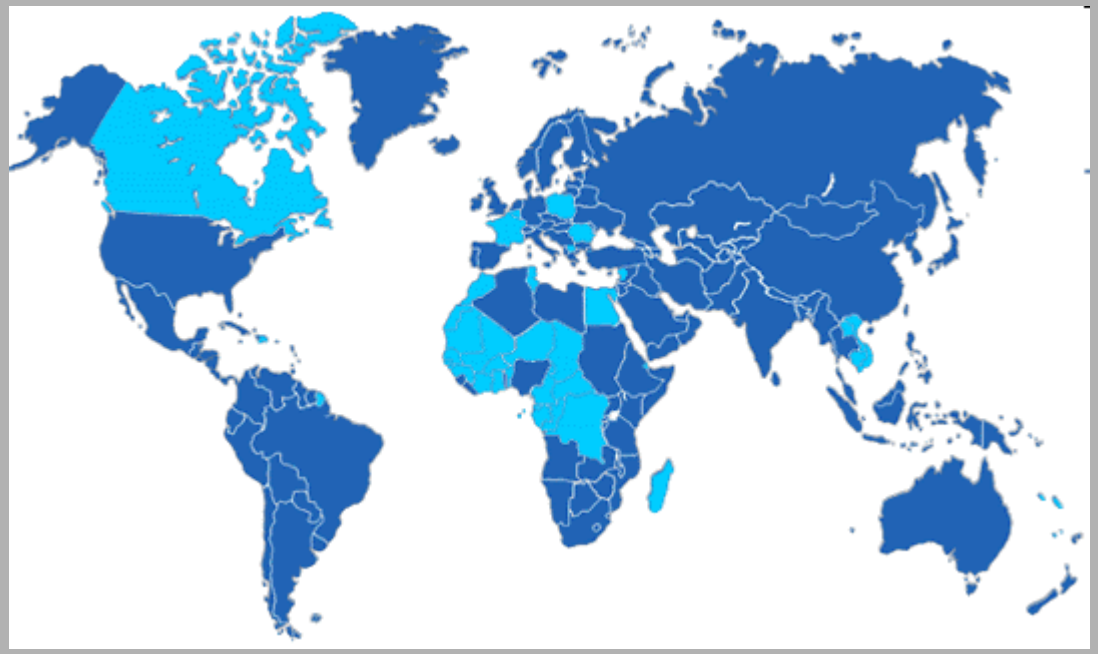
Why Learn French?

A Presentation of the Cultural Services of the French Consulate in Boston

Liberté • Égalité • Fraternité
RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

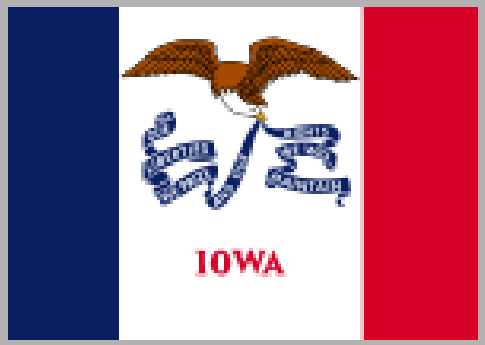
French is a global language

- 220 million people around the world speak French
- French is spoken in over 50 countries and on 5 continents
- It is the 3rd most frequently used language on the internet
- French is the most frequently taught foreign language after English, the only one to be taught in almost every country in the world

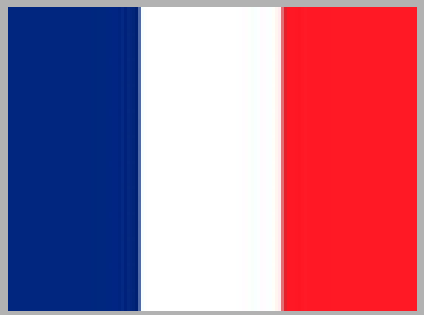


French is local too

- In the US, French is the second most commonly taught language after Spanish.
- French is the 3rd most frequently spoken non-English language in US households.
- French is an official language of Louisiana, and there are important francophone communities in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont.
- You already know about **15,000** French words (*abracadabra, destination, rendez-vous*) and expressions (*RSVP, c'est la vie, voilà*) since over **30%** of English vocabulary is borrowed from French.



Notice any similarities between the French flag and the Iowa state flag?



Our Canadian neighbors speak French

- The official Canadian languages are French and English.
- Six million people speak French in Québec.
- There are more than 9.2 million francophones in the entire country.

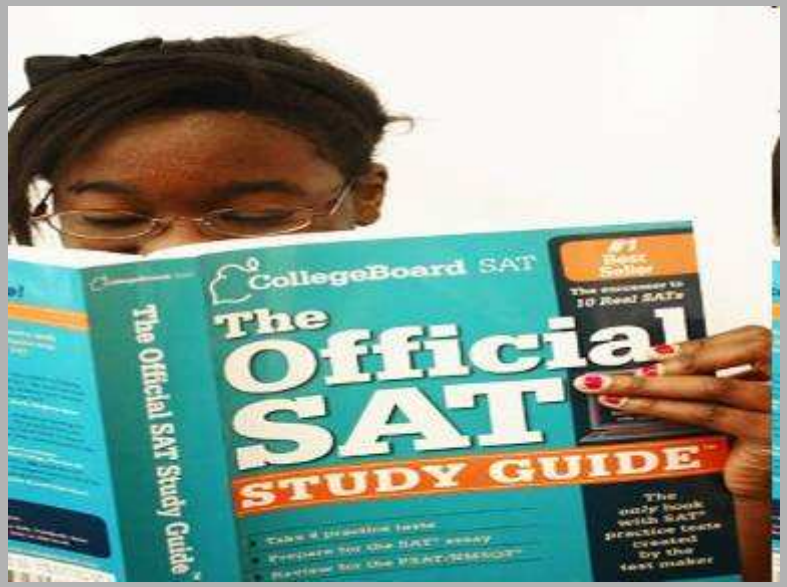
Study French and do better in school

★ Learning a foreign language will:

- Expand your world-view
- Increase your cultural awareness
- Improve your ability to hypothesize in science
- Increase creativity and flexibility in thinking
- Allow you to read original texts

★ French will also give you a head start in learning other Romance languages.

Stand out in college with French



- Knowing French gives you a clear advantage in the competitive admissions process: higher SAT, ACT, GRE, and LSAT scores

- Many French words are SAT words too: effervescent, supplication, palpable, fruition, misanthrope

- French in high school will satisfy university entrance or exit requirements.

- Double majoring in French adds value to your degree!

Grab your passport: French will take you places!

Choose from a range of francophone destinations

- Algeria
- Belgium
- Benin
- Burundi
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Central African Republic
- Comoros
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Djibouti
- France
- Gabon
- Guinea
- Haiti
- Ivory Coast
- Luxembourg
- Madagascar
- Mali
- Morocco
- Monaco
- Niger
- Republic of Congo
- Senegal
- Seychelles
- Switzerland
- Togo
- Tunisia
- Vanuatu…

Monaco

Senegal

Strasbourg

Belgium

Djibouti

Quebec

STUDY ABROAD

- Study and live in the heart of Europe
- Junior year abroad, graduate school and doctorate opportunities

- France has leading universities in business, political science, engineering, art, literature, science, cinema, and fine arts
- *Les grandes écoles*

OPEN YOUR MIND

Study Abroad Video

French enhances your career

Culinary Arts
& Winery

Military and
Security
Foreign services

Archeology and
Curatorial Studies

Oui, je parle français!

Banking

Tourism

Medicine

Art

International Organizations

NGOs

Oui, je parle français!

Technology

Luxury Goods & Beauty

Publishing

Speaking French is important for global business

- France is the crossroads of Europe, the world's largest consumer market.
- The United States and France are major business partners.
- The primary consumer of U.S. exports, Canada, is French speaking.
- Through partnerships such as NAFTA, companies need French-speaking employees.

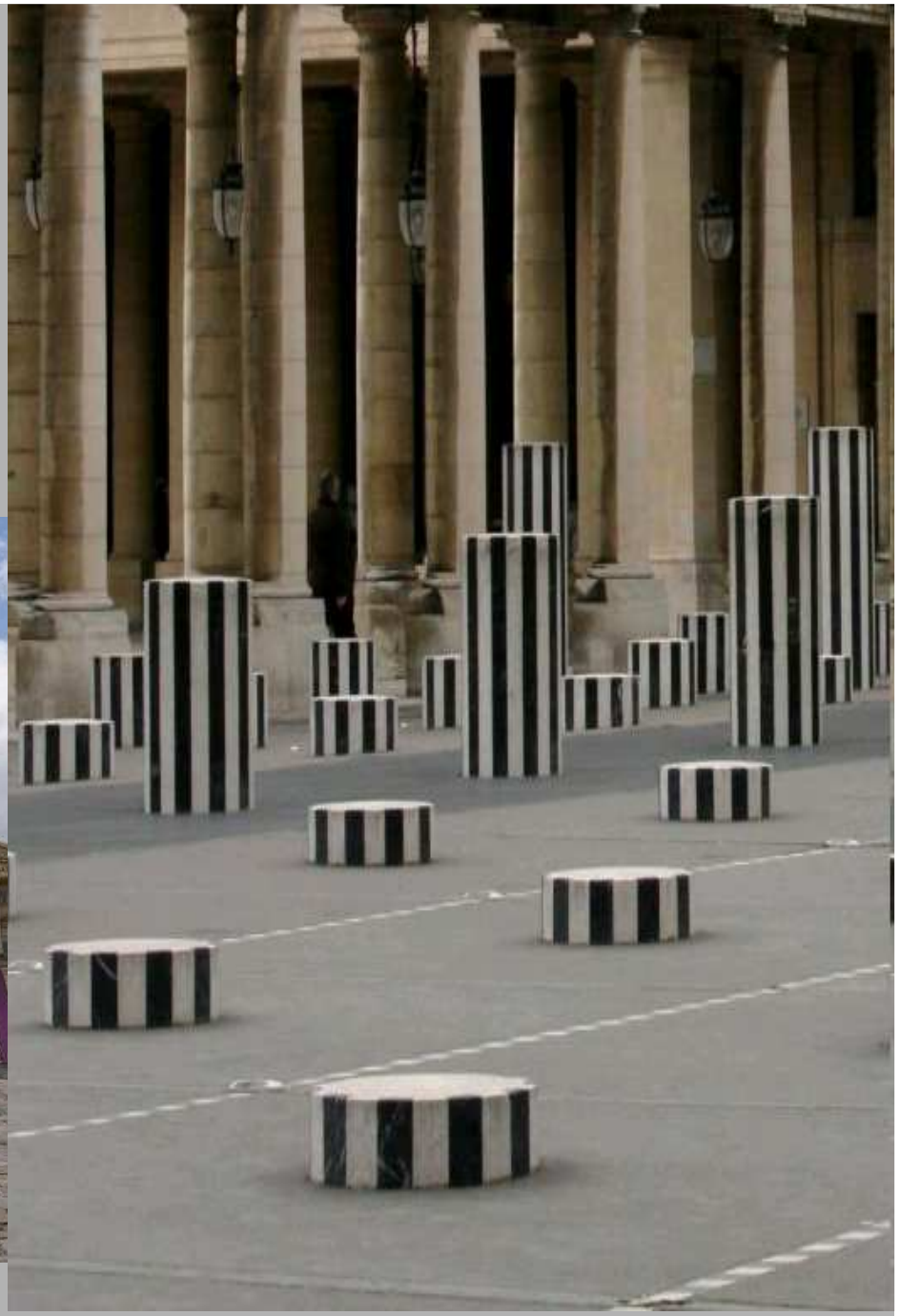
Prominent American Companies who do business in France…

…and French companies you know in the US

Discover the Diversity of French Culture

Old and New together

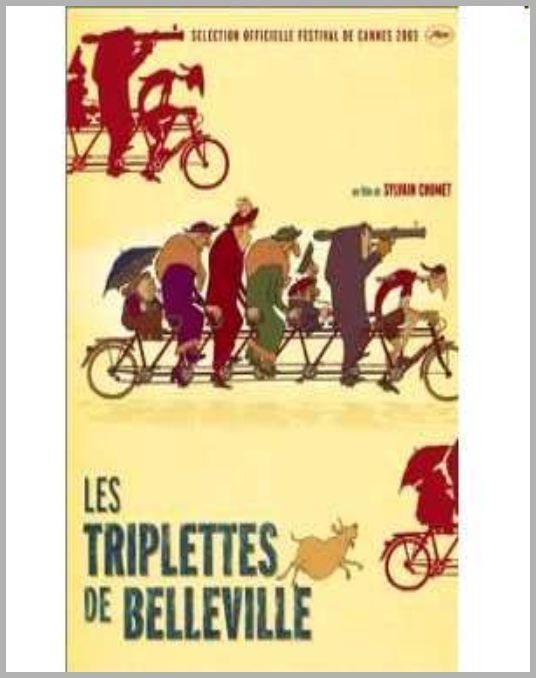
Coach, Xavier Veilhan at Versailles



Buren at Palais Royal

Cinema

AUDREY TAUTOU
MATHIEU KASSOVITZ
Le Fabuleux Destin d'Amélie Poulain
Un film de JEAN-PIERRE JEUNET


SÉLECTION OFFICIELLE FESTIVAL DE CANNES 2003
un film de SYLVAIN CHOMET
LES TRIPLETTES DE BELLEVILLE

THIERRY LHERMITTE
JACQUES VILLERET
le dîner de cons
FRANCIS VEBER
ALAIN POIRÉ

Steve Carell
Paul Rudd
Dinner for Schmucks
This July

Famous Sporting Events:

24 Hours of Le Mans, Monte Carlo, Longchamp Race, French Tennis Open, Tour de France

Bon voyage! Learn French for personal enjoyment

- Over 20 exotic islands in the Caribbean, the South Pacific, the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea speak French

- France is the world's #1 tourist destination

- Discover the heritage, cuisine, museums and fashion of Paris, the City of Lights!

Merci!

Would you like to learn more?

Contact us:

education@consulfrance-boston.org

31 Saint James Avenue, Park Square Building
-Suite 750-
Boston, MA 02116
(617) 832 4460

www.consulfrance-boston.org