# THE ESSENTIAL LIST OF FRENCH WEBSITES to help students develop their skills

KEY: Suitable for B = Beginner / I = Intermediate / A = Advanced // W Highly Recommended

### LISTENING SITES

Use the news sites, audio clips, videos and songs below to help improve your listening skills. Most are free!

#### **AUDIO CLIPS / VIDEOS**

https://www.fun-mooc.fr/ - Modern, short videos on different topics B > A

https://francebienvenue1.wordpress.com/ - real interviews on various topics with transcripts I > A

http://francolab.ca/ - French-Canadian website to help in perfecting your French with videos and worksheets I > A https://education.francetv.fr/matiere/actualite - super colourful video clips on so many topics for all levels B > A

https://www.teachvid.com/resources - videos, clips, songs and pictures, sort by topic, level and subject B > A

https://www.theidealteacher.com/s=french+listening - 3-minute listening clips & transcripts with practice activities I

#### **VIDEOS / TV PROGRAMMES**

http://www.tv5monde.com/ - international French TV I > A

https://www.france.tv/ - international TV shows and films in French I > A

#### **NEWS SITES**

https://www.radiofrance.fr/ - French radio stations, choose your favourite from the menu at the top to listen live OR select a podcast from the archives | > A

 $\underline{\text{http://savoirs.rfi.fr/apprendre-enseigner}} - \bigcirc \text{audio clips with comprehension questions } \textbf{B} > \textbf{A}$ 

https://savoirs.rfi.fr/fr/apprendre-enseigner/langue-francaise/journal-en-fran%C3%A7ais-facile - 60 minute news clips with transcription I > A

http://www.litteratureaudio.net – over 6,000 FREE audio books on loads of different topics, you can listen online or download the file (tip, try the 'Top 10 Livres Audios' down the right hand side) | > A

https://www.newsinslowfrench.com/ - weekly French podcasts B > A

https://fr.yahoo.com - Yahoo's news in French, presented in a clear and modern manner I>A

#### **AUDIO BOOKS**

https://librivox.org - 600+ free downloadable audio books in French I>A

https://www.audiocite.net – loads of free books in auditory format, including poems, recipes, historical etc of different lengths to play online I > A

http://www.radiolivres.eu/radioboeken.php?lang=FR — French audio books read at a good speed by volunteers I > A https://archive.org/details/AuFilDesLectures — audio clips (famous novels and stories by French authors and translations of international novels and stories, as well as speeches) A

https://culture.tv5monde.com/ - audio books with videos and transcripts I>A

#### **PODCASTS**

http://www.dailyfrenchpod.com/ - podcasts on different topics with transcripts (£) B > A

http://onethinginafrenchday.podbean.com/ – a lady's life, sharing one thing in French per day SINCE 2009! There are podcasts mid-week and blog posts too. I > A

https://www.podcastfrancaisfacile.com - podcasts on different topics, such as Paris, daily routines etc with transcripts read at a steady pace B > I

#### **SONGS**

http://www.coerll.utexas.edu/chansons/ - 13 specific French songs with information about each song, as well as activities to complete and an audio clip to listen to I > A

https://lyricstraining.com/fr/ - an amazing idea which allows you to listen to French songs, karaoke style and fill in the gaps for missing words as you go along – easy, medium and difficult settings available B > A

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### READING

Use the news sites, magazines, blogs, e-books, childrens' stories, manga and comics to help improve your reading skills. Most are free!

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#### **NEWS/MAGAZINES/BLOGS**

https://www.20minutes.fr - short international news articles in French I > A

http://www.france24.com/fr - international news in French I > A

http://www.rfi.fr/ - international news in French with a radio channel | > A

https://www.parismatch.com/ - online French lifestyle 'magazine' |> A

https://www.afp.com/fr - global news site | > A

https://www.lemonde.fr/ - French news website I > A

https://www.retronews.fr/ - news in French with a retro twist A

https://www.europe1.fr/ - international news by topic including sport, culture and economy with some podcasts I > A

https://gallica.bnf.fr/accueil/fr/content/accueil-fr/ - art and culture blog with old copies of Elle France! I > A

<u>https://www.babelio.com/listes-de-livres/</u> - lists of recommended books by genre, to read, you would need to buy the books (£) > A

https://www.superprof.fr/blog/ - • online magazine 'blog' I > A

https://www.francophonie.org - news articles about French speaking countries I > A

http://www.afriquemedia.tv - news articles from African French speaking countries I > A

#### **E-BOOKS**

http://abu.cnam.fr – 200+ classics from mainly French authors in e-book form, including Molière, Zola and Voltaire. Click on 'textes' or 'auteurs' in the top right for the list I > A

https://www.gutenberg.org/browse/languages/fr – 100+ e-books and documents by French authors I > A https://www.ebooksgratuits.com/ebooks.php – 100+ international e-books in French including famous English authors, such as Jane Austen, available in different formats – PDF, HTML, WORD & E-READER I > A

http://beq.ebooksgratuits.com/vents/index.htm - Digital library of Quebec with works from around the world split into authors, available in various e-formats | > A

#### **CHILDRENS' STORIES**

https://www.thefrenchexperiment.com - w short French childrens' stories with audio and/or video B > 1

#### **COMICS / MANGA**

https://www.izneo.com/fr/ - catalogue of mangas and comics available for digital purchase (£) B > A https://comixology.fr - catalogue of mangas and comics available for digital purchase (£) B > A https://comicbookplus.com/?cid=1733 - 600+ French comics available in free digital format B > A

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For speaking, the more vocabulary you have and the more you force yourself to speak, the easier it will become.

However, if you need a bit of help with pronunciation, try the following sites out:

#### **PRONUNCIATION**

https://www.acapela-group.com/ - add some text and hear how it's pronounced with a real French voice of your choice **B > I** 

https://forvo.com/languages/fr/ - type a word and see how it's pronounced by speakers of the language B > I
https://www.linguasorb.com/french/cognates/ - blists of cognates (words spelled the same in French and English)
with the pronunciation in American English and French - great to highlight differences in pronunciation! B > A

# WRITING

Writing is a combination of spelling, vocabulary and grammar knowledge, so the sites below will help you to improve those. It's down to you to try writing sentences, paragraphs, short essays and long essays to improve further though!

#### **DICTIONARIES**

https://larousse.fr/dictionnaires/francais-anglais - bilingual French-English dictionary with pronunciation, definitions and examples. HOWEVER, you have to spell the word correctly in the first instance! B > A http://atilf.atilf.fr/tlf.htm - a dictionary containing 100,000+ words with 270,000 definitions and 430,000 examples all in French - really nice for etymology A

#### **VOCABULARY**

https://conjuguemos.com/activities/french/vocabulary/textbook — test your spelling and vocabulary knowledge with these grades interactive activities based on topic/loose levels B > A

https://www.itt-leipzig.de/static/vltfrench\_01p/index.html - how many of these 5,000 French words do you know? Take the test in 30 mins, split into 5 levels B > A

http://www.goethe-verlag.com/tests/FE/FE.HTM - French vocabulary tests with translation activities, split into easy and difficult B > A

https://quizlet.com - upload sets of vocabulary and use the different interactive activities to practise.

Alternatively, use a set already uploaded on your topic (TIP: choose a set created by a teacher or native speaker to avoid learning incorrectly spelled words!) B > A

#### **SYNONYMS**

http://crisco.unicaen.fr/des/ - type a word to get lots of synonyms and antonyms to improve your range B > A
http://www.dictionnaire-synonymes.com/ - a dictionary of synonyms split into meanings B > A
https://www.librairie-interactive.com - website full of worksheets, posters and activities for any topic you can think of!
Scroll down to see and download the attachments B > A

#### **CHECK YOUR TEXTS**

https://bonpatron.com/ - copy your written text into the website and it will show you grammar and spelling errors with reasons for errors - very cool! B > I

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#### **GRAMMAR**

https://www.laits.utexas.edu/tex/gr/index.html - information, rules and practice gap fill activities on most grammar topics B > A

http://avosplumes.org/students/grammar/ – rules, explanations and interactive activities split by topic from the University of Virginia B > A

https://conjuguemos.com/activities/french/grammar/1 – graded practice with interactive gap fills for beginner / intermediate grammar topics B > I

http://www.columbia.edu/~ab410/drills.html – gap fills and multiple choice activities for specific intermediate/advanced grammar topics I > A

https://www.bonjourdefrance.com/exercices/contenu/participe-present-ou-adjectif-verbal.html - choose your level, read grammar points for that level in French and complete gap fills | > A

https://leconjugueur.lefigaro.fr/exercice – grammar rules, conjugation and LOADS of interactive gap fills with correct answers B > A

http://www.french-linguistics.co.uk/grammar/#.XVVGc-hKhPY - information, rules (in English) and practice activities on beginner - intermediate grammar topics B > I

https://leconjugueur.lefigaro.fr/ukindex.php — enter a verb and see how it's formed in all tenses for all subject pronouns B > A

http://www.verbix.com/languages/french.html - enter a verb to see how it's formed in all tenses for il/elle/on B > A

# MIXED-SKILLS PRACTICE

If you're looking to combine your French skills, try some of these handpicked, interactive websites which include vocabulary, grammar, listening and reading activities.

https://french-resources.org/ - hundreds of interactive activities for beginners and intermediate learners to practise vocabulary and listening skills B > I

https://sites.uni.edu/becker/french31.html - thousands of useful websites to try out different skills B > A

http://www.languageguide.org - vocabulary, grammar and reading exercises broken down by category B > I

https://www.french-games.net/ - beginner / intermediate vocabulary with sound files B > I

https://www.thoughtco.com/french-4133079 -French vocab, pronunciation and grammar B > I

http://www.languageguide.org/french/vocabulary/ - vocabulary, grammar and reading texts B > I

http://catherine-ousselin.org/francaisAP.html – 💚 a collection of super valuable resources for practicing French

reading, listening, reading and writing, as well as grammar at AP level (B1–C1 CEFR Level) I > A

http://www.laits.utexas.edu/fi/home — fantastic videos, worksheets, grammar, vocab and listening activities split into topics B > A

http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/- video clips, transcripts and reading comprehension questions B

#### REVISION & EXAMINATION BASED RESOURCES

https://mfl.jimdo.com/resources/french-as-level/ - Writing practice, examples and resources for A Level French I https://app.senecalearning.com/courses?Type=Free&text=french - Course based website for revision B > I https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zc7xpv4- French examination practice by level and exam board B > I https://kuscholarworks.ku.edu/handle/1808/15572 - Au boulot - First Year French coursebook A > I https://kuscholarworks.ku.edu/handle/1808/15558 - Chapeau! - First Year French coursebook A > I

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#### **FRENCH USAGE**

http://www.langue-fr.net/ - got a question about French spelling, or which word to use when? I > A http://bdl.oqlf.gouv.qc.ca/bdl/ - read about the nuances and common questions about French syntax, grammar, pronunciation and punctuation A

#### **TEXT YOUR FRENCH LEVEL**

https://www.lepointdufle.net/p/francais-evaluation.htm - hundreds of tests for different levels and skills B > A
https://french.kwizia.com/quickreg - interactive gap fill test to assess your French CEFR (Common European Frame work) level B > I

http://www.bosvick.com/didapages/titre/Page\_Titre.htm - an interactive website, with testingoptions for A1, A2, B1 and B2 language tests, which test all four skills at each level B > I

http://www.goethe-verlag.com/tests/FE/FE.HTM - French vocabulary tests with translation activities B > I