

The Dico - Dictionary of French apocopes, 2020 edition

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Introduction

Why a dictionary about apocopes?

« The Dico » is a dictionary for those who learned French as a foreign language. It's about the words untaught at school, that are used basically every day, if not all the time. It is used in every social dimension of society: at school, in the bakery, at work – whether you are working in a pharma company, a consulting firm, or if you are a teacher. An apocope is a word with its last syllables truncated. It's when Métropolitain becomes Métro. Do you follow?

Everyday life includes apocopes, but yet, when a new one emerges, some popular idioms make us forget the original term, this happens too. As language evolves - because that's its purpose - « The Dico » will guide you through your knowledge of those terms. It's a handy guide to learn real French idioms and make your way in the practice.

Let's start from the very beginning: Quizz!

Let's start with a little quizz. Guess the apocopes used here, and their initial terminology.

« We are having an apéro at Capu's place tonight. Exit the métro at Répu, turn right after Monop and walk straight to McDo. With the Manif, it's not sure you can be on time, but that's OK as it'll be a cozy evening on the Canap... Perso, I will be late as I first need to stop at my osthéo, but as I'll be late, please get us a cubi. »

Have you found more than 3? 5? 10? Here is the original meaning:

« We are having an aperitive at Capucine's place tonight. Exit the metropolitan at République square, turn right after Monoprix and walk straight to McDonald's. With the demonstrations, it's not sure you can be on time, but that's OK as it'll be a cozy evening on the sofa... On my end, I will be late as I first need to stop at my osteopath, but as I'll be late, please get us some wine in a box. »

If you learned French as a foreign language, if you plan to have a casual conversation, or a simple reading of a press article: Be aware, you will face such colloquial expressions; therefore, this dictionary will help you understand the meaning and the original meaning of the expressions.

« **The Dico** », is an apocope itself for « Le dictionnaire » (The dictionary, in English). It is the first dictionary of this category of words, providing to learners a list of apocopes in French language. This new edition of « The Dico » is enriched with even more entries, will help learners to familiarize with common terms, colloquial expressions, and will be a useful tool to survive in a dense French speaking environment, in every way.

That's not all!

« **The Dico** » is a referential of French apocopes, but also includes some popular apheresis and blends.

Simplified and truncated words

Several techniques and ways to simplify words exist:

- ☞ Apocopes,
- ☞ Apheresis,
- ☞ Blends,
- ☞ Initials,
- ☞ Acronyms,
- ☞ Abbreviations.

Apocopes

\ə'pɒkəpi\

A word losing its **last** syllables

Cinematograph = Cinema



Apocopes are used in a wide variety of situations, and by several categories of industries, experts, and ages. As the language is in a constant change, apocopes are mostly used, and in some areas, replaced by the original word. Who's saying cinematograph nowadays?

Apheresis

\ə'fɪəri:si:s\

A word losing its **first** syllables

Internet = Net



Blends, or portmanteau

\blendz\, \pɔ:t'mæntəʊ\

Two words **merging** into a new one

Smoke + Fog = Smog

FRANÇAIS + ANGLAIS
→ FRANGLAIS

Words can also be simplified, with the following principles:

Initials

\ɪˈnɪʃəlz\

An expression resumed by the **word's first letters**

CNN, FBI...

**WALL
STREET
JOURNAL**
→ **WSJ**

Acronym

\ækronɪm\

An expression resumed by the first letters of the words, **pronounced as a word**

Aids, Laser...

**LIGHT AMPLIFICATION
BY STIMULATED
EMISSION OF RADIATION**
→ **LASER**

Abbreviation

\əˌbrɪːvɪˈeɪʃən\

A **graphical simplification** of a word

Mr, Mrs...

MISTER
→ **MR**

How to use « The Dico »?

For each word, you will find:

The apocope, and its different spellings

Diff'

The international phonetic alphabet

\difʌ

The word role, genre and plural spelling

Noun, feminine; Plural: Diffs

The original French word

Diffusion

A French example

Elle s'occupe de la diff.

The English translation

Broadcast

An English translated example

She is in charge of the broadcast.

A-Z Entries

A

À plus, a +

\a_plysl

Expression

À plus tard

Je file au travail, à plus !

See you later

I'm going to work, see you later!

À tout, à toute, à tout'

\a_tutl

Expression

À tout à l'heure, à tout de suite

Je file, à tout' !

Be right back

I'm going; I'll be right back!

Abdo

\ab.do\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Abdos;

Abdominaux

Demain je ferai 50 abdos au réveil.

Abs

I will do 50 abs when I wake up.

Abo

1

\a.bo\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Abos;

Abonnement

J'ai pris un abo à la gym.

Subscription

I subscribed to gymnastics.

2

\a.bo\

Noun; Plural: Abos;

Aborigène

Les abos ouvrent leurs terres aux touristes.

Aboriginal

Aboriginals are opening their territories to tourists.

Abrév, abrev, abrev'

\a.bʁe.v\

Noun, feminine; Plural: Abrévs;

Abréviation

LOL... c'est quoi cette abrev ?

Abbreviation

LOL... what's this abbreviation for?

Acc

See also... D'acc

Accro

\a.kʁo\

Noun; Plural: Accros;

Accroché

Elle est accro à son iPhone.

Hooked, addicted

She's addicted to her iPhone.

Accu

\aky\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Accus;

Accumulateur

Il me faut un nouvel accu pour mon scooter.

Battery, car battery

I need a new battery for my moped.

Actu

\ak.ty\

Noun, feminine; Plural: Actus;

Actualités

Tu as vu les actus en Chine ?

News

Did you see the news in China?

Admin

\ad.min\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Admins;

Administrateur

L'admin du groupe, c'est Chantal.

Administrator

The group administrator is Chantal.

Ado

\a.do

Noun, masculine; Plural: Ados;

Adolescent

Nick est clairement un ado, il a quatorze ans.

Teenager, adolescent

Nick is clearly a teen, he's fourteen!

Aéro

\a.e.ʁo

Adjective; Plural: Aéros;

Aérodynamique

L'avion a une forte résistance aéro.

Aerodynamic

The plane got a solid aerodynamic resistance.

Agglo

\a.glo

Noun, feminine; Plural: Agglos;

Agglomération

Los Angeles n'est qu'une immense agglo.

Agglomeration, conglomeration

Los Angeles is just a giant agglomeration.

Agglo

\a.glo

Noun, masculine; Plural: Agglos;

Aggloméré

Ton meuble est en bois véritable ou en agglo ?

Wood, agglomerated

Is your furniture made of pure wood or of agglomerated materials?

Agrég, agreg', agreg.

\a.gʁɛg

Noun, feminine; Plural: Agrégs;

Agrégation

John a enfin eu son agrég.

Teaching certification

John finally got his teaching certification.

Agri

\a.gri\

Noun, feminine

Agriculture

L'agri bio c'est le futur !

Agriculture

Organic agriculture is the future!

Agro

\a.gro\

Noun

Agronomie

L'agro couvre l'économie de l'agriculture.

Agronomy

Agronomy covers agricultural economics.

Alcoolo, alcolo

\al.ko.lo\

Adjective; Plural: Alcoolos;

Alcoolique

Paulo est alcoolo depuis 2 ans.

Alcoholic

Paulo has been an alcoholic for 2 years.

Alex

\a.lɛks\

First name

Alexandra, Alexandre

Algo

\al.go\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Aglos;

Algorithme

Je cherche un dev pour améliorer mon algo.

Algorithm

I'm looking for a developer to enhance my algorithm.

Alicament

\a.li.ka.mã\

Blends; Noun: masculine; Plural: Alicaments;

Aliment + médicament

Lydie te déconseille d'aller à l'hosto, elle peut te soigner avec ses alicaments.

Healthy organic food

Lydie is kindly advising you not to go to the hospital, she can treat you with healthy organic food.

Alim

\a.lim\

Noun, feminine; Plural: Alims;

Alimentation, alimentation électrique

Je file faire les courses alim au Monop'.

Supplies, food

I'm running to the grocery store to get some supplies.

Allergo

\a.lɛʁ.go\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Allergos;

Allergologue

Je vais chez l'allergo, je fais une réac aux champis.

Allergist

I'm going to the allergist, I think I am badly reacting to mushrooms.

Alu

\a.ly\

Noun, masculine

Aluminium

Zut, je n'ai plus de papier alu !

Aluminum

Damn! I am running out of foil paper

Amphé

\ã.fe\

Noun, feminine; Plural: Amphés;

Amphétamine

Jacqueline est sous amphés.

Amphetamine

Jacqueline is under amphetamines.

Amphète

\ã.fɛt\

Noun, feminine; Plural: Amphètes;

Amphétamine

L'amphète ne t'aidera pas à dormir.

Amphetamine

Amphetamines won't help you to sleep.

Amphi

\ɑ̃.fi\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Amphis;

Amphithéâtre

Je file en amphi pour mon cours de philo.

Amphitheater

I'm running to this amphitheater for the philosophy class.

Ampli

\ɑ̃.pli\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Amplis;

Amplificateur

Qui a débranché l'ampli du synthé ?

Amplifier, booster

Who unplugged the amplifier from the synthesizer?

Anar

\ɑ̃.naʁ\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Anars;

Anarchiste

Nat, c'est clair, elle est anar.

Anarchist

Nat is for sure an anarchist.

Anglo

\ɑ̃.glo\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Anglos;

Anglophone

C'est un dico anglo-français.

English, English speaker

It's an English French dictionary.

Anim, anim'

1

\ɑ̃.nim\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Anims;

Animateur

Paul fera l'anim de la soirée.

Animator, quizmaster

Paul will be the evening animator.

2

\ɑ̃.nim\

Noun, feminine; Plural: Anims;

Animation

Walter a débuté avec les anims.

Animation

Walter started with animation.

Anniv, annif

\a.niv

Noun, masculine; Plural: Annivs;

Anniversaire

Tu viendras à l'anniv de Véro samedi ?

Birthday

Will you come to Veronique's birthday on Saturday?

Anti-antifa

\ã.ti_ã.ti.fa

Noun, masculine; Plural: Anti-antifas;

Anti-antifachiste

Joël est anti-antifa, c'est un vrai réac.

Anti-antifascist

Joel is an an-antifascist, he is reactionary.

Antibio

\ã.ti.fa

Noun, masculine; Plural: Antibios;

Antibiotiques

Ne jamais arrêter les antibiotios avant la fin du traitement.

Antibiotics

Never stop taking antibiotics before the end of treatment.

Antifa

\ã.ti.fa

Noun, masculine; Plural: Antifas;

Antifachiste

Manu sera à la manif des antifas demain soir à Répu.

Antifascist

Manu will be at the antifascist demonstration tomorrow night at Republic square.

Antigaspi

\ã.ti_gas.pì

Noun, masculine; Plural: Antigaspis;

Antigaspillage

Judith est antigaspi, elle recycle tout.

To be against waste, zero/no waste

Judith is against waste, she recycles everything.

Antivax, antivacs

\ã.ti.vak.s\

Noun, masculine;

Anti-vaccin

Léo s'engueule avec tous les antivax qu'il croise...

Anti-vaccine

Léo is angry at all the anti-vaccines people he meets...

Apéro, apéro

\a.pe.ʁo\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Apéros;

Apéritif

J'apporte quoi pour l'apéro ?

Aperitif

What should I bring for the aperitif?

App

1

\ap\

Noun, feminine; Plural: Apps;

Application

J'ai 200 apps sur mon tél.

App, application, software

I've got 200 apps on my phone.

See also... Appli

2

See also... Bon app

Appart, appart'

\a.paʁt\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Apparts;

Appartement

Rechercher un appart pas cher, quelle galère !

Apartment

Looking for a cheap apartment, what a pain!

Appli

\a.pli\

Noun, feminine; Plural: Applis;

Application

Mon phone ne met plus à jour les applis.

App, application, software

My phone isn't updating any apps lately.

Appro

1

\a.pʁo\

Noun, feminine; Plural: Appros;

Approximation

J'ai eu une appro des ventes et c'est pas joli-joli.

Estimation

I had an estimation of the sales and it does not look pretty.

2

\a.pʁo\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Appros;

Approvisionnement

Il est où mon appro en vin de la semaine ?

Supply, supply chain

Where is my supply of wine this week?

Aprèm, après-midi, aprem'

\a.pʁɛm\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Aprems;

Après-midi

Je suis libre cet après-midi.

Afternoon

I'm free this afternoon.

Arbo

\ar.bo\

Noun, feminine; Plural: Arbos;

Arborescence

Elle ne pige pas l'arbo du site, tu lui montres ?

Branch, tree

She doesn't get the website's tree structure; can you explain it to her?

Archéo

1

\aʁ.ke.o\

Noun; Plural: Archéos;

Archéologie

L'archéo est une science d'avenir.

Archaeology

Archaeology is a science of the future.

2

\aʁ.ke.o\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Archéos;

Archéologue

L'archéo qui l'a découvert est mort.

Archaeologist

The archaeology who discovered it is dead.

Archi

1

\aʁ.fil\

Noun; Plural: Archis;

Architecture

L'archi de Notre Dame est gothique.

Architecture

The architecture of Notre Dame is gothic.

2

\aʁ.fil\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Archis;

Architecte

Elle est l'archi derrière ce projet.

Architect

She's the architect behind this project.

Argu

\aʁ.gy\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Argus;

Argumentaire

L'argu de ce type est absurde.

Rationale

This guy's rationale is absurd.

Art déco, art-déco

\aʁ_de.ko\

Noun, masculine; Plural: Arts déco;

Arts décoratifs

Le musée des arts déco, tu connais ?

Decorative art

Don't you know the museum of decorative art?