J’ai vu Marc à la boulangerie.”</i> “I saw Marc at the bakery.”</p> <p>(Remember, we’re not translating here. Just concentrate on “to” or “at”. Movement or no movement). OK, next sentence.</p>
07:55	<p><i>“J’ai pris l’avion pour New York.”</i> Movement, you are travelling – “I took the plane to New York.” Next sentence.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

<p>08:11</p> <p>08:24</p>	<p>“<i>Nous nous sommes arrêtés à la station-service.</i>” No movement, you arrived: “We stopped at the service station.”</p> <p>Final sentence: “<i>Ce week-end je vais à Lyon.</i>” Movement: “this weekend I’m going to Lyon.”</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
<p>08:39</p>	<p>Well done! Don’t worry if it isn’t clear to you immediately. Listen, relisten, and listen once more. And if you are still in doubt, send me an email to contact@declicanglais.com. I’m always happy to help.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
<p>09:00</p> <p>09:22</p>	<p>I hope you found this episode of the <i>Déclic Anglais podcast</i> useful. Hopefully, you won’t be using this <i>Frangliscisme</i> again. But even if you do, just remember that mistakes are human. Be kind to yourself and keep persevering. We are only defeated when we give up.</p> <p>So, have a nice day and I look forward to seeing you for the next podcast.</p> <p>Bye for now !</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

How did it go?

Take a moment to revisit the notes that you took.

List here 3 words or expressions (minimum) that you would like to remember from this podcast. We recommend that you consult a free, online dictionary like www.wordreference.com to ensure that you have the correct definition and context.

WORDS/EXPRESSIONS THAT I WANT TO REMEMBER:

1.

2.

3.

4.

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