

Formal and Informal Language

1. Sort the people into the table depending on the type of language you would use.

Informal – tu	Formal – vous

friend	parent
shopkeeper	headteacher

3. Translate the sentence into formal French and informal French.

You are eleven years old.

Formal:

Informal:

2. Tick the sentences which use formal language.

A. Comment vous appelez-vous?

B. Quel âge avez-vous?

C. Où habites-tu?

4. Jamie is learning about formal and informal language in French.

He says,



Jamie

I can only say 'tu' to people the same age as me.

Is Jamie correct? Explain your answer.

5. Cavan has written an email to his penfriend but is not sure whether he should have used formal or informal language.

He has written:

Salut Philippe,
 Ça va? Quel âge avez-vous? Moi, j'ai dix ans.
 Qu'est-ce que vous aimez faire comme loisirs?
 J'aime écouter de la musique.
 A bientôt,
 Cavan

Why should Cavan have used informal language?

Rewrite the email using informal language.

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1.

Informal - tu	Formal - vous
friend parent	shopkeeper headteacher

2. A and B

3. Formal: Vous avez onze ans.

Informal: Tu as onze ans.

4. Jamie is incorrect because you can use 'tu' with family and other people you know well, not just people the same age.

5. Cavan should have used informal language because he is friends with Philippe. If he did not know him, he could have used 'vous'.

The email should say:

Salut Philippe,

Ça va? Quel âge as-tu? Moi, j'ai dix ans.

Qu'est-ce que tu aimes faire comme loisirs? J'aime écouter de la musique.

A bientôt,

Cavan