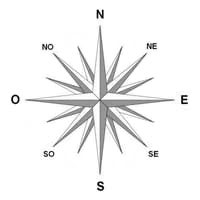
**LINGUATRIVIA French Competition: A Few Tips...**

Before you enter the Linguatrivia competition this term, you need to know a few things about France: its history, geography and culture, especially this…

1. **GEOGRAPHY:**

* Here is a map of France. You must know the main cities in France and where they are roughly located **(dans le nord/le sud/l'est/l'ouest de la France)**: Marseille, Paris, Lyon, Bordeaux, Toulouse, Grenoble, Lille, Strasbourg, Brest, Nantes, Nancy, Nice, Toulon...



* You also need to know the countries having borders with France : l’Espagne/ l’Italie/ La Suisse/ L’Allemagne/ Le Luxembourg/ La Belgique.
* There are a few rivers ( = des rivières) in France : **La Seine** (in Paris), La Garonne, Le Rhin and Le Rhône are the main ones. The seas surrounding France are “**la Mer Méditerrannée**” in the south, “**l’Océan Atlantique**” in the west (or Bay of Biscay) and “**la Manche**” (the English Channel ) in the north.
* French is the **official language of 29 countries** in the world, mainly in Africa and in Europe.
* France is divided into 13 regions (including the "territorial collectivity" of “**Corse**” or Corsica) and is subdivided into 96 “départments” (like the Counties in the UK). The 13 ‘**régions**’ are :

**Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes**, Bourgogne Franche-Comté, **Bretagne**, Centre-Val de Loire, **Corse**, Grand-Est, **Hauts-de-France**, Ile-de-France, **Normandie**, Nouvelle Aquitaine, **Occitanie**, Pays de la Loire, **Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur**.

Here is a map to help you remember where **regions** are:



1. **HISTORY:**

* There are around **67 million inhabitants** in France. The French capital is **PARIS**.
* The government is a Republic (**une République**). The “Président de la République” is called **Emmanuel Macron**. The current Prime Minister (Premier Ministre) is **Edouard Philippe.**
* The French National Day (“**La Fête Nationale**”) is “**le 14 juillet** “ (= Bastille Day). It is a bank holiday with fireworks (= “**des feux d’artifice”**) and a parade on the **Champs-Elysées (which is an avenue).**
* The French National Anthem is called **'La Marseillaise**' and was written by **Rouget de Lisle**.

1. **CULTURE:**

* The Eiffel Tower (**'La tour Eiffel'**) is **324 metres** high (**including the aerial**). Gustave Eiffel created it.
* The most famous museum in Paris is “**Le Louvre**”. It houses the Mona Lisa (= “**La Joconde**” in French) which was painted by Italian painter Leonardo Da Vinci. There, you can see **'La pyramide du Louvre**' which is made of glass (= **verre**) and metal. It was commissioned by former French President François Mitterrand and is surrounded by three smaller pyramids, in the main courtyard of the Louvre Palace in Paris. The large pyramid serves as the main entrance to the Louvre Museum.
* **Montmartre** is a famous area in Paris: painters sell their paintings on a square called “**La Place du Tertre**”. Montmartre was used a lot in the film called “**Amélie** **Poulain**”, starring Audrey Tautou.
* The equivalent of Oxford Street in Paris is “**Les Champs-Elysées**”. It is an **avenue** with lots of shops.
* The French flag is *bleu, blanc, rouge* (blue, white, red) .

***Here is a list of celebrities you should know or recognise:***

1. **Famous actors and actresses (= acteurs et actrices):**

Gérard Depardieu ( who plays Obélix)

Catherine Deneuve (« *Peau d'âne* », plays the Queen of England in Astérix)

Kad Merad (« *Le petit Nicolas* »)

Marion Cotillard (« *La vie en rose* »)

Jean Reno (« *Godzilla* », « *The Pink Panther* »)

Brigitte Bardot (« *And God Created Woman* », she is an animal activist too)

Christian Clavier (who plays Astérix)

Louis de Funès (« *Rabbi Jacob* », « *Le Gendarme de Saint-Tropez* »)

Dany Boon (« *Bienvenue chez les Ch’tis* »)

Omar Sy (« *Intouchables*», « *X-Men : Days of Future Past* », « *Jurassic World* »)

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| Gerard Depardieu | Biography, Movies, & Facts | Britannica | French Actress Catherine Deneuve to Attend Paris' Le Bon Marche ... | Kad MERAD Autograph (Signed photo) | Marion Cotillard (Actress) - On This Day | Jean Reno. I don't know what it is about this man, but after I saw ... |
| **Gérard Depardieu** | **Catherine Deneuve** | **Kad**  **Merad** | **Marion**  **Cotillard** | **Jean**  **Reno** |
| Brigitte Bardot | Brigitte bardot hair, Bardot hair, Brigitte bardot | Christian Clavier - AlloCiné | Détails sur PHOTO LE GENDARME EN BALADE - LOUIS DE FUNES FORMAT ... | Dany Boon - IMDb | Omar Sy - Rotten Tomatoes |
| **Brigitte**  **Bardot** | **Christian**  **Clavier** | **Louis**  **de Funès** | **Dany**  **Boon** | **Omar**  **Sy** |

**Here is the list of the 10 most successful French films of all time in France (M= Millions):**

1. ***Bienvenue chez les Ch’tis*** (starring Dany Boon and Kad Merad) ***(20.5 M tickets sold)***
2. ***Intouchables*** (starring Omar Sy) ***(19.5 M tickets sold)***
3. ***La grande vadrouille*** (starring Louis de Funès) ***(17.2 M tickets sold)***
4. ***Astérix & Obélix: Mission Cléopâtre*** (starring Christian Clavier and Gérard Depardieu)

***(14.5 M tickets sold)***

1. ***Les visiteurs*** (starring Christian Clavier and Jean Reno) ***(13.7 M tickets sold)***
2. ***Le petit monde de Don Camillo*** (starring Fernandel) ***(12.7 M tickets sold)***
3. ***Qu’est-ce qu’on a fait au bon Dieu ?*** (starring Christian Clavier) ***(12.3 M tickets sold)***
4. ***Le corniaud*** (starring Bourvil and Louis de Funès) ***( 11.7 M tickets sold)***
5. ***Les bronzés 3 : amis pour la vie*** (starring Christian Clavier) ***(10.4 M tickets sold)***
6. ***Taxi 2*** (starring Marion Cotillard) ***(10.3 M tickets sold)***
7. **Famous singers (= chanteurs et chanteuses):**

(click on the links to watch their most famous songs / music videos)

Claude François : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WfuIrICmZWg>

Vanessa Paradis : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ulay2FvUEd8>

Johnny Hallyday : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s3O1Xro7oAI>

Mylène Farmer : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d03wJOgoq1k>

Pascal Obispo : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GZxqT7o8jc>

Kendji Girac : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FndmvPkI1Ms>

Louane : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yleB8fUXudw>

Matt Pokora : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q2_9gcvSSmk>

Maître Gims : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rMltoD1jCGI>

Christine and the Queens : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rs40yxHjTxQ>

Stromae (Belgian) : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oiKj0Z_Xnjc>

Julien Doré : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zqn41lMIGg8>

Angèle : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XqAiGeEzctQ>

Clara Luciani : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=85m-Qgo9_nE>

Aya Nakamura: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPGgnzc34tY>

Vianney: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eLYyCFuPCX8>

Indochine: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KAOmC5qT02w>

Patrick Bruel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-_T41pMbgWA>

Céline Dion (Canadian): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AzaTyxMduH4>

Jean-Jacques Goldman : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=493R05ifNsI>

Claudio Capéo : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y9GCM9DZUJo>

1. **Famous sportsmen (= sportifs et sportives):**

Thierry Henry (football)

Zinédine Zidane a.k.a. ‘Zizou’ (football)

Kylian Mbappé (football)

Paul Pogba (football)

Amandine Henry (football)

Antoine Griezmann (football)

Olivier Giroud (football)

Amélie Mauresmo (tennis). Used to be Andy Murray’s coach.

Gaël Monfils (tennis)

Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (tennis)

Florent Manaudou (swimming)

Laure Manaudou (swimming). Florent Manaudou’s older sister.

Teddy Riner (judo)

Sébastien Chabal (rugby)

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| Thierry Henry Arsenal U19s Vs Olympiacos (cropped).jpg | Zinedine Zidane - France. #Zidane #France | Rugby, Fotboll, Män | Ligue 1 Conforama - French Football League | FRA-ARG (11) - Paul Pogba (cropped 2).jpg | Épinglé sur Goddess | Cristiano Ronaldo and Antoine Griezmann revealed as the hottest ... | Olivier Giroud Profile, News & Stats | Premier League |
| Thierry Henry | Zinédine Zidane | Kylian Mbappé | Paul Pogba | Amandine Henry | Antoine Griezmann | Olivier Giroud |
| 39 Best Amelie Mauresmo images | Amelie, Tennis, Sports movie | Gael Monfils | Overview | ATP Tour | Tennis | Jo-Wilfried Tsonga | Overview | ATP Tour | Tennis | Florent Manaudou : «Dès que j'entends du rap français, je zappe ... | Laure Manaudou - Alchetron, The Free Social Encyclopedia | JudoInside - News - Successful elbow surgery of Teddy Riner | On theme with rugby players, my all time favorite...Sebastien ... |
| Amélie Mauresmo | Gaël Monfils | Jo-Wilfried Tsonga | Florent Manaudou | Laure Manaudou | Teddy Riner | Sébastien Chabal |

1. **Famous scientists (= scientifiques):**

**Antoine Lavoisier** (who put together the first extensive [list of chemical elements](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_periodic_table#Antoine-Laurent_de_Lavoisier), and helped to reform chemical nomenclature).

**Pierre and Marie Curie** (radioactivity).

**Louis Pasteur** (who created the first vaccines for rabies and pasteurization).

1. **Famous French Presidents (= présidents de la République) :**

Charles de Gaulle, Georges Pompidou, Valéry Giscard d’Estaing, François Mitterrand, Jacques Chirac, Nicolas Sarkozy, François Hollande, **Emmanuel Macron (= current President)**.

 **Emmanuel MACRON**

1. **Famous writers (= écrivains):**

**Victor Hugo** who wrote « ***Les misérables*** » and «***Notre-Dame de Paris***» (*The Hunchback of Notre-Dame*)

**Jules Verne** who wrote “***Le tour du monde en 80 jours***” (*Around the World in 80 Days* ) and *“****20 000 lieues sous les mers****” (Twenty Thousand Leagues Under The Sea).*

**Molière** who wrote the theatre play ***“L’avare”*** *(The Miser)* and is the equivalent of Shakespeare in France).

**Jean de la Fontaine** who collected and adapted famous fables into French free verse. He wrote “***Le corbeau et le renard***” *(The Crow and the Fox) and* ***“ Le lièvre et la tortue”*** *(The Tortoise and the Hare).*

**Charles Perrault** who wrote *«****Le petit chaperon rouge****» (Little Red Riding Hood), «****Cendrillon****» (Cinderella), «****Le chat botté****» (Puss In Boots) and «****La Belle au bois dormant****» (The Sleeping Beauty)* among other fairy tales.

**Antoine de Saint-Exupéry** who wrote « ***Le petit Prince*** » (*The Little Prince*).

**Marcel Proust** who wrote « ***À la recherche du temps perdu*** » (*In Search of Lost Time*).

**Simone de Beauvoir** who wrote « ***L’invitée*** » (*She Came to Stay*) and was in a relationship with French philosopher **Jean-Paul Sartre**.

Good luck and may the best student win!

