

A wide-angle photograph of the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France. The tower is the central focus, standing tall against a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The base of the tower is framed by a large, lush green lawn in the foreground. On either side of the lawn, there are rows of mature, leafy trees. The overall scene is bright and clear, suggesting a sunny day. The text "Why Study French?" is overlaid in the center of the image in a white, serif font with a thin black outline.

Why Study French?

Congratulations! You've discovered the beautiful world of French!





French Class!

- Studying French is a wonderful choice and lots of fun! But why learn French? Well, let's take a look....



French is a Global World Language!

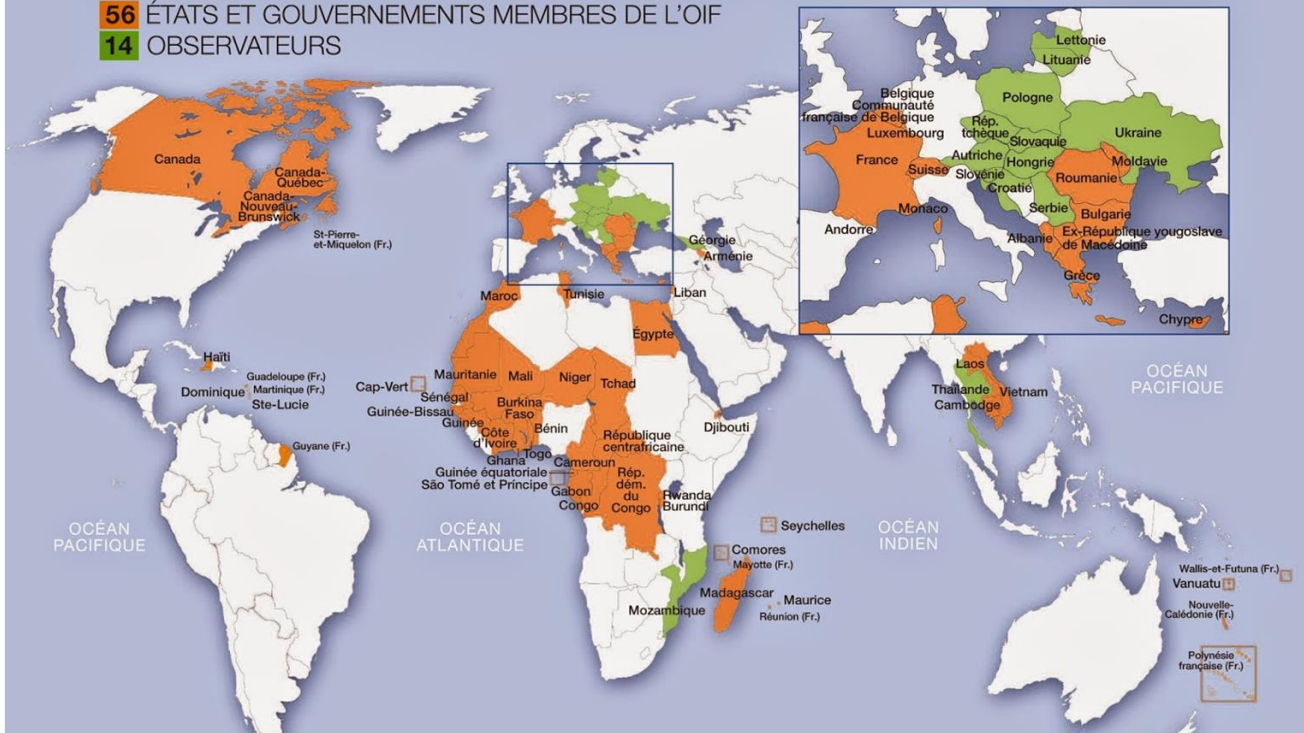
- French is 2nd in the world, after English, for the number of countries where it has official status – **32** countries! (English has 45.)
- French and English are the *only* languages spoken on *every* continent in the world as a first or second language.
- French is spoken by *over 200 million* people in the world!
- French is the *only* language, beside English, taught as a foreign language in *every* country.
- Between *6 and 11 million* Americans speak French.



French is a Global World Language! (cont.)

LE MONDE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE

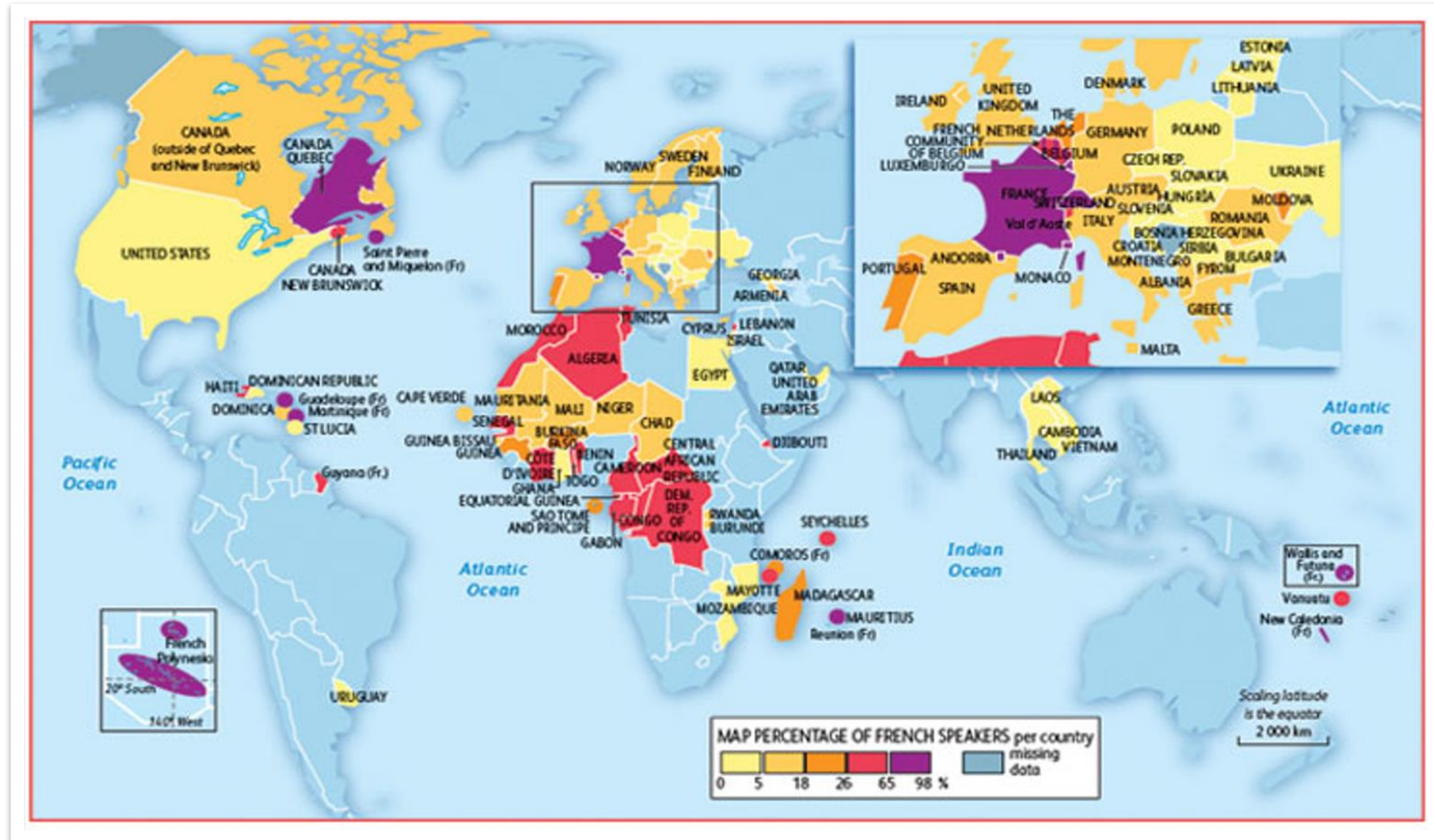
56 ÉTATS ET GOUVERNEMENTS MEMBRES DE L'OIF
14 OBSERVATEURS



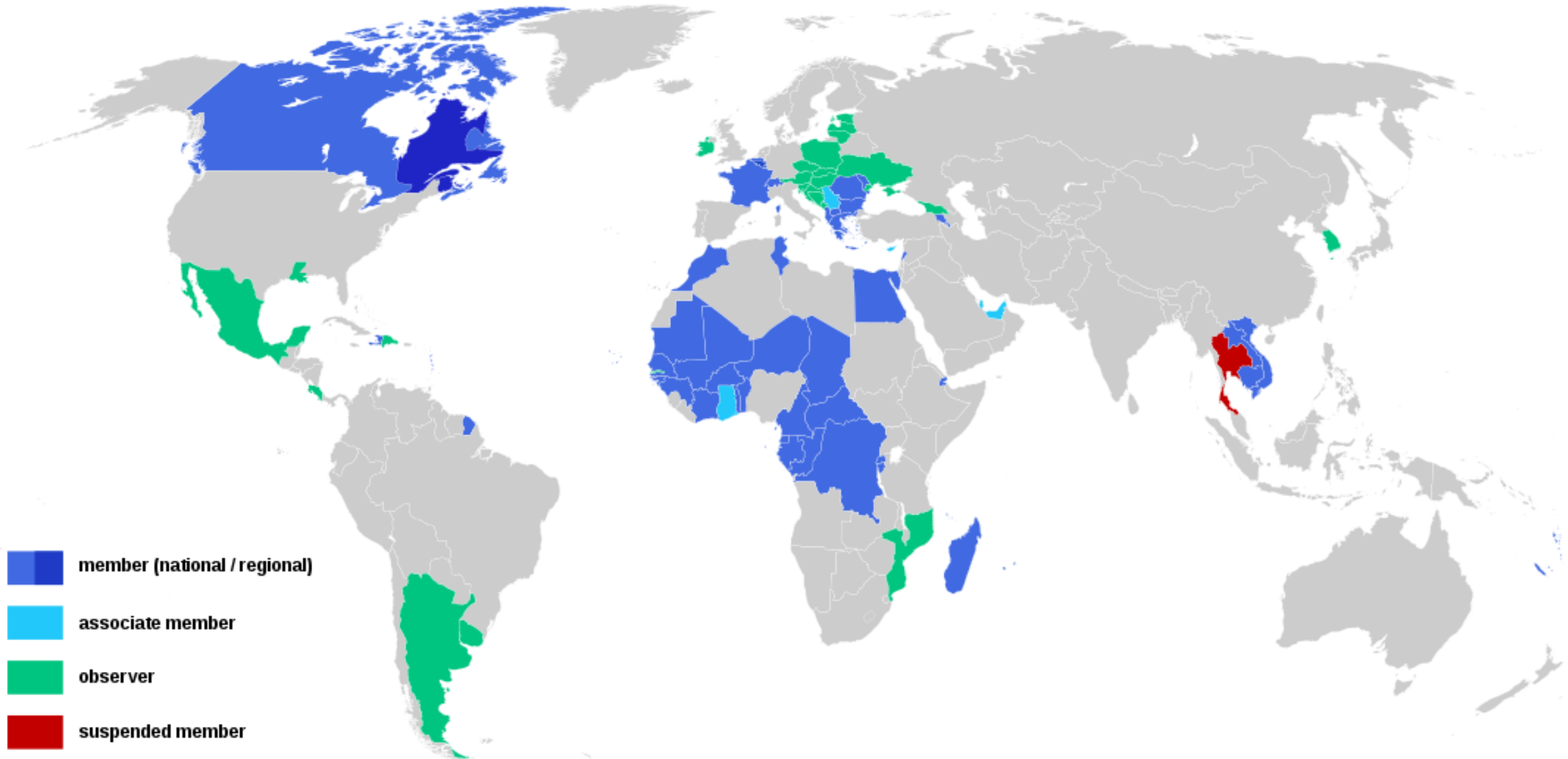
- More than 2 million people in the US speak French as their first language.
- French is the *most* used language on the internet after English!
- 56 countries participate in *La Francophonie*, speakers of the language and understanders of the culture and people.
- In the United States, French is the 2nd most taught second language after Spanish.



Percentage of Francophones in the World



La Francophonie (56 Countries)



A World of French Speakers!

Andorra

Belgium

Benin

Burkina Faso

Burundi

Cambodia

Canada

Central African
Republic

Chad

Comoros

Democratic Republic of
the Congo

Djibouti

Equatorial Guinea

France

French Antilles

French Guiana

French Polynesia

Gabon

Haiti

Ivory Coast

Laos

Lebanon

Luxembourg

Madagascar

Mali

Mauritania

Mauritius

Monaco

Morocco

New Caledonia

Niger

Republic of the Congo

Reunion

Rwanda

Senegal

Seychelles

Switzerland

Togo

Tunisia

Vanuatu

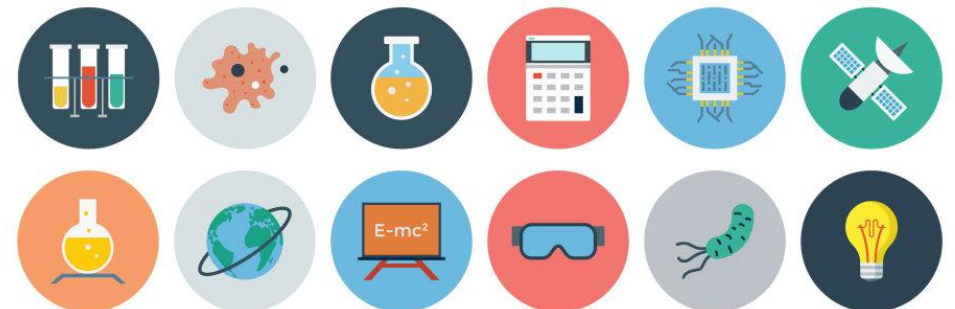
Vietnam



French is the top STEM language!



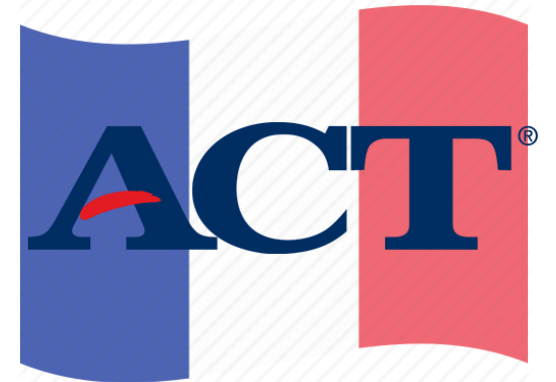
- French countries have been on the cutting edge of scientific discoveries, for example in nuclear energy and fiber optics.
- French countries have been responsible for technological innovations, for example in video gaming and voice compression
- Areva, of Paris, is the world's largest civil nuclear energy company.
- The world's leader in international engineering is SNC-Lavalin of Montréal.
- Toulouse and Montréal, with Seattle, are the world's leading cities in aerospace technology. Airbus Industries is based in Toulouse.
- French-speaking countries have been at the forefront of medical research in fields such as, HIV virus research, medical genetics (the Human Genome Project), and reconstructive surgery.



French Boosts Your Academic Skills



- French is the source of at least one out of three words used in English!!
- French provides the largest number of words in English (more than those which come directly from Latin).
- French has been proven to improve your standardized test scores with SAT, ACT, GRE, and LSAT.
- Knowing French greatly improves your English in many domains, e.g., legal, administrative, political, architectural, artistic, fashion, culinary, aeronautical, and engineering terms.



Learning French is Easy!



- Learning French requires the fewest instructional hours for an English-speaker to speak at a high level according to the US Defense Language Institute.
- French is a natural choice for Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese speakers because of common roots in Latin.
- French is the most closely related language to English in terms of vocabulary (You already know hundreds of French words!)
- **Did you know?:** *France ruled England for 400 years after the Normand invasion and changed the English language forever! (Windsor Castle is all in French!)*



Some French Words You Already Know!

à la carte
à la mode
à propos
adieu
adroit
aide-mémoire
actrice
Anglophone
apéritif
après ski
armoire
art nouveau
attaché
au contraire
au jus
au pair
au revoir
automobile
avant-garde
avenue
à votre santé
baccalauréat
bain-marie
ballet
baroque
barrette
bâton
beau
beaucoup
beaux-arts
beige
belle
belle époque
bête noire
bijou

billet doux
biscuit
bistro
bizarre
blanche
blonde
bon appétit
bonbon
bonjour
bon vivant
bon voyage
bouillon
boulevard
bouquet
bouquet garni
bourgeois
boutique
bric-à-brac
brochure
buffet
bureau
cache
cachet
café
café au lait
camaraderie
canapé
canard
capable
caprice
casserole
cassette
carte blanche
cent
cerise

C'est la vie.
chacun à son goût
chaise longue
champagne
charade
château
chef d'oeuvre
chic
clairvoyant
clef
coiffure
collage
comme ci, comme ça
commode
communiqué
conduit
concierge
conférence
connaisseur
contretemps
cordon bleu
costume
coup d'état
coup de grâce
coupe
courage
crème brûlée
crêpe de chine
crème de la crème
critique
croissant
croûtons
cuisine
cul-de-sac
débutante

découpage
déjà vu
de luxe
démarche
demi-tasse
dénouement
de rigueur
dernier cri
dessert
détail
dévoté
discothèque
double entendre
du jour
eau de toilette
éclair
élan
employée
encore
enfant terrible
en masse
ennui
en garde
en route
ensemble
entente
entre nous
entrée
entourage
étagère
étude
fait accompli
faux-pas
femme fatale
fiancé, fiancée

filet mignon
film noir
gamine
gauche
genre
garage
gourmet
grandeur
guillotine
haute couture
hommage
hors d'oeuvre
hôtel
idée fixe
in lieu of
jeu de mots
je ne sais quoi
joie de vivre
laisser-faire
loyal
maître d'hôtel
malaise
mardi gras
matinée
mayonnaise
ménage (à trois)
menu
merci
meringue
montage
morgue
mousse
muscle
n'est-ce pas?
née

nom de plume
nonpareil
nouveau riche
nouvelle cuisine
nuance
objet d'art
omelette
panache
papier mâché
passage
passe-partout
pastiche
pension
photo
petite
pièce de résistance
pied à terre
pirouette
plié
plus ça change
pot-pourri
praline
prêt-à-porter
prix fixe
protégé
purée
qui vive
quiche
raconteur
raisin
raison d'être
recherché
régime
renaissance
rendez-vous

restaurant
risqué
roman à clé (clef)
rouge
RSVP (Répondez, s'il vous plaît)
route
routine
royal
sabotage
salon
sans
savoir-faire
savoir-vivre
soigné
soirée
sommelier
soufflé
surface
sauté
souvenir
tableau
tact
tête à tête
touché
tour
tour de force
trompe l'oeil
vichyssoise
village
violet
vive la différence
vis à vis
Voilà !



French Increases your Options for College...

- French is pertinent to the study of a variety of college disciplines. (Especially in **STEM** fields such as chemistry, pharmacy, engineering, aerospace engineering, biology, computer science, and many more...)
 - **Did you know?:** *France is the top producer and exporter of nuclear energy and pharmaceuticals in Europe?*
- French is a popular choice for the college language requirement in many fields of graduate study (Especially those majoring in medicine, art, film, engineering, music, hospitality, and culinary arts).



INTRO
TO
PLANNING

GETTING IN TO COLLEGE



French Opens the Door to International Travel!



ministère
éducation
nationale



- French opens the door to studying abroad and research in French-speaking countries. (That's over 56 possibilities!)
 - **Did you know?:** *All Arizona state schools have Study Abroad opportunities with French speaking countries!*
- With French spoken by over 200 million people in 56 countries on every continent in the world, French is the key to international travel.





French is Good for your Career!



- French speakers are in demand in banking and finance, tourism, hotel management, diplomacy, and international trade.
- French speakers are needed in media, aviation, national security, health care, tourism, and law enforcement.
- Hospitality, tourism and retail is a major multi-billion dollar enterprise where French is a **MUST!**
 - **Did You Know?:** *France is the number one most visited country in the world, with 75 million tourists every year.*
- In AZ, companies are always looking for speakers who speak languages besides English and Spanish, even if you're not a fluent speaker!
 - **Did You Know?:** *In Toronto in 2016, French speakers earned at least \$5,000 or more on average.*



The Language of Sports and Film!

- French is the language of 50% of foreign films and 30% of foreign books read in the US.
- French and English are the *only* official languages of the Olympics.
- Then US has many baseball and hockey matches with Canadian teams.
- French is a major part of events like the Tour de France, the French Open, and 24 Heures du Mans.
- Francophones are known for their luxury cars and racing like the Formula 1 race and Monaco's Grand Prix
- One of the most prestigious film awards in the world is the *César* held in Cannes, France each year



French is the Language of the Stars!

HOLLYWOOD

- Johnny Depp
- Emma Watson
- Lady Gaga
- Mitt Romney
- Bradley Cooper
- Joaquin Noah
- Lance Armstrong
- Rudy Gobert
- Vigo Mortenson
- Tom Holland
- Timothée Chalamet
- Eva Green
- Daft Punk
- Gweneth Paltrow
- Jodie Foster
- Joseph Gordon-Levitt
- John Malcovich
- Diane Kruger
- Serena Williams
- Marlon Brando
- Avril Levine
- Sandra Oh
- Jaqueline Kennedy
- Lisa Kudrow
- Elton John
- John Travolta
- Mick Jagger
- Matt Damon
- Sigourney Weaver
- Queen Elizabeth II
- Phil Collins
- Hugh Grant
- Oliver Stone
- Leighton Meester
- Tom Hiddlestone
- and more.....



French is the Language of Love and Culture



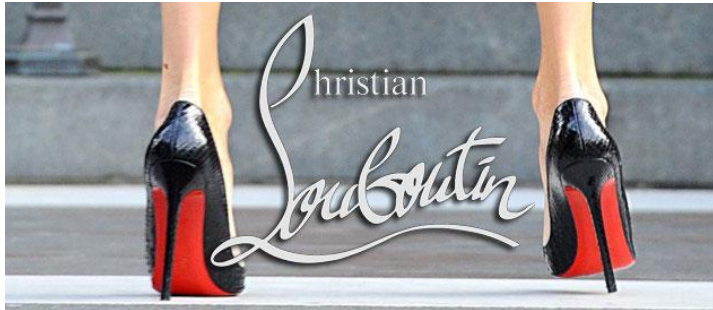
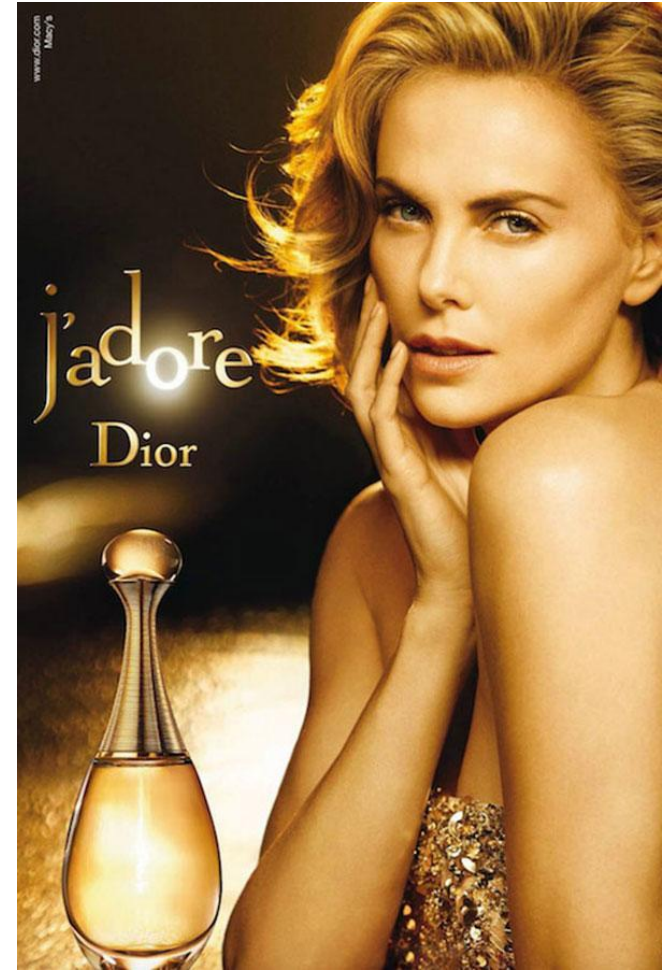
- Francophones have made a remarkable impact on fashion and beauty.
 - *Ex: Coco Chanel, Christian Dior, Lancôme, Louis Vuitton, Christian Louboutin, etc...*
- French speakers learn more firsthand about authors like Camus, Victor Hugo, Jules Verne and Alexandre Dumas (literature), Voltaire and Sartre (philosophy).
 - *Ex: Les Misérables, The Three Musketeers, The Man with the Iron Mask, The Count of Monte Cristo, Journey to the Center of Earth, etc...*
- French speakers can better enjoy comics, TV, and cartoons.
 - *Ex: The Smurfs, Tintin, Babar, Madeline, Asterix, Beauty and the Beast, Snow White, etc...*
- French speakers can better enjoy classical and modern music.
 - *Ex: Phoenix, Daft Punk, Simple Plan, Avril Levine, Céline Dion, Frédéric Chopin, Claude Debussy, etc...*
- French speakers can better enjoy Monet, Renoir, Van Gogh, Gauguin and Matisse (painting), Truffaut and Arcand (cinema), and many others.



French Fashion and Beauty

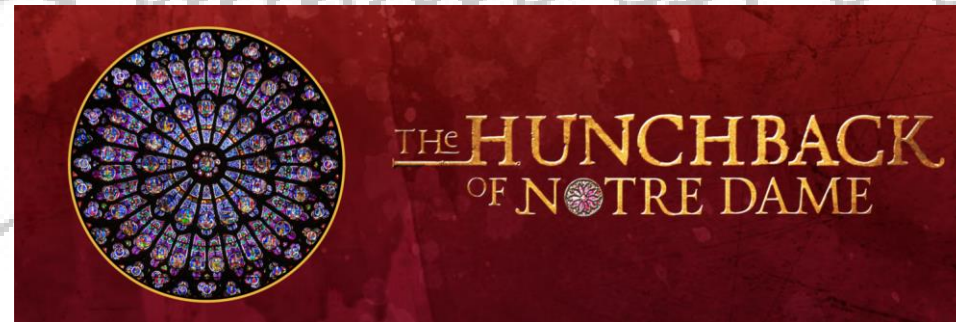
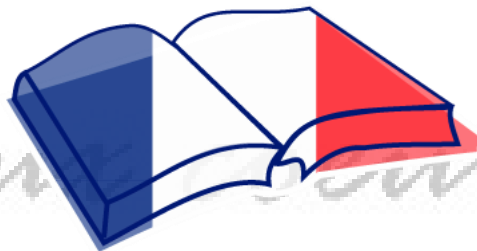
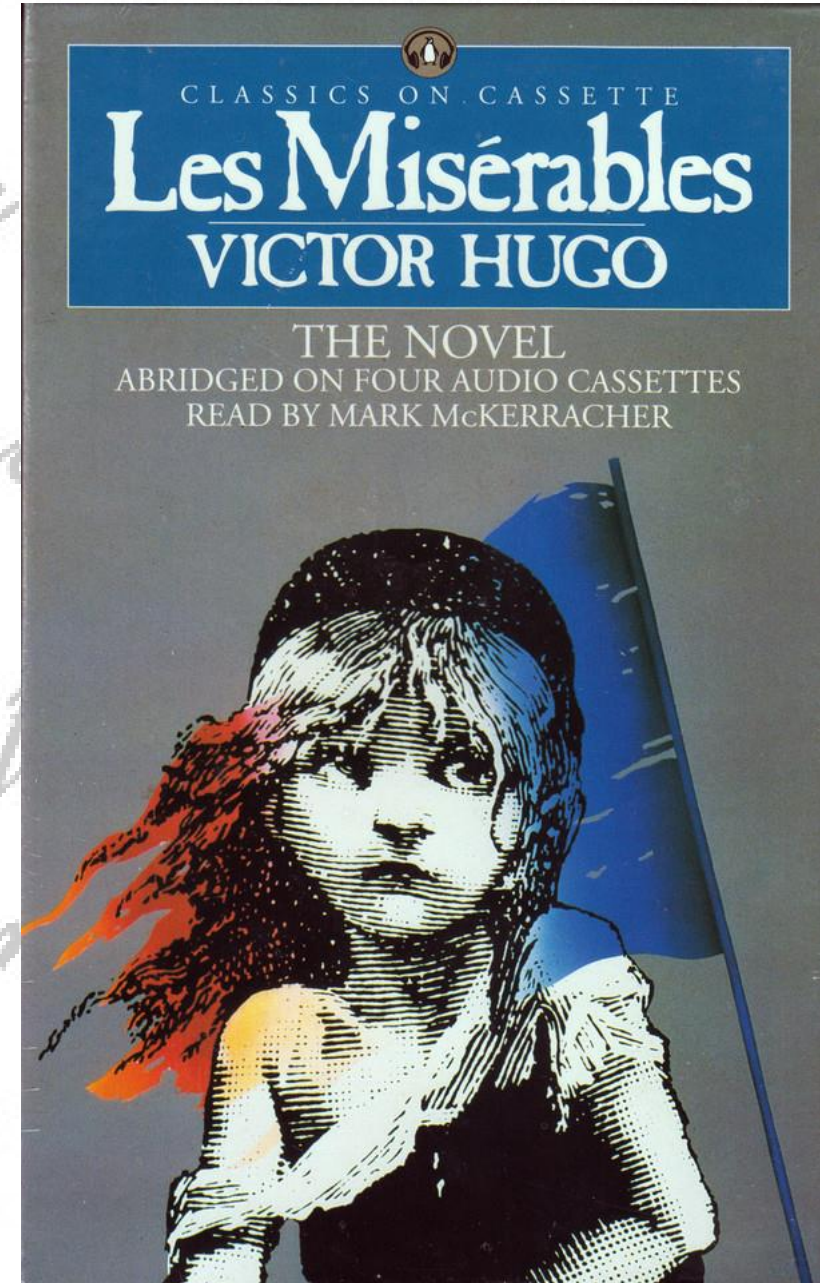
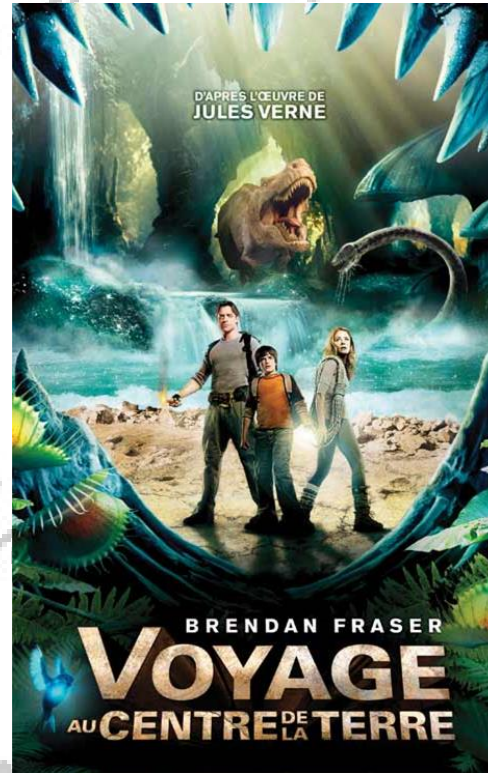
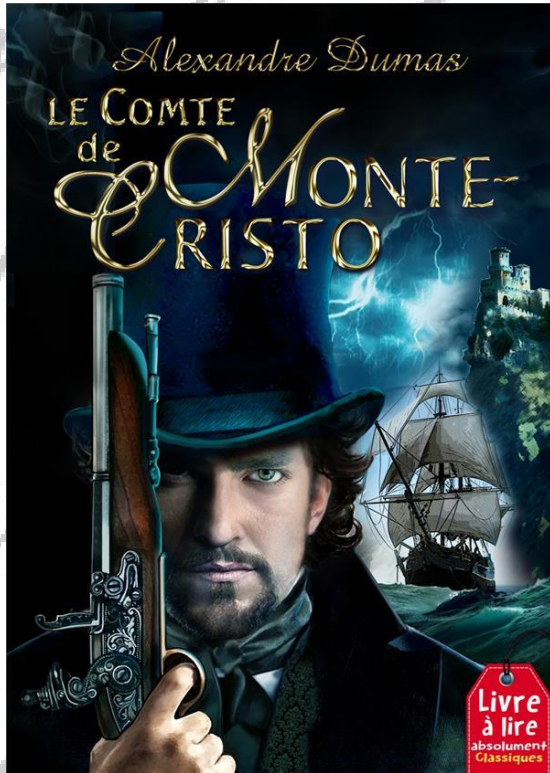


LOUIS VUITTON

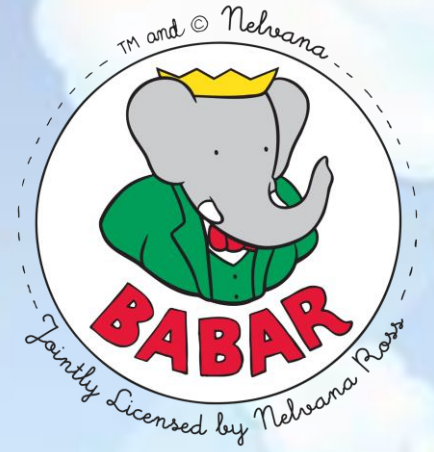


LA MODE

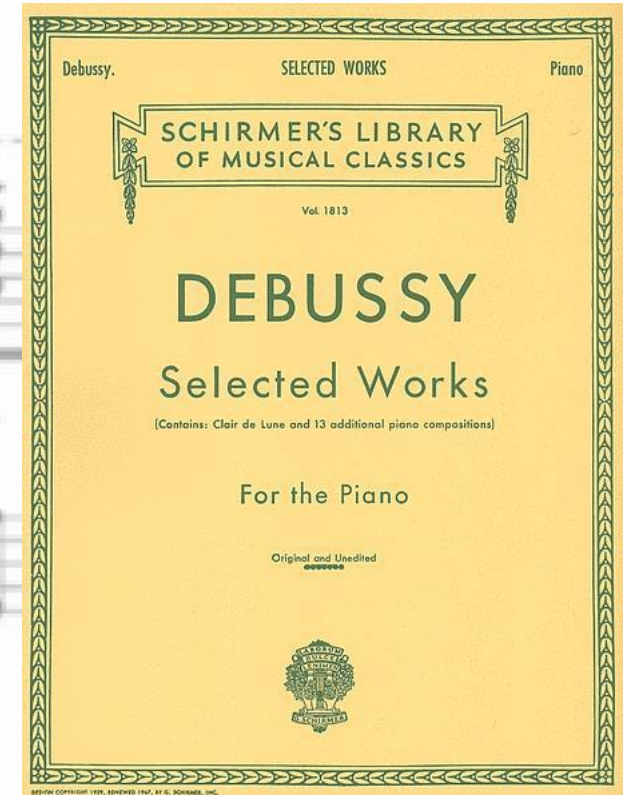
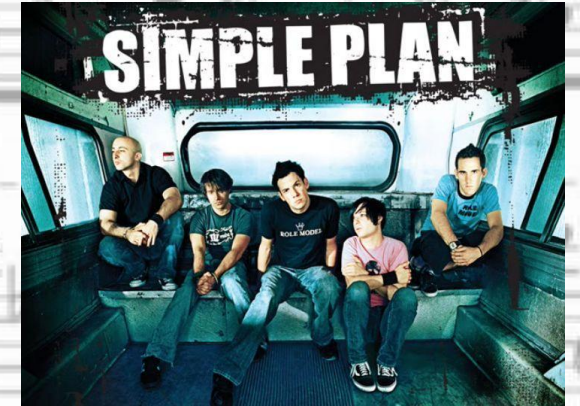
French Literature:



We Grew Up With French!



La Musique Française



French Cuisine!



French is the Language of Diplomacy.



World Health
Organization



MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES
DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS

- A person who knows French speaks the language and understands the culture of people in more than 56 countries.
- A person who knows French knows the official or working language in most important international agencies and organizations.
- A person who knows French can better work toward global consensus and peace and participate in humanitarian efforts.

African Union

Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie

Amnesty International

Council of Europe

Doctors without Borders

European Court of Justice

European Tribunal of First Instance

European Union

International Labor Bureau

International Olympic Committee

International Red Cross

Interpol

NATO

Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie

*Organization for Economic Cooperation and
Development*

Press Room at the European Commission

UNESCO

Union of International Associations

United Nations

Universal Postal Union

World Health Organization



Did You Know?



- Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of the Congo) is the world's second largest French speaking city, after Paris, and before Montreal and Brussels.
- The number of French speakers has **TRIPLED** since WWII largely since most former French and Belgian colonies kept French as their language of government, education and science after decolonization.
- Kourou, in French Guyana, is home to the launching pad of Ariane space rockets, the world's only commercially viable launcher program.
- The French Academy, created in 1635, was the first body ever to rule over a language.
- France has the 2nd largest aeronautics industry after the United States!
- English is closer to French, even though it is actually a Germanic language.
- 40%-50% of English words derive from French (*Thanks to William the Conqueror!*).



Bibliography

Barlow, Julie and Nadeau, Jean-Benoît. “40 Surprising Facts about French: From *The Story of French*,” *The French Language Initiative: The World Speaks French* (French Language Advocacy Kit). Carbondale, IL: American Association of Teachers of French, (CD), 2009.

Bullock, Barbara, “The Ease and Challenges for an English Speaker Learning French,” *French Language Advocacy Kit: The World Speaks French* (CD). Carbondale, IL: American Association of Teachers of French, 2009.

Centre de la Francophonie des Amériques. <http://www.francophoniedesamericues.com/>

The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center Catalog, Chapter 2, 2006-2007. <http://www.dliflc.edu/archive/documents/DLIFLCcatalog2006-07.pdf>

Eddy, P. A. *The effect of foreign language study in high school on verbal ability as measured by the scholastic aptitude test-verbal, final report*. U.S.; District of Columbia, from ERIC database, 1981.

France welcomes investment and talent. Paris: Invest in France Agency, Nov. 2008.

Francophonie. Lyon: Collection du Moutard, 2009.

“French Major,” The Princeton Review. <http://www.princetonreview.com/Majors.aspx?page=1&cip=160901>

“Top 10 Languages,” Internet World Stats: Usage and Population Statistics. <http://www.internetworldstats.com/stats7.htm>

Invest in France – March 2009 Report, http://www.invest-in-france.org/uploads/files-en/09-04-27_143056_090424_Rapport_annuel_UK_web.pdf

Nadeau, Jean-Benoît and Barlow, Julie. “Modern Quebec: Cutting Edge Culture in French,” *French Language Advocacy Kit: The World Speaks French* (CD). Carbondale, IL: American Association of Teachers of French: 2009.

Nadeau, Jean-Benoît. *Le Français : Autre Langue de mondialisation et où va le français*, Speech presented at the Alliance Française de Chicago, March 12, 2008.

Nadeau, Jean-Benoît and Barlow, Julie. *The Story of French*. New York: St. Martin’s Press, 2006.

Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie. <http://www.francophonie.org/oif/>

Shryock, Richard. “French: The Most Practical Foreign Language,” Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech), <http://www.fl.vt.edu/French/whyfrench.html> .

Taking action together: Francophonie 2006-2009, Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, Service de communication de la Francophonie, 2009.

Timpe, E. “The effect of foreign language study on ACT scores.” *ADFL Bulletin*, 11 (2), 10-11, 1979.

US Census. <http://www.census.gov/>

