

AP FRENCH LANGUAGE SYLLABUS

COURSE OVERVIEW

The primary textbooks are *Trésors du Temps* (Yvone Lenard, McGraw Hill, Glencoe ©2005) and *AP French Preparing for the Language Examination* (text and cassettes) (Richard Ladd/ Colette Girard, Scott Foresman Addison Wesley, ©1998). I also use *Troisième Livre Second Edition* (Eli Blume, Amsco School Publications, Inc. ©1978) as a supplementary textbook. Other resources include French films, songs, poetry, magazine and newspaper articles, short stories, plays, and Internet activities. These resources are used to extend the themes presented in *Trésors du Temps* as well as to improve the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills of my students. My room is equipped with a television, CD and cassette players, a VCR and DVD player. I have access to a portable computer lab. Each student has a cassette recorder for recording/speaking exercises.

Because AP French is the equivalent of the third year of a college course, the course is taught entirely in French. Students have an opportunity to improve their listening and speaking skills through instruction in the French language, speaking with their peers, and listening to authentic materials (tapes, films, native speakers). Students are expected to speak in French and their oral participation grade reflects this requirement. Every class I try to incorporate the different chapters of the *AP French Preparing for the Language Examination* including the thematic vocabulary. Once every two weeks students record the picture sequence from the AP Exam, and I correct their mistakes on the tape. As the AP Exam approaches, the tapes are given a grade of 1 to 5. Students use the AP cassettes to hone their listening comprehension skills. Students are required to write an essay every two weeks. A variety of essays (expository, narrative, persuasive, etc.) are assigned. During the second semester the AP nine-point rubric is used to grade these essays. After the first semester and again a week before the AP Exam, I give my students a complete released AP Exam.

Course Planner

Week 1

- Introduction to the AP course and exam

- Review of être, aller, avoir, and faire in the present tense and idiomatic expressions (TT Ch.1)
- Partitive articles, use of “de”
- Thematic Vocab. 1&2 (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Assessment: Exam

Week 2

- Present tense review (TT Ch.2, Amsco Ch.1)
- Gender and number of nouns and adjectives
- Vocabulary and idiomatic expressions (TT Ch.1)
- Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Thematic Vocab. 3&4 (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Picture Sequence (taped)

Assessment: Essay

Week 3

- Irregular verbs in the present tense review (TT Ch.2, Amsco Ch.2)
- Definite and indefinite articles
- Vocabulary and idiomatic expressions (TT Ch.2)
- Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Thematic Vocab. 5-7 (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)

Assessment: Quiz

Week 4

- Passé Composé (TT Ch.3, Amsco Ch.3)
- Vocabulary and idiomatic expressions (TT Ch.2)
- Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Thematic Vocab. 8&9 (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Picture Sequence (taped)

Assessment: Essay

Week 5

- Imparfait (TT Ch.3, Amsco Ch.4)

- Imparfait versus Passé Composé
 - Vocab. & Idiomatic expressions (TT Ch.3)
 - Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
 - Thematic Vocab. 10 & 11
- Assessment: Exam

Week 6

- Plus-que-parfait (TT Ch.3)
 - Review of all past tenses
 - Vocab. & Idiomatic expressions (TT Ch.3)
 - Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
 - Thematic Vocab. 12 & 13
 - Picture Sequence (taped)
- Assessment: Essay

Week 7

- Future (TT Ch.5, Amsco Ch.5)
 - Sentences with si + future
 - Vocab., & idiomatic expressions (TT Ch. 4)
 - Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
 - Thematic Vocab. 14-17
- Assessment: Quiz

Week 8

- Future & Future Antérieur (TT Ch. 5)
 - Sentences with quand, dès que, aussitôt que, and si
 - Vocab. & Idiomatic Expressions (TT Ch.5)
 - Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
 - Thematic Vocab. 18-19
 - Picture Sequence (taped)
- Assessment: Essay

Week 9

- Conditional (TT Ch. 5, Amsco Ch.5)

- Si + imparfait + conditional
 - Vocabulary & Idiomatic expressions (TT Ch. 5)
 - Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
 - Thematic Vocab. 20-22
- Assessment: Exam

Week 10

- Past Conditional (TT Ch.5)
 - Sentences with si + plus-que-parfait
 - Vocab. & idiomatic expressions (TT Ch.5)
 - Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
 - Thematic Vocab. 23 & 24
 - Picture Sequence (taped)
- Assessment: Essay

Week 11

- Review of past, future and conditional tenses (Amsco review quizzes)
 - Sentences with si in all combinations
 - Vocab. & idiomatic expressions (TT Ch.5)
 - Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
 - Thematic Vocab. 25 & 26
- Assessment: Exam

Week 12

- Regular subjunctive impersonal expressions (TT Ch.6, Amsco Ch. 16)
 - Vocab. & Idiomatic expressions (TT Ch.6)
 - Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
 - Thematic Vocab. 27
 - Picture Sequence (taped)
- Assessment: Essay

Week 13

- The subjunctive, irregular verbs and other expressions (TT Ch.6, Amsco Ch.16)
- Vocab. & Idiomatic expressions (TT Ch.6)
- Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Thematic Vocab. 28-29

Assessment: Quiz

Week 14

- The subjunctive after conjunctions (TT Ch.6, Amsco Ch.18)
- Vocab. & Idiomatic expressions (TT Ch.6)
- Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Thematic Vocab. 30-33
- Picture Sequence (taped)

Assessment: Essay

Week 15

- The past subjunctive (TT Ch. 6, Amsco Ch.17)
- Vocab. & Idiomatic expressions (TT Ch.6)
- Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words. Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Thematic Vocab. 34&35

Assessment: Exam

Week 16

- Direct object pronouns (TT Ch.4, Amsco Ch.11)
- Vocab. & Idiomatic expressions (TT Ch.4)
- Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Thematic Vocab. 36 & 37
- Picture Sequence (taped)

Assessment: Composition

Week 17

- Indirect object pronouns (TT Ch.4, Amsco Ch.11)
- Pronoun “y”

- Vocab. & Idiomatic expressions (TT Ch.4)
- Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Thematic Vocab. 38&39

Assessment: Quiz

Week 18

- Stress Pronouns (TT Ch.4, Amsco Ch.15)
- Review direct & indirect object pronouns
- Vocab. & Idiomatic expressions (TT Ch. 4)
- Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Thematic Vocab. 40-43
- Picture Sequence (taped)

Assessment: Essay

Week 19

- Semester Review
- Practice AP Exam

Week 20

- Relative pronouns (TT Ch.9, Amsco Ch.12)
- Vocab. & Idiomatic expressions (TT Ch.9)
- Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Thematic Vocab. 44 & 45
- Picture Sequence (taped)

Assessment: Quiz & Essay

Week 21

- Lequel & lequel combinations (TT Ch.9, Amsco Ch.14)
- Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Thematic Vocab. 46-49

Assessment: Quiz

Week 22

- Relative pronoun review (TT Ch9, Amsco Ch 12 & 14)
- Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Thematic Vocab. 50-52
- Picture Sequence (taped)

Assessment: Essay

Week 23

- Verb review (Amsco)
- Negatives (TT Ch.8, Amsco Ch.17)
- Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Thematic Vocab. 53-54

Assessment: Exam

Week 24

- Demonstrative articles & pronouns (TT Ch.9, Amsco Ch.16)
- Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Thematic Vocab. 55-58
- Picture sequence (taped)
- Assessment: Essay

Week 25

- Demonstrative review (TT Ch.9, Amsco Ch.16)
- Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
- Thematic Vocab. 59-61

Assessment: Quiz

Week 26

- Verb review
- Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)

- Thematic Vocab. 62-63
 - Picture sequence (taped)
- Assessment: Essay & Exam

Week 27

- Possessive adjectives & pronouns (TT Ch.9, Amsco Ch.9)
 - Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
 - Thematic Vocab. 64-67
- Assessment: Quiz

Week 28

- Possessive review (TT Ch.9)
 - Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
 - Thematic Vocab. 68-69
 - Picture sequence (taped)
- Assessment: Quiz & Essay

Week 29

- Infinitive (TT Ch.11, Amsco Ch.13)
 - Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
 - Thematic Vocab. 70-72
- Assessment: Quiz

Week 30

- Passive voice (TT Ch11, Amsco Ch.15)
 - Listening Rejoinders, Listening Dialogues, Reading, Function Words, Verbs (AP French-Preparing for the Language Exam)
 - Thematic Vocab. 73-75
 - Picture sequence (taped)
- Assessment: Essay

Week 31

- Overall review (TT 1-12, Amsco)

AP Exam

Weeks 32-36

- Vocab. & idiomatic expressions
 - Projects & skits based on films and literature
- Assessments: Essays, quizzes, oral presentations

Teaching Strategies

Listening

All communication in the AP classroom is carried out in French. Students use the Listening Rejoinders and Listening Dialogues cassettes that accompany the AP French Preparing for the Language Examination to improve their listening skills. Guest speakers are invited to the classroom to provide an opportunity to listen and converse in French. Conversations between myself and the Academic Dean who visits my classroom are in French. Periodically students carry on a telephone conversation with a family from France. Students listen to songs, movies, and video feeds from on line sources. Students listen to tapes of native speakers and write summaries of what they have heard in the French language. Students listen to AP cassettes and answer questions or summarize what they have heard.

Speaking

Students use French in reading literature aloud and then answering comprehension questions about reading selections, in small-group or whole-group discussions, in play-acting, in oral presentations. The picture sequences from the AP French Preparing for the Language Examination book give students practice for that part of the exam. The students are given feedback on their taped responses based on the AP rubric.

Reading

Texts come from a variety of sources such as the AP French Preparing for the Language Examination book, magazines, newspapers, literature, and the internet. Some of the reading is done aloud to improve

pronunciation. It also serves as a means to promote conversation and writing.

Writing

Students write essays every two weeks. I indicate to the student on the paper the mistakes that have been made (spelling, subject verb agreement, etc.) and return it to the student. The next week the student turns in a final copy for grading. The grade is based on the AP rubric. Students are instructed in the use of transition words for their essays. Advanced vocabulary, verb tenses, etc. are noted. Once a quarter students write a 40 minute essay on an impromptu topic without the use of resources. Listening, speaking, and writing skills are all used in writing skits, presenting them to the class, and having the class summarize them either orally or in writing using the French language.

Web Sites (used for additional speaking, reading, writing, and comprehension activities)

www.onlinenewspapers.com/france.htm

<http://www.coh.arizona.edu/french/uoamagazine.html>

<http://www.tfl.fr>

www.chantefrance.com

www.alalettre.com

www.paroles.net