At the Café Table: Negotiating Terms and Compromises

French · advanced · negotiations · adult · 6 min

Lyricate
LEARN IT IN MUSIC

01 VOCABULARY

Advanced French learning song about negotiations. The voice drills each chunk with its meaning so the words attach to the sound - listen, then answer in the gaps.

	CHUNK	MEANING	IN CONTEXT
1	**Nous devons négocier les termes du contrat.**	We must negotiate the terms of the contract.	tapping a pen on a wooden table
2	**Voici notre contre-proposition.**	Here is our counter-proposal.	sliding a paper across a café table
3	**Je pense que nous pouvons parvenir à un compromis.**	I think we can reach a compromise.	leaning forward with a relaxed smile
4	**Discutons de cet accord ensemble.**	Let's discuss this agreement together.	stirring coffee slowly
5	**Nous voulons signer un accord aujourd'hui.**	We want to sign an agreement today.	holding out a hand for a handshake
6	**Refusons cette contre-proposition.**	We refuse this counter-proposal.	shaking head gently and smiling

NEW WORDS (12)

négocier
to negotiate

un accord
an agreement

les termes du contrat
the terms of the contract

une contre-proposition
a counter-proposal

parvenir à un compromis
to reach a compromise

pense
think

discutons
let's discuss

voulons
we want

signons
we sign

refusons
we refuse

facile
easy

rapidement
quickly

Practice tip · First listen without reading and just tap the pulse; on the second pass, say each chunk out loud in the pause after the echo.

[SOUND DRILL]

négocier

to negotiate

un accord

an agreement

parvenir à un compromis

to reach a compromise

une contre-proposition

a counter-proposal

[REVIEW]

Je vous écris pour confirmer notre réunion.

I am writing to you to confirm our meeting.

Le partenaire signe le contrat aujourd'hui.

The partner signs the contract today.

Nous préparons chaque proposition avec soin.

We prepare every proposal with care.

Mon collègue travaille sur le même projet.

My colleague is working on the same project.

[CHORUS]

Nous devons négocier les termes du contrat.

We must negotiate the terms of the contract.

Nous devons négocier les termes du contrat.

We must negotiate the terms of the contract.

négocier

to negotiate

les termes du contrat

the terms of the contract

Voici notre contre-proposition.

Here is our counter-proposal.

Voici notre contre-proposition.

Here is our counter-proposal.

[VERSE 1]

Je pense que nous pouvons parvenir à un compromis.

I think we can reach a compromise.

pense

think

parvenir à un compromis

to reach a compromise

Discutons de cet accord ensemble.

Let's discuss this agreement together.

discutons

let's discuss

Nous voulons signer un accord aujourd'hui.

We want to sign an agreement today.

voulons

we want

Nous signons l'accord.

We sign the agreement.

signons

we sign

[CHORUS]

Nous devons négocier les termes du contrat.

We must negotiate the terms of the contract.

Nous devons négocier les termes du contrat.

We must negotiate the terms of the contract.

négocier

to negotiate

les termes du contrat

the terms of the contract

Voici notre contre-proposition.

Here is our counter-proposal.

Voici notre contre-proposition.

Here is our counter-proposal.

[VERSE 2]

Refusons cette contre-proposition.

We refuse this counter-proposal.

refusons

we refuse

une contre-proposition

a counter-proposal

C'est facile à négocier.

It's easy to negotiate.

facile

easy

Nous cherchons un compromis.

We are looking for a compromise.

rapidement

quickly

Nous devons négocier rapidement.

We must negotiate quickly.

Je pense que c'est facile.

I think it is easy.

Le compromis est facile.

The compromise is easy.

[CHORUS]

Nous devons négocier les termes du contrat.

We must negotiate the terms of the contract.

Nous devons négocier les termes du contrat.

We must negotiate the terms of the contract.

négocier

to negotiate

les termes du contrat

the terms of the contract

Voici notre contre-proposition.

Here is our counter-proposal.

Voici notre contre-proposition.

Here is our counter-proposal.

[VERSE 3]

Voici un compromis.

Here is a compromise.

Voici un compromis.

Here is a compromise.

Nous signons un contrat ensemble.

We sign a contract together.

Nous signons un contrat ensemble.

We sign a contract together.

Discutons de notre contrat.

Let's discuss our contract.

Voici notre accord.

Here is our agreement.

Voici notre accord.

Here is our agreement.

[VERSE 4]

Nous voulons signer rapidement.

We want to sign quickly.

Nous voulons signer rapidement.

We want to sign quickly.

Je pense que nous pouvons négocier.

I think we can negotiate.

Nous refusons ça.

We refuse that.

Il faut un accord facile.

We need an easy agreement.

Un accord facile pour tous.

An easy agreement for everyone.

[CHORUS]

Nous devons négocier les termes du contrat.

We must negotiate the terms of the contract.

Nous devons négocier les termes du contrat.

We must negotiate the terms of the contract.

Voici notre contre-proposition.

Here is our counter-proposal.

Je pense que nous pouvons parvenir à un compromis.

I think we can reach a compromise.

[RECAP]

Nous devons négocier les termes du contrat.

Voici notre contre-proposition.

Je pense que nous pouvons parvenir à un compromis.

Discutons de cet accord ensemble.

Grey lines are a reading aid for the script; the singer performs the language itself.

HOW TO USE THIS SONG

1. Listen to the whole song once without reading — just follow the pulse.
2. Listen again while reading the lyrics; let the echo lines carry the meaning.
3. On the third pass, say each chunk out loud in the pause after it is sung.
4. Use one phrase from this sheet today, in a real conversation or out loud.

DRILL MAP

SAY THIS	IT MEANS	WHEN / HOOK
Nous devons négocier les termes du contrat.	We must negotiate the terms of the contract.	tapping a pen on a wooden table
Voici notre contre-proposition.	Here is our counter-proposal.	sliding a paper across a café table
Je pense que nous pouvons parvenir à un compromis.	I think we can reach a compromise.	leaning forward with a relaxed smile
Discutons de cet accord ensemble.	Let's discuss this agreement together.	stirring coffee slowly
Nous voulons signer un accord aujourd'hui.	We want to sign an agreement today.	holding out a hand for a handshake
Refusons cette contre-proposition.	We refuse this counter-proposal.	shaking head gently and smiling