

## **Advanced Placement French** **Required Summer Reading/Assignments (p. 1 of 8)**

### **Rationale for Summer Assignments**

York County School Division students enrolled in Advanced Placement French are required to complete the summer assignment prior to the start of class in September. The assignments integrate the use of technology while maintaining the integrity of language acquisition through real-life experiences. Summer assignments have been selected to continue the development of more advanced communication skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. These areas tested on the **AP French Language Exam**.

### **General Directions**

Read the assignment descriptions carefully. Each assignment has two required activities. You may use dictionaries, grammar books, etc. Local libraries and community centers are excellent resources. The **Success on the AP French Exam** guide may also help as you complete your summer assignments. You may enjoy watching videos or television programs with other students and discussing the activities and your opinions. If so, be sure that your work is still yours, not the other students'.

### **Required Summer Assignments**

1. **Speaking**- For "***Parler en français***" you will to **read the attached assignment** and record yourself speaking. You may use an audio tape, CD, or MP3 file to turn in your assignment. Be certain to maintain a backup copy of your work because you are responsible for any electronic submissions.
2. **Listening and Writing**- For "***Écouter et écrire en français***" you will need to **read the attached assignment** and watch and listen to a French movie. Summarize the content by responding to the prompt. This assignment reinforces advance listening and writing skills.
3. **Writing/grammar**- For "***Écrire en français***" you will need to **read the attached assignment** and write to reinforce advance grammar structures in the target language. Respond to the prompt provided in a well-developed handwritten composition with an introduction, body, and closing, noting examples and personal experiences.
4. **Reading**- For "***Lire en français***" you will need to have access the Internet. Visit <http://www.onlinenewspapers.com/france.htm> or <http://www.ipl.org/div/news/browse/FR/>. **Read the attached assignment** and choose a newspaper published in French. After reading the article and write a summary. Submit your assignment with the title and webpage.

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### ***Success on the AP French Exam***

The AP French Language Exam is a 3-hour exam testing your abilities and proficiency in French. You are “on stage” in French for 3 hours integrating all four of your skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing. The exam assumes and demands critical, integrated expression in French. You must maintain your focus during these 3 hours. The AP French Exam IS REQUIRED for all students enrolled in the class.

In addition to the reading and writing on the AP French Language exam, you will be asked to orally answer two sets of questions based on pictures. For each set, you will have 1 minute and 30 seconds to look at the picture or pictures and to read and think about the questions. The questions are both recorded and written in your speaking insert. You will have 60 seconds to answer each question. One set of pictures is a comparison/contrast. You must show a *high level of analysis, synthesis and evaluation* in this presentation to receive a 4 or 5.

The AP French Language class is an intense, demanding course if you want a 3, 4 or 5 on the AP test. Our goal is for you to obtain a 3 or above on the exam. If you have questions, contact your AP French teacher at your school and visit the website at:

<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/about.html>.

Ready to step up to the challenge? ☺

If you are taking the AP French class, here are some recommendations for the summer and during the school year to help prepare you.

1. Everyday, pick up a French publication and read some of it. Some possible choices include People Magazine en Français, Reader's Digest en Français or other such publications. These are available at local book stores/magazine shops. Car magazines, fashion magazines, etc. are all fine. Just do some reading and come in contact with French publications. An excellent source with audio CD is Barron's How to Prepare for the AP Advanced Placement Exam French, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Edition, by Laila Amiry.
2. **You can also go on the Internet and read articles in French, such as on-line newspapers, magazines, etc. Many search engines are available in French. If you click on or type “video” at [www.Yahoo.com](http://www.Yahoo.com) or [www.Google.com](http://www.Google.com), you can find videos in French that will help with visual, audio and gestures in French.**
3. Have some daily contact with French programming on television or video. Videos and DVDs are excellent resources, too, for listening to French. While watching your favorite DVD this summer, select to hear or watch your DVD in the French language. Just watch the program and jot down some words or things you don't understand or want to learn, and then let the rest flow over you..... or..... Tape a show, then pick a 3-5 minute segment and keep rewinding it, working with it until you get most of what is going on. You might like working with music videos or commercials when you do this at first. Try to enjoy this, and work with a partner. You will be surprised at how much you know already!
4. The speakers on many of these videos speak much more quickly than on the AP French Exam. Don't become discouraged. The most important thing is maintaining your motivation, fine-tuning your listening skills, and maintaining your 90+ average next year en Français. If you are lucky enough to have TV5 cable from France, you will be especially inspired to watch TV in French.
5. Seek out opportunities to listen or communicate in French. Hampton Roads is a transient area and the military provides many opportunities to interact with people from around the world. There are community and cultural events that have activities.
6. Listen to French music. Visit local music shops or download songs from the internet. You

may even want to consider podcasts available in French. There are some designed to teach French as well as some for entertainment.

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## **AP French Language Exam Format**

<b>Section</b>	<b>Item Type</b>	<b>Number of Questions and % Weight of Final Score</b>		<b>Time</b>
<b>Section I</b>	<b>Multiple Choice</b>	<b>80 questions</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>85 min.</b>
Part A: Listening	Short and Long Dialogues and Narratives	30-35 questions	20%	30-35 min.
Part B: Reading	Reading Comprehension	35-40 questions	30%	50-60 min.
<b>Section II</b>	<b>Free Response</b>		<b>50%</b>	<b>Approx. 100 min.</b>
Part A: Writing	Paragraph Completion (With function Words)	10 questions (2.5%) 7 minutes	30%	Approx. 80 min.
	Paragraph Completion verbs in all tenses	10 questions (2.5%) 8 minutes		
	Formal Writing (Integrated Skills) Write a coherent composition in French.	1 prompt (20%) approx. 40 minutes		
Part B: <b>Speaking</b>	A. Formal Oral Presentation (Integrated Skills)  1. Describe a story about a series of pictures. 2. Describe a personal experience related to the pictures/story. 3. Write a personal opinion about the given topic.	1 prompt (10%): a series of 5 pictures; 1 minute each to respond to each of the three questions	30%	Approx. 15 min.
	B. Split screen pictures:	2 questions; 1 minute to respond	20%	

	compare/contrast the two pictures.	to each		
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Summer AP French Language Preparation Activity

***Parler en français*** (Speaking in French)

Trouvez trois images ou trois séries d'images qui montrent beaucoup d'activité. Examinez et prenez des notes des détails. Puis, enregistrez votre voix, faisant une histoire pour chaque image ou séries d'images. Vous ne pouvez pas parler plus d'une ou 2 minutes. N'arrêtez pas pendant l'enregistrement ! Rendez les images au professeur avec l'enregistrement.

Find a picture or a series of three pictures with many activities. Examine the picture(s) for specific details. Take notes. Then record yourself, creating a story for the picture or picture sequences. You may speak for 1 to 2 minutes only. Do not stop the tape recorder during the taping! Turn in the picture or picture series along with the recordings.

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Summer AP French Language Preparation Activity

***Écouter et écrire en français*** (Listening and writing in French)

Louez le film, "Jean de Florette." Regardez le film deux fois sans sous-titres. Puis, écrivez un paragraphe dans lequel vous faites un résumé d'une demie page du film, et puis donnez votre opinion personnelle avec des épreuves personnelles que vous avez eues dans votre vie

Rent the movie *Jean de Florette*. Watch it two times without English subtitles. Then write a ½-page synopsis of the movie adding some personal experiences you have had in your life that are similar to the circumstances in the film. Finally, give your personal reaction to the film.

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Summer AP French Language Preparation Activity

***Écrire en français (Writing in French)***

Un proverbe français dit: <<Les voyages forment la jeunesse.>> Selon vous, quel rôle est-ce que les voyages peuvent jouer dans le développement des jeunes de votre âge?

A French proverb says, "Traveling forms youth." According to you, what role can travel play in the formation of young people of your age. Respond to the prompt in a well-developed handwritten composition with an introduction, body, and closing, noting examples and personal experiences.

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Summer AP French Language Preparation Activity

***“Lire en français”* (Reading in French)**

Cherchez l'internet et trouvez un journal français et un article de votre choix. Lisez l'article et écrivez un résumé et aussi votre opinion personnelle de l'article. Imprimez l'article, et rendez-le au professeur avec le paragraphe.

Search the Internet, go to a French newspaper, and find an article of your choice. Read the article and write a summary giving your personal opinion of the article. Submit your assignment with the title and web site.

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**Resources**

***Grammar Practice***

An AP French student should be familiar with all tenses. It is a good idea to review grammar taught at earlier levels. Go to <http://www.classzone.com>. There are several levels and activities from which to choose. The following website may be helpful to practice grammar as well as vocabulary.

These sites are also good for general grammar practice.

[www.quia.com](http://www.quia.com)

<http://french.about.com/>

[www.apcentral.collegeboard.com](http://www.apcentral.collegeboard.com)

***Other Helpful Websites***

These are widely accessible. In some cases, they provide direct links to television, radio, and newspapers from many locations throughout the French-speaking world.

[www.Elle.fr](http://www.Elle.fr); [www.parismatch.com](http://www.parismatch.com)

[www.journalfrancaishttp://newspaper-world.com/language/French.asp](http://www.journalfrancaishttp://newspaper-world.com/language/French.asp)

[www.lemonde.fr](http://www.lemonde.fr)

[www.lefigaro.fr](http://www.lefigaro.fr)

<http://www.comfm.com/radio/>

[www.Franc-Amérique.com](http://www.Franc-Amérique.com)

[www.lepetitjournal.com](http://www.lepetitjournal.com)

[www.France24.fr](http://www.France24.fr)

These sites offer great support for writing in French. Rules for punctuation, capitalization, etc. are included here along with helpful vocabulary lists.

<http://www.nvcc.edu/home/lfranklin/lettres/>

<http://french.about.com/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/>