

International Study Guide Series

FRANCE



Mont-Saint-Michel, Normandy, France



Montana 4-H Center for Youth Development, Montana State University Extension

MONTANA 4-H INTERNATIONAL STUDY SERIES

The 4-H program has had an active role in Montana youth and volunteer development for almost 100 years. It is most well-known for its local emphasis, but 4-H does exist in a broader context - from a local to an international level.

The ultimate objective of 4-H international and cross-cultural programming is "peace through understanding." Extension Service efforts help young people achieve this overall goal by encouraging them to:

- Realize the significance of global interdependency;
- Develop positive cross-cultural attitudes and skills that enhance understanding and acceptance of people from other ethnic, social, or economic backgrounds;
- Appreciate for the similarities and differences among all people;
- Assume global citizenship responsibilities;
- Develop an understanding of the values and attitudes of Americans.

Since the introduction of international 4-H opportunities in 1948, the Montana 4-H program has been committed to the goal of global awareness and increasing cross-cultural understanding. Cultures are becoming more dependent upon one another for goods, services, food, and fiber. Montana's role in the international trade arena is ever-growing. The acquisition of increased knowledge of the markets and the people who influence those markets is crucial to the residents of our state.

The 4-H international programs are coordinated by States' 4-H International Exchange Programs (S4-H) for participating state 4-H Youth Development programs. Funding for the exchange programs is provided on the state level by the Montana 4-H Foundation through private donations and contributions.

Additional information on youth and adult development and international opportunities through the 4-H program are available by contacting your local County Extension Office or the Montana 4-H Center for Youth Development.

MONTANA 4-H IS...

4-H is a division of the Montana State University Extension cooperating with the United States Department of Agriculture and your local county government. 4-H members are those youth who participate in Extension-sponsored educational programs which are open to all youth regardless of race, creed, color, sex, handicap or national origin. Rural and farm youth have long enjoyed the benefits of Extension programs. Most people think that to participate in 4-H one must live on a farm but 4-H has broadened its scope over its long history and rural youth are not the only audience; 4-H is active in every city and town in Montana, and well over half of all 4-H members live in urban areas.

The mission of Montana 4-H youth programs is to educate youth and adults for living in a global world through experiential programs using the resources of the Land Grant University and the USDA Cooperative Extension Service's programming and staff.

4-H is a voluntary, informal, educational program designed to meet the needs and interests of all youth in Montana. Its purpose is to help youth develop to their full potential and to develop a

positive image of themselves. Thus, 4-H is a human development program and seeks to teach five pro-social skills:

- fostering positive self-concept
- learning decision-making and responsibility for choices
- developing an inquiring mind
- relating to self and others
- acquiring a concern for communities - local and global

The emblem of 4-H is well-known: a green four-leaf clover with a white "H" in each leaf. The letters in the emblem stand for Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. As a teacher/leader of this program, you will help youth develop their:

HEAD: Learning to think, making decisions, understanding the "whys", gaining new and valuable insights and knowledge.

HEART: Being concerned with the welfare of others, accepting the responsibilities of citizenship in local and our global communities, determining values and attitudes by which to live, and learning how to work with others.

HANDS: Learning new skills, perfecting skills already known, developing pride in work, and respect for work accomplished.

HEALTH: Practicing healthful living, protecting the well-being of self and others, making constructive use of leisure time.

This four-fold development is vital to every individual. All four of the "H's" should become an important part of the goals with which youth identify as they participate in 4-H sponsored activities and programs.

The program you are about to participate in is a part of Montana 4-H's school enrichment programs. The purpose of school enrichment programs is to make our educational resources available to youth and adults all across Montana. As a recognized leader in curriculum development, 4-H is able to provide a variety of programs which can enhance and enrich school programs.

You are invited to consider 4-H School Enrichment programs for part of your curriculum and youth activities. This program is just one example of the many different kinds of programs that are available through your local County Extension Office. We encourage you to contact your local Montana State University County Extension Agent to find out about the other programs 4-H can offer.



The material for this study guide was updated by Klaire Kramer, 2013 IFYE Representative to Austria and France. It has been produced and distributed by Montana State University Extension and the 4-H Center for Youth Development. The publication of this study guide has been made possible by Montana State University Extension and the Montana 4-H Foundation.

INTRODUCTION

This International Study Guide has been prepared as an introduction to your upcoming 4-H international experience. This guide is not intended to provide you with a complete study of the country; we've provided you only with basic information to aid in preparation of your study.

The purpose of the study guide is to supplement an international presentation given by an International 4-H Youth Exchange (IFYE) delegate in a classroom environment. The IFYE program is an in-depth cultural exchange program designed for young adults ages 19-30. These individuals live with host families during a 3-6 month exchange. Slide presentations focusing on their experiences and aspects of their host country can be fun and enlightening. They can, however, become much more educational if combined with study and activities included in this study packet.

The following material is provided in advance so classes have the opportunity to learn basic facts about the country. By studying in-depth about an area, youth are not overwhelmed with facts, figures, and details in a classroom presentation. Rather, they can examine the country up close and ask thought-provoking questions. Some adaptation of material may be required to best fit the age and education level of the class.

This country study guide contains:

- background information and questions for thought and discussion
- post-test
- recipes and games
- additional global awareness activities
- evaluation forms
- map

INSTRUCTIONAL APPLICATION

This study guide approach has varied application possibilities in the classroom. Instructors may choose to present the material to students themselves or may choose a group-study approach. The class can be divided into groups of four to six students with each group studying one section of the handbook (i.e., geography, nation, people, lifestyles and customs).

Each group reads and researches its section, answering selected questions. Upon completion, groups can be assigned to deliver a cooperative report to the class members.

The pre- and post-tests are included to measure the level of learning that takes place during the study of the country. Teachers may desire to use the post-test grade as a portion of the daily grade or simply use it as a guide to what was learned.

As a teacher, you may have other resources and activities to further supplement this study guide. Libraries, travel centers, museums, ethnic restaurants, and international exchange alumni are all sources of information.

Background Information – Europe

Europe is the birthplace of Western civilization. No other continent has had such great influence on world history. From the time of the ancient Greeks, European political ideas, scientific discoveries, arts and philosophies, and religious beliefs have spread to other regions of the world. The civilizations of the United States, Canada, Latin America, and Australia/New Zealand developed largely from European civilization.

Europe has been a world leader in economic development. Great manufacturing centers have risen near Europe's many rich coal and iron deposits. Much of the continent also has rich soil that produces high crop yields. Few parts of Europe remain underdeveloped. As a result, Europeans have a high standard of living compared to that of most other people of the world.

The people of Europe represent a variety of cultural backgrounds. They have spoken different languages and followed different traditions for thousands of years.

Europe occupies the western fifth of the world's largest land mass. Asia occupies the rest of this land. Europe extends from the Arctic Ocean in the north to the Mediterranean Sea in the south, and from the Atlantic Ocean in the west into Russia in the east.



The 47 countries of Europe range in size from Russia, the largest country in the world, to the Vatican City, the smallest. Compared to the United States and Canada, most European countries are small. However, there are more world powers among the countries of Europe than on any other continent.

GEOGRAPHY

Cities: *Capital—Paris* (population 2,153,600). *Other major cities—* Bordeaux, Lille, Lyon, Marseille, Nice, Nantes, Strasbourg, Toulon, Toulouse

Population: 65,586,000 inhabitants in 2013. The population density is 301/sq. mi (116/km²)-- Montana's is 6.86 people per sq. mi (2.65/km²).

Size: 212,935 square miles (551,500 sq. km) - almost twice the size of Colorado.

Terrain: Mostly flat plains or gently rolling hills in the north and west. The remainder is mountainous, especially Pyrenees in south, and the Alps in the east.

Climate: Continental temperate, Mediterranean, and oceanic.

Location

France, officially called the Republic of France, is located in Western Europe. Besides mainland France, known as Metropolitan France, it has several overseas territories and islands around the world. It stretches north to south from the Mediterranean Sea to the North Sea and the English Channel and from the Rhine River to the Atlantic Ocean. The island of Corsica and the French mainland form Metropolitan France; Guadeloupe, Martinique, Réunion, Saint Barthélemy, Saint Martin, Wallis and Futuna, Mayotte, French Polynesia, New Caledonia, French Guiana, form, with The French Southern and Antarctic Lands, the overseas regions. The highest point in France is Mont Blanc at 15,771 feet (4,807 m) and the lowest is the Rhone River delta at -6.5 feet (-2 m). Officially formed as the "Republique Francaise" in 1792, it is the largest West European Nation. It is bordered by Andorra, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, Spain, and Switzerland. Metropolitan France is divided into 22 regions (including the "territorial collectivity" of Corse or Corsica) and is subdivided into 96 departments.

Land and Climate

The climate of Metropolitan France varies greatly with one's location—France has a diverse landscape that includes oceanic, Mediterranean, and continental climates. Paris, the capital and largest city of France, has an average January low temperature of 36°F (2.5°C) and an average July high of 77°F (25°C). The oceanic climate, prevailing in the western parts of the country, is one of small temperature range, lots of rain, cool summers, and mild winters. The continental type of climate, found over much of eastern and central France, adjoining its long common boundary with west-central Europe, is characterized by warmer summers and colder winters than areas farther west. There is plenty of rainfall, and winters tend to be snowy, especially in the higher areas of the Alps. The Mediterranean climate, widespread throughout the south of France (except in the Pyrenees Mountains), is one of cool winters, hot summers, and limited rainfall. The average temperature is about 53° F (11° C) at Paris and 59° C (15° F) at Nice. In central and southern France, annual rainfall is light to moderate, ranging from about 27 in (68 cm) at Paris to 39in (100 cm) at Bordeaux. Rainfall is heavy in Brittany, the northern coastal areas, and the mountainous areas, where it reaches more than 112 cm (44 in).

THE NATION

History

France has a long and eventful history. It is known as being a world power and has been an economic and cultural center of Europe for hundreds of years. Archeological excavations indicate that France has been continuously settled since Paleolithic times. The Celts, who were later called Gauls by the Romans, settled in France in about 1,000 B.C. and shared the land with the farmers already living there. At that time, the language used was Celtic, related to modern Breton, Gaelic or Welsh.

In about 600 B.C. Greeks and Phoenicians established settlements along the Mediterranean, most notably at Marseille. Julius Caesar conquered part of Gaul in 57–52 B.C., and established an extension of the Roman Empire, erecting public buildings and theaters in the towns and Roman villas in the countryside. The land remained Roman until Franks, a Germanic people, invaded in the 5th century A.D. Clovis, having defeated the Romans and united the Frank nation, became the first king of what was to become France. Clovis converted to Catholicism and was baptized in 496, in a small church in the Abbey of Saint-Remi in Reims. This cathedral became the coronation place for nearly all the French kings after Clovis.

Around 1000 A.D., the first French speaking king, Francien, demanded that the ruling class use French, a graduated form of Latin. During the Middle Ages, France grew and prospered with the arts, troubadours, poets and musicians that were sponsored by Eleanor of Aquitaine, until the Black Death fell upon the population and the Hundred Years' War (1337 to 1453) seriously threatened the country.

The Hundred Years' War, fought periodically between France and England for control of French territory, devastated the country, causing thousands of deaths and destruction. This, coupled with the devastations of the bubonic plague, put the country into great despair along with England's and Burgundy's threats of undesired land division. Joan of Arc, the famous young female martyr, was prominent in leading France into victory and eventually, England was forced out of the country. This victory strengthened French nationalism and increased the power and reach of the French monarchy.

During the period known as the Ancien Régime, France transformed into a centralized absolute monarchy. During the next centuries, France experienced the Renaissance and the Protestant Reformation. France invaded Italy, realizing its cultural wealth. Francois I, attracted and influenced by the Italian arts, invited Leonardo de Vinci to his court in France. France flourished magnificently culturally and economically, charmed by the arts of the Netherlands and Italy.

In the late 1500s, at the height of the French Wars of Religion, France became embroiled in another succession crisis, as the last Valois king, Henry III, fought against rival factions in the House of Bourbon and the House of Guise. Henry, King of Navarre, scion of the Bourbon family, would be victorious in the conflict and establish the French Bourbon dynasty.

An expanding worldwide colonial empire was established from the 16th century. French political power reached a peak under the rule of Louis XIV, "The Sun King," and the builder of Versailles Palace. In the late 18th century the monarchy and associated institutions were overthrown in the French Revolution, which forever changed French and world history.

The country was governed for a while as a Republic until Napoleon Bonaparte declared himself emperor. Following Napoleon's defeat in the Napoleonic Wars, France went through several further regime changes, being ruled as a monarchy, then briefly as a Second Republic, and then as a Second Empire, until a more lasting French Third Republic was established in 1870.

In World War I, France was one of the Triple Entente powers, fighting alongside the United Kingdom, Russia, the United States and smaller allies against Germany and the Central Powers. France was one of the Allied Powers in World War II, but was conquered by Nazi Germany in 1940. The Third Republic was dismantled, and most of the country was controlled directly by the Axis Powers, while the south was controlled by the collaborationist Vichy government. Following liberation in 1944, a Fourth Republic was established. The Fourth republic collapsed over the issue of the Algerian war; Vichy was succeeded in 1958 by Charles de Gaulle and the French Fifth Republic.

After the war, decolonization saw most of the French colonial empire become independent, while smaller parts were incorporated into the French state as overseas departments and collectivities. Since World War II France has been a permanent member in the UN Security Council and NATO. It played a central role in the unification process after 1945 that led to the European Union. Despite slow economic growth in recent years and issues of ethnic minorities, France remains a strong economic, cultural, military and political factor in the 21st century.

Government

France is considered a republic with an executive, legislative and judicial branch of government.

Its executive branch is made up of a chief of state (the president) - François Hollande, and a head of government (the prime minister)-Jean-Marc Ayrault.

France's legislative branch consists of a two-house Parliament made up of the Senate and the National Assembly.

The judicial branch of France's government is its Supreme Court of Appeals, the Constitutional Council and the Council of State.

Local Administration: 27 regions-Alsace, Aquitaine, Auvergne, Brittany, Burgundy, Centre, Champagne-Ardenne, Franche-Comté, Île-de-France, Languedoc-Roussillon, Limousin, Lorraine, Lower Normandy, Midi-Pyrénées, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, Pays de la Loire, Picardy, Poitou-Charentes, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, Rhône-Alpes, Upper Normandy. Territorial Collectivity: Corsica. Overseas Regions: French Guiana, Guadalupe, Martinique, Mayotte, Reunion.

Political parties:

On the right: The Popular Union Movement (UMP - *Union pour un Mouvement Populaire*),
Center right: the New Centre (*Nouveau Centre*), and the Union of Democrats and Independents (launched in 2012) *l'Union des démocrates et indépendants*,

Center left: The Democratic Movement (*Mouvement Démocratique*, MoDem)

On the left: the Socialist party (*Parti Socialiste*, PS) - since June 2012 the party in power.

The French Communist Party (*parti Communiste Français* - PCF).

The Green Party (*Europe Ecologie Les Verts*)

Extremists on the right and left: NPA (Nouveau parti anticapitaliste), the Trotskyist Workers' Party (Lutte ouvrière), and the National Front (Front National).

Suffrage: 18 years of age; universal

National Holiday: Bastille day (*Fête nationale*), July 14th

Constitution: The current Constitution of France of the Fifth Republic was adopted on October 4, 1958. It has been amended 17 times, most recently in 2008. It is the fifteenth Constitution in the long constitutional history of France since the first Constitution of 1791.

ECONOMY

France was one of the founding members of the European Union (EU) in 1952. France joined 11 other EU members to launch the euro in 1999, with euro coins and banknotes completely replacing the French franc (₣) in 2002.

Currency: Euro

GDP: \$2.2 Trillion

GDP: (per capita) \$35,156

GDP: (by sector) agriculture (1.7%), industry (18.5%), services (79.8%)

Unemployment: 9.9%

Inflation (CPI): 2.3%

Exports: (major) commodities - *Exports* - \$567.1 billion - machinery and transportation equipment, aircraft, plastics, chemicals, pharmaceutical products, iron and steel, beverages

Imports: (major) *Imports* - \$641.3 billion - machinery and equipment, vehicles, crude oil, aircraft, plastics, chemicals. *Principal trade partners:* Germany, Belgium, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, UK, China, United States.

Industries: Leading industrial sectors found in France include civil engineering, ship building, pharmaceuticals, construction, telecommunication, chemicals, aerospace and defense, and automobile production.

Natural Resources: Coal, iron ore, bauxite, zinc, uranium, antimony, arsenic, potash, feldspar, fluorspar, gypsum, timber, fish, gold

Agriculture: Cereals (wheat, barley, oats, corn, and sorghum), industrial crops (sugar beets, rapeseed, sunflower seed, flax), root crops (potatoes), wine, and fruits (apples, pears, peaches, and cherries).

Transportation and Communication

France has a very fast and efficient postal system, and post offices are available in even the smallest villages. Cell phones are widely used, primarily among younger generations, and

landlines are still commonplace in the home. Internet is also widely available, and many large towns have internet cafes or access at a Starbucks or McDonalds, which are also commonplace in many cities. Wireless internet is also available in train stations and airports, however it is often expensive.

France benefits from a dense and diversified transport network, constructed in a web of railways stemming from Paris. Many people rely on this system for travel as gas prices are increasing. Rail, tram, metro and bus routes offer ease, speed, and are often more cost effective. France's high speed trains (TGV) have set many world speed records.

PEOPLE AND HISTORY

France's population is roughly 65.5 million. More than three-fourths of the population lives in urban areas. Greater Paris claims nearly 12 million inhabitants and Marseille well over one million.

Ethnically, the French have a Celtic heritage that has mixed with various other European groups (Latin, Slavic, Nordic, Teutonic, and others) over the centuries. The main immigrant groups include Portuguese, Italians, Spaniards, Poles, and those from former French colonies in North Africa, West Africa, the Caribbean, and Southeast Asia. Although they have integrated into French society, the various ethnic groups do not always mix with one another. North Africans tend to remain the most separate because of their race and religion, Islam.

CULTURE

The Flag and National Slogan

"Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité" (Liberty, Equality, Brotherhood), the slogan of France is part of their national heritage. The notions of liberty, equality and brotherhood, associated by Fénelon at the end of the 17th century, became more widespread during the Age of Enlightenment and stems from the French Revolution. The "tricolor" (three-color) flag is an emblem of the Fifth Republic. It had its origins in the union, at the time of the French Revolution, of the colors of the King (white) and the City of Paris (blue and red). Today, the "tricolor" flies over all public buildings. It is flown at most official ceremonies, both civil and military.

Language

French is an important international language; in communication, business, and diplomacy. It is said that the French have an "avowed love affair" with their language, and the *Académie Française* is the government body that keeps the French language pure of foreign words. The French also hold a sense of pride in having command over their language. They often display their wit and command of language in clever demonstrations, playing word games and shortening certain words to make them slang. For example, the French shorten the word *garçons* (meaning boys) to *gars*.

Even though there are many immigrants and many regions of France have their own local language or regional dialects (like Breton in Brittany), almost everyone speaks French. The

Nation has also made an effort to preserve the local languages, and they can be taken in schools as a foreign language. Spanish and German are also popular language courses, second to taking English.

Religion

Most of the population is Roman Catholic, about 85%. Two percent are Protestant and four percent are non-denominational. Although most of the population is Catholic, many are not practicing Catholics. There is however a rise in the number of youth involved in the church and Catholic organizations.

There is a strict separation between church and state in France (secularism). Wearing religious symbols is prohibited in schools and public places.

Family Life

Family is very important to the French. Sunday afternoons and weekends are often reserved for spending time with the nuclear and extended family, bonding over a meal or afternoon coffee. Elementary students do not go to school at the same time every day and many do not have school on Wednesday. The French are not workaholics; they work to live, not live to work. Most French have five vacation weeks per year and numerous paid holidays and therefore take the time to be with family and go on vacations abroad or to other regions of France.

Recycling is a normal way of life for the French. Compost piles are also commonplace and as a whole the nation creates very little non-reusable waste. Environmentally friendly housing is also valued, and the government reinforces this by subsidizing solar panels, wood heating, etc.

Lifestyles

Food and eating are the center of French existence. The French go to great lengths to make their meals long, taking the time to savor the food and the company of the people they dine with. They don't rush meals to get work done, like in the United States. Many boutiques are closed in the middle of the day from 1pm to 3pm for the lunch break. A French lunch is rarely eaten before 12:30 pm and dinner is typically eaten late in the day, about 8pm. French meals are structured as follows: starter or aperitif, a main meal, consisting of some sort of meat along with vegetables and a sauce for the meat, and then there is cheese, and lastly, dessert. The French rarely eat in front of the TV. Any drinks during a meal are chosen to complement the taste of the food. This is why the French often have wine that supplements the taste of the food, or water that has no taste.

Among the most patriotic people in the world, French people take pride in their culture, heritage, and way of life. This patriotism fosters a general expectation that visitors have some knowledge of French and show appreciation for French culture. The French are typically reserved and private but tend to be more hospitable outside Paris. Politeness and formality is highly valued and *s'il vous plaît* (please) and *merci* (thank you) are common phrases. By contrast Americans tend to be more casual.

In general, the French take great care to dress well, whether they are wearing formal or casual attire, and they feel more at ease with visitors who show the same degree of attention to their appearance. Paris is home to many of the world's leading fashion designers. Parisians usually dress more formally than people in other cities, where dress is more casual but not less stylish.

Most French women value a natural look and don't wear a lot of makeup.

Media

In France, there is a rule that radio broadcasters ensure at least 40% of the music that they play is in French. This means that radio stations cannot play only American music or other international music as part of their quota (unless it's international music that's in French). International music is still quite popular in France, and it is a growing trend for artists to sing some parts of a song in French and some parts in English.

Time

Time: France is in the Central European Time Zone (UTC/GMT +1 hour) and is 8 hours ahead of Montana. Daylight savings time begins for the European Union on the last Sunday in March at 1:00 a.m. and ends on the last Sunday in October.

Land Statistics

Coastline: 3,427 km (2,129 miles) (includes coastal islands, but excludes all overseas administrative divisions)

Land Area: (Land) 247,124 sq. miles (640,053 sq. km), (Water) 1,303 sq. miles (3,374 sq. km) (Total) 248,427 sq. miles (643,427 sq. km)

Land Divisions: There are 22 regions in France. They are: Alsace, Aquitaine, Auvergne, Basse-Normandie, Bourgogne, Bretagne, Centre-Val de Loire, Champagne-Ardenne, Corse, Franche-Comte, Haute-Normandie, Ile-de-France, Languedoc-Roussillon, Limousin, Lorraine, Midi-Pyrenees, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, Pays de la Loire, Picardie, Poitou-Charentes, Provence-Alpes Cote d'Azur and Rhone-Alpes

Regions: (largest by population) Ile-de-France, 11,371,000 (2006)

Regions: (largest) Midi-Pyrenees, 45,348 sq. km

Horizontal Width: 922 km (572 miles) from Brest east to Strasbourg

Vertical Length: 959 km (595 miles) from Calais south to the border with Andorra

Bordering Countries: (8) Andorra, Spain, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Switzerland, Italy and Monaco

Geographic Center: About 45.7 km (28.4 miles) southeast of the city of Tours

Highest Point: Mount Blanc, 4,807 m (15,770 ft.) (In Montana, Granite peak, 12,799 ft.)

Lowest Point: Rhone River delta along the Mediterranean Sea, -2 m (-6.5 ft.)

Facts & Figures

Official Name: French Republic

Official Name (local): République française

Capital: Paris

Currency: Euro

Language: (major) French, (local languages) Alsatian in Alsace, Breton in Brittany, Corsican in Corsica, and Euskara in Basque country.

Population: 65,950,000

Population (4 largest cities): Paris (2.2 million), Marseille (853,000), Lyon (484,000), Toulouse (449,000)

Religions: Roman Catholic 83%-88%, Protestant 2%, Jewish 1%, Muslim 5%-10%, unaffiliated 4%

Famous from France

Joseph Nicéphore Niépce From 1816, the fixing of an image in a dark room was possible thanks to the research of Joseph Nicéphore Niépce. Born into a well-off family in 1765 in Chalon-sur-Saône, Niépce succeeded, after a lifetime of experimentation, in creating the first 'photo' using a light-sensitive layer made with bitumen of Judea. But he had not yet found the secret of fixing the images permanently on the support, since they ended up fading away. It was not until 1825 that Niépce found the solution: heliography, a technique of printing photographic images on paper using a process combining the transfer of a positive photographic image onto a light-sensitive varnish.

Marion Cotillard Marion Cotillard, born 30 September 1975, is a French actress. She garnered critical acclaim for her roles in films such as *La Vie en Rose*, *Rust and Bone*, *The Immigrant*, and *A Very Long Engagement*. She has also appeared in such films as *A Good Year*, *Public Enemies*, *Nine*, *Inception*, *Midnight in Paris*, *Contagion* and *The Dark Knight Rises*. She made film history by becoming the first person to win an Academy Award for Best Actress in a French language performance, and has also won numerous other academy awards and nominations. She is the face of Lady Dior handbags since 2008.

Voltaire François-Marie Arouet, born in November 1694, known by his pen name Voltaire, was a French Enlightenment writer, historian and philosopher famous for his wit, his attacks on the established Catholic Church, and his advocacy of freedom of religion, freedom of expression, and separation of church and state. Voltaire was a versatile writer, producing works in almost every literary form, including plays, poems, novels, essays, and historical and scientific works. He wrote more than 20,000 letters and more than 2,000 books and pamphlets. He was an outspoken advocate despite the risk this placed him in under the strict censorship laws of the time.

Victor Hugo Born in 1802, Victor Hugo was a French poet, novelist, and dramatist of the Romantic Movement. He is considered one of the greatest and best known French writers, but is also known for his involvement in international and French politics, music, and art. In France, Hugo's literary fame comes first from his poetry but also rests upon his novels and his dramatic achievements. Some of his best-known works are the novels *Les Misérables* and *The Hunchback of Notre-Dame*.

Coco Chanel Gabrielle Bonheur Chanel, born in 1883, was a French fashion designer and founder of the Chanel brand. She was the only fashion designer to appear on Time magazine's list of the 100 most influential people of the 20th century. Along with Paul Poiret, Chanel was credited with liberating women from the constraints of the "corseted silhouette" and popularizing the acceptance of a sportive, casual chic as the feminine standard in the post-World War I era.

Chanel's influence extended beyond couture clothing to include jewelry, handbags, and fragrance. Her signature scent, Chanel No. 5, has become an iconic product, and was a favorite scent of actress Marilyn Monroe.

The Phantom of the Opera The Phantom of the Opera was a book written by Gaston Leroux, published originally in French (titled *La Fantome de l'Opera*) in 1909. Since then, it has been adapted into several musicals and many films, the most famous being the musical and movie version of Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Phantom of the Opera*. The story of *Phantom of the Opera* takes place in the Paris Opera House, also known as the Palais Garnier, as it was designed by Charles Garnier in the late 1800s. Leroux took several real-life attributes of the Opera House and incorporated them into his novel.

David Guetta Pierre David Guetta (7 November 1967), is a French house music producer and DJ. Originally a DJ at nightclubs during the 1980s and 1990s, he co-founded Gum Productions and released his first album, *Just a Little More Love*, in 2002. Later, he released *Guetta Blaster* (2004) and *Pop Life* (2007). His 2011 album, *Nothing but the Beat*, continued this success, containing the hit singles "Where Them Girls At", "Little Bad Girl", "Without You", "Titanium" and "Turn Me On". David Guetta has sold over six million albums and 15 million singles worldwide. In 2011 Guetta was voted as the #1 DJ in the 'DJ Mag Top 100 DJs' fan poll.

Edgar Degas born Hilaire-Germain-Edgar De Gas; (19 July 1834 –1917) was a French artist famous for his paintings, sculptures, prints, and drawings. He is especially identified with the subject of dance; more than half of his works depict dancers. He is regarded as one of the founders of Impressionism, although he rejected the term, and preferred to be called a realist. He was a superb draftsman, and particularly masterly in depicting movement, as can be seen in his renditions of dancers, racecourse subjects and female nudes. His portraits are notable for their psychological complexity and for their portrayal of human isolation.

Jeanne d'Arc (Joan of Arc) is a folk heroine of France and a Roman Catholic saint. She was born to a peasant family in north-east France. Joan said she had received visions from God instructing her to support Charles VII and recover France from English domination late in the Hundred Years' War. The uncrowned King Charles VII sent her to the siege of Orléans as part of a relief mission. She gained prominence after the siege was lifted in only nine days. Several additional swift victories led to Charles VII's coronation at Reims. On 23 May 1430 she was captured at Compiègne by the English-allied Burgundian faction and transferred to the English, put on trial by the pro-English Bishop of Beauvais Pierre Cauchon on a variety of charges, and was burned at the stake for heresy when she was about 19 years old

Le Tour de France is an annual multiple stage bicycle race primarily held in France, while also occasionally making passes through nearby countries. The race was first organized in 1903 to increase paper sales for the magazine *L'Auto*. The Tour is the oldest and generally considered the most prestigious cycling race. The race is held in July and the route changes each year. The format of the race stays the same - there are at least two time trials, passage through the mountain chains of the Pyrenees and the Alps, and the finish on the Champs-Élysées in Paris. The modern editions of the Tour de France consist of 21 day-long segments over a 23-day period and cover around 2,000 mi. The number of teams usually varies between 20 and 22, with nine riders in each. All of the stages are timed to the finish; after finishing the riders' times are compounded with their previous stage times. The rider with the lowest aggregate time is the leader of the race and gets to don the coveted yellow jersey. While the general classification garners the most

attention there are other contests held within the Tour: a “points” classification for the sprinters, a “mountains” classification for the climbers with general classification hopes, a “young rider” classification for riders under the age of 26, and a “team” classification for the fastest teams.

The Louvre Museum is one of the world's largest museums and a historic monument. A central landmark of Paris, France, it is located on the Right Bank of the Seine in the 1st district. Nearly 35,000 objects from prehistory to the 21st century are exhibited over an area of 652,300 square feet. With more than 9.7 million visitors each year, the Louvre is the world's most visited museum. The museum is housed in the Louvre Palace (Palais du Louvre), originally built as a fortress in the late 12th century under Philip II. During the French Revolution, the National Assembly decreed that the Louvre should be used as a museum to display the nation's masterpieces. The museum opened on 10 August 1793 with an exhibition of 537 paintings, the majority of the works being royal and confiscated church property.

Timeline of History

58-51 B.C. Roman emperor Julius Caesar conquers Gaul, which is now France.

486-511 A.D. A tribe called the Franks rules the region. The land is named for them.

1429 Joan of Arc leads French troops against the English at Orléans, ending a siege by the British during the Hundred Years' War between France and England.

1643-1715 Louis XIV, the Sun King, reigns longer than any other French ruler. In this era, France gains power throughout Europe.

1789 On July 14, citizens storm the Bastille, a Paris prison. The French Revolution begins. Each year, France celebrates Bastille Day, the event that led to the royal family being overthrown.

1804 Military hero Napoleon Bonaparte crowns himself emperor after leading France to victory over Europe's strongest nations. In 1815, Napoleon is finally defeated at Waterloo in Belgium.

1903 Henry Desgrange founds the Tour de France, the world's most popular and important bicycle race.

1914-1918 France battles Germany in World War I.

1919 Versailles, France is the location of the signing of the Treaty of Versailles, which ends World War I.

1940 Germany invades France during World War II. In 1945, Britain, France, the U.S. and other allies defeat Germany, Japan and Italy.

1944 After four years, Paris is freed from German occupation. General Charles de Gaulle heads a provisional government in Paris.

1946-1954 The French-Indochina War results in France losing control of colonies in Southeast Asia, including Vietnam.

1958 DeGaulle becomes the President of the Fifth Republic. He is reelected in 1965.

1962 After a long struggle, France gives up control of Algeria, in Africa.

1981 François Mitterrand is elected president. He is in office for 14 years, becoming the longest-serving president in French history.

1991 Edith Cresson becomes France's first female Prime Minister.

1994 The Channel Tunnel opens, connecting Britain and France under the English Channel.

2002 Euro bills and coins are introduced. The euro now is used for all transactions in 12 participating European Union countries.

2003 U.S.-France relations are strained when France does not support the U.S. and Britain's use of military force in Iraq.

2007 Nicolas Sarkozy is elected President in May. He appoints women to half of the positions in his cabinet.

2011 France implements a ban on covering one's face in public. This ban includes garments worn by some Muslim women.

2012 François Hollande is elected President. Hollande is the country's first Socialist President in 17 years.

RECIPES

Galette super-complète (Wheat Crepes with eggs and mushrooms) (makes 4)

For the galettes:

175 g buckwheat flour
1 egg
400 ml cold water (preferably sparkling)
20 g melted butter (salted)
1 generous pinch of salt
salted butter for frying

For the filling:

4 tbsp chopped onions
4 tbsp chopped mushrooms
8 tbsp grated Emmental cheese
8 tbsp chopped tomatoes
8 slices thinly sliced smoked ham
4 eggs
some oil
crushed pepper

Prepare the dough at least 2 hours ahead.

Combine the buckwheat flour, butter, egg, water and salt in a mixing bowl and whisk with a fork until combined thoroughly to form a smooth and very runny dough. Cover and leave to rest in the fridge for at least 2 hrs. Take out of the fridge and beat the dough with a fork for at least 10 minutes. The longer you beat it, the more it will be aerated and the thinner your dough will turn out to be.

Fry the galettes in batches using a 30 cm skillet (crêpes pan, if you have one) - heat a little bit of butter, then add a ladle of dough, making them as thin as you possibly can. If you're incredibly talented, the dough will probably yield 6-8 galettes. A "normal" first-timer will probably succeed in making 4 - don't despair and always remember the French saying: "La première, c'est pour le chien!" ("The first one's for the dog"). Fry on both sides until golden brown and reserve.

Heat a little bit of butter in a pan, add the chopped onions and fry until starting to brown. Add the mushrooms and fry until soft. Reserve. When you're ready to serve, heat the pan and add a galette. Sprinkle with 2 tbsp. cheese. Spread a quarter of the mushroom/onion mix on top, add 1 tbsp. tomatoes. Cover with 2 slices of ham and fold the galette on three sides to form something resembling an envelope.

Meanwhile, in another pan, heat some oil and fry the 4 eggs until the whites have set. Top each galette with a fried egg, sprinkle with pepper and serve with a salad on the side.

Ratatouille's Ratatouille

Ingredients:

1/2 onion, finely chopped
2 garlic cloves, very thinly sliced
1 cup tomato puree (such as Pomi)
2 tablespoons olive oil, divided
1 small eggplant (my store sells these "Italian Eggplant" that are less than half the size of regular ones; it worked perfectly)
1 smallish zucchini
1 smallish yellow squash
1 longish red bell pepper
Few sprigs fresh thyme
Salt and pepper
Few tablespoons soft goat cheese, for serving

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F.

Pour tomato puree into bottom of an oval baking dish, approximately 10 inches across the long way. Drop the sliced garlic cloves and chopped onion into the sauce, stir in one tablespoon of the olive oil and season the sauce generously with salt and pepper. Trim the ends off the eggplant, zucchini and yellow squash. As carefully as you can, trim the ends off the red pepper and remove the core, leaving the edges intact, like a tube.

On a mandolin, adjustable-blade slicer or with a very sharp knife, cut the eggplant, zucchini, yellow squash and red pepper into very thin slices, approximately 1/16-inch thick. Atop the tomato sauce, arrange slices of prepared vegetables concentrically from the outer edge to the inside of the baking dish, overlapping so just a smidgen of each flat surface is visible, alternating vegetables. You may have a handful leftover that do not fit. Drizzle the remaining tablespoon olive oil over the vegetables and season them generously with salt and pepper. Remove the leaves from the thyme sprigs with your fingertips, running them down the stem. Sprinkle the fresh thyme over the dish. Cover dish with a piece of parchment paper cut to fit inside.

Bake for approximately 45 to 55 minutes, until vegetables have released their liquid and are clearly cooked, but with some structure left so they are not totally limp. They should not be brown at the edges, and you should see that the tomato sauce is bubbling up around them.

Serve with a dab of soft goat cheese on top, alone, or with some crusty French bread, atop polenta, couscous, or your choice of grain.

GAMES

When you travel to a foreign country it is important to be able to communicate without words. You will come to find that gestures, noises, and actions really do wonders for getting your point across. If you are shy about doing this you are going to have problems communicating to someone who does not speak your language.

Charades

This is a great game to practice getting over your inhibitions. Here are some basic rules about playing the game. Basically, Charades consists of pantomimes. You have to act out a word or phrase without speaking. For example, "football" could be broken down into "foot" and "ball." "Softball" might be more interesting. Usually, Charades is played by two competing teams in a race against time:

Getting started

- Divide into teams.
- Think of several titles to be acted out and write each title on a slip of paper.
- These slips of paper will be given to the opposite team.
- Write a player's name on each slip of paper. Make sure that younger kids get easy titles.

When pantomiming

- First, indicate to your team whether you're going to mime the title of a movie, book, etc.
- Next, indicate how many words are in the title. (Hold up the number of fingers.)
- Then, start acting silly!

How to play Charades, tricks of the trade: To indicate a movie, pretend to crank an old-fashioned movie camera; to indicate a book, pretend to be reading; for a TV show, draw a square in the air for a TV screen.

Communicating with Gestures

Description: An icebreaker to show the difficulties of communicating without spoken language.

Objective: To put youth at ease about being able to communicate with others and to increase their sensitivity for using and reading gestures.

Time: 10 - 15 minutes, depending upon the number of people involved.

Audience: Both youth and/or adults, 15 - 30 persons.

Materials: 3" x 5" cards with needs to be communicated (i.e. you are tired and want to go to bed, you are hungry, you have to go to the bathroom, you have a stomachache); slides picturing emotions; slide projector and screen.

Global Games

1) Spaghetti (also known as Human Knot)

Have each participant take the hand of another participant. However, no one should take the hand of the person to her/his left or right. After everyone has grasped hands, instruct the group to "untie" the Spaghetti mass without anyone letting go of another's hand.

Note: This activity works best with a group of no more than 7-8. Form several small groups if necessary.

2) Global Pass

Use an inflatable globe as a ball. Have the group form a circle. Explain that the globe will be tossed around the circle. Whoever catches the globe must call out the name of a country that begins with the same letter as his/her name. Most individuals will quickly discover that they must take a quick look at the globe to find additional names of countries.

Post-test

- 1) How many famous people can you name that are from or associated with France who were addressed in this study guide?
- 2) How many countries surround France and what are they?
- 3) What is the capital city of France?
- 4) What are the colors of the flag?
- 5) When did France join the European Union?
- 6) Who is the president of France?
- 7) What is the population (roughly) of France?
- 8) What Paris monument inspired Gaston Leroux's "The Phantom of the Opera?"
- 9) Do you see a lot of similarities or differences between France and Montana?
- 10) Name three major exports and three imports for France.
- 11) Name three major agricultural products that are produced in France.
- 12) Who was the first French King?
- 13) The Mona Lisa is housed in the Louvre Museum in Paris. Who painted it?
- 14) Which saint was burnt at stake in 1431 as a heretic?
 - a) Bruno
 - b) John Wyclif
 - c) Joan of Arc
 - d) John Calvin
- 15) From which people did France get its name?
 - a) Normans
 - b) Vikings
 - c) Danes
 - d) Franks
- 16) Who is the author of "Les Misérables?"
 - a) Victor Hugo
 - b) Alexandre Dumas
 - c) Arthur Conan Doyle
 - d) Jean Paul Sartre
- 17) Corsica is
 - a) a French department
 - b) a French region
 - c) a French city
 - d) a French island

Post-test Answers

- 1) Joan of Arc, Coco Chanel, Victor Hugo, Voltaire, David Guetta, Edgar Degas
- 2) 8-Andorra, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, Spain, and Switzerland
- 3) Paris
- 4) Blue, White, and Red
- 5) Was a founding country-1952
- 6) François Hollande
- 7) 65.6 million
- 8) The Palais Garnier (Paris Opera House)
- 9)
- 10) *Exports*: machinery and transportation equipment, aircraft, plastics, chemicals, pharmaceutical products, iron and steel, beverages. *Imports*: machinery and equipment, vehicles, crude oil, aircraft, plastics, chemicals.
- 11) Cereals (wheat, barley, oats, corn, and sorghum), industrial crops (sugar beets, rapeseed, sunflower seed, flax), root crops (potatoes), wine, and fruits (apples, pears, peaches, and cherries).
- 12) Clovis
- 13) Leonardo Da Vinci
- 14) C: Joan of Arc
- 15) D: The Franks
- 16) A: Victor Hugo
- 17) D: a French Island

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Organization	1	2	3	4	5
Length	1	2	3	4	5
Topics Covered	1	2	3	4	5
Interest Generated	1	2	3	4	5
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