

Yes or No?

When responding to a question asking for a “yes” or “no” in French, it is important to remember the terms.

English	French
Yes	Oui
No	Non

For example here’s an example question and response:

“Tu es américain?” <small>Are you American?</small>	“Oui, je suis américain.” <small>Yes, I am American.</small>
“Tu es canadienne?” <small>Are you Canadian?</small>	“Non, je ne suis pas canadienne.” <small>No, I am not Canadian.</small>

As you can see, the structure resembles that of English with the “yes” and/or “no” being the first word in the response.

A common slang response for “yes” in French is “ouais” which is just a slightly altered spelling of “oui.” Both can be used in any situation, both formal and informal.