



French

Topic 12- Common Proverbs [Proverbes Communs]

- **Quand on parle du loup.**
(Used when talking about a person and they appear as they speak).
- **Plus on est de fous, plus on rit.**
(Used to say that you have a lot of fun when there are many).
- **On ne peut pas être au four et au moulin.**
(Used to say that you cannot be in two places at the same time or that you cannot do several things at once).
- **C'est l'intention qui compte.**
(Used to excuse a mistake made despite good intent).
- **La fin justifie les moyens.**
(Used to say that all means are good, even the most despicable).

- **Il passera de l'eau sous les ponts.**

(Used to say that there will be a long time before an expected event occurs and things will have changed in the meantime).

- **Avoir les yeux plus gros que le ventre.**

(Used when you want more food than you can eat).

- **Les chiens ne font pas des chats.**

(Used to say that children look like their parents).

- **Tout ce qui brille n'est pas d'or.**

(Used to say to be wary of appearances).

- **Ne remets pas au lendemain ce que tu peux faire le jour même.**

(Used to say to do things as soon as you can and not say that you will do it later at the risk of not doing it).

- **Trouver chaussure à son pied.**

(Used to say that we have found what we need or that we have found the man or woman who is made for us).

- **On récolte ce que l'on sème.**

(Used to say that when we do something wrong, there will always be consequences).

- **Ne jamais dire jamais.**

(We must not swear that we will never need someone or something or that we will never do something because we don't know the future).



- **On ne peut pas avoir le beurre et l'argent du beurre.**
(Used to say that we cannot want just the benefits of a situation).
- **Ça se voit comme le nez au milieu de la figure.**
(Used to say something is obvious, you can't hide it).
- **Il vaut mieux être seul que mal accompagné.**
(Used to say that the company of some people can be more unhealthy or unpleasant than loneliness).
- **L'union fait la force.**
(Used to say that we are stronger together).
- **On n'est jamais trahi que par les siens.**
(Used to say we should be more suspicious of our loved ones than anyone else).
- **C'est l'hôpital qui se moque de la charité.**
(Used when a person says something about another person (usually a default or mockery) when their defaults are similar or worse).
- **On n'est jamais si bien servi que par soi-même.**
(Used to say that when you want something you should not rely on others because you might not be satisfied with the result).
- **Qui aime bien châtie bien.**
(Used when making fun of someone).
- **L'erreur est humaine.**
(Used to say that it can happen to anyone to make a mistake).



- **Rira bien qui rira le dernier.**

(Used by someone who is being teased and intends to take revenge later).

- **L'argent ne fait pas le bonheur.**

(Is used to say that it is not because one is rich that he is necessarily happy).

- **Qui va à la chasse perd sa place.**

(Used to say that someone who is absent is being replaced by another (often used by children, when they steal their place in the canteen, for example)).

- **La vengeance est un plat qui se mange froid.**

(Used to say that when we get revenge, we do not act out of anger but we wait and think about how to get revenge).

- **Le malheur des uns fait le bonheur des autres.**

(Used to say that when something bad happens to one person, another will benefit from it).

- **Avoir la gueule de bois.**

(Used to say that one is sick after having drunk too much).

- **Après la pluie vient le beau temps.**

(Used to say that after misfortune comes happiness).

- **Après l'effort, le réconfort.**

(Used to appreciate the rest that comes after an effort).

