French PLUS: 3 Pronunciations

A2–B1 | Listen, notice, and choose the correct sound.

Sound	When?	Example
/ply/	Negative or comparative before consonant	Je ne veux plus de thé.
/plys/	Positive “more” in a final/strong position	J’en veux plus.
/plyz/	Liaison before vowel or silent h	C’est plus intéressant.

Exercise 1 — Choose the pronunciation

Write A for /ply/, B for /plys/, or C for /plyz/.

1. Je ne travaille plus le dimanche. _____

2. C’est plus agréable ici. _____

3. Il est plus rapide que moi. _____

4. J’en voudrais plus, s’il vous plaît. _____

5. Deux plus trois font cinq. _____

6. Elle n’est plus ici. _____ (liaison in careful speech)

Exercise 2 — Meaning matters

Translate into English. Notice how the sound of PLUS changes the meaning.

A. J’en veux plus. /plys/ → _____

B. J’en veux plus. /ply/ → _____

C. Elle est plus grande. → _____

Exercise 3 — Produce your own examples

Write one sentence for each sound. Use everyday topics: books, school, transport, or food.

/ply/: _____

/plys/: _____

/plyz/: _____

Answer Key & Speaking Practice

Exercise 1 — Suggested answers

1. A — /ply/: negative ne…plus, no longer working on Sundays.

2. C — /plyz/: plus agréable, liaison before a vowel.

3. A — /ply/: plus rapide, comparative before consonant.

4. B — /plys/: asking for more.

5. B — /plys/: mathematical addition.

6. C — /plyz/ is possible in connected careful speech; some speakers may omit this liaison.

Exercise 2 — Suggested translations

A. I want more. B. I don’t want any more. (Informal French: ne omitted.) C. She is taller.

Exercise 3 — Possible sentences

/ply/: Je ne lis plus ce livre. — I no longer read this book.

/plys/: Je veux plus de temps. — I want more time.

/plyz/: Ce film est plus intéressant. — This film is more interesting.

A careful nuance

In negative sentences before a vowel, liaison may produce /plyz/: Elle n’est plus ici. Do not teach “negative = never /z/” as an absolute rule. Pronunciation varies with register and context.

Five-minute speaking routine

Minute 1: /ply/ — Je ne veux plus de thé.

Minute 2: /plys/ — J’en veux plus.

Minute 3: /plyz/ — C’est plus intéressant.

Minute 4: Contrast /ply/ and /plys/ in “J’en veux plus”.

Minute 5: Say three original sentences and record yourself.

Reference: Office québécois de la langue française, “Prononciation de plus”. The worksheet presents frequent patterns, not exception-free rules.