

## Introduction to French B

Thursdays 2:05

Grade Level: 6 – 9 (advanced 5<sup>th</sup> graders with instructor pre-approval)

Teacher: Mary O'Donnell 703.403.7701

Student Fee: \$25

Class size: minimum 5 - maximum 12 students (firm maximum)

**A Parent/Student Agreement form must be completed, scanned, and emailed to [mary.w.odonnell@gmail.com](mailto:mary.w.odonnell@gmail.com). Registration is not complete until the form is received.**

*Bonjour et bienvenue!* First, I must tell you that I LOVE teaching French and sharing about my heritage, and your child is sure to absorb and reflect my enthusiasm a little. In addition to this Class Description, more detailed information about this class is in the **Prospectus**. To understand the difference between French I and Intro to French, see the **Prospectus** as well.

**SUMMARY OF CLASS:** This fun, interactive, creative, academically slow-paced class has two main goals: to introduce younger students to some French vocabulary they will need for French I, and to review grammar concepts that will enable easier transition into a foreign language. Each level of this class (A, B, C) over the period of three years introduces completely different vocabulary. This is a perfect class for those older students who struggle with grammatical concepts or for those whose parents suspect might struggle in a beginning language course either now or in the near future. Students learning a foreign language for the first time can be overwhelmed by the amount of vocabulary to learn and by their inability to connect their understanding (or lack of understanding) of English grammar to the workings of French (or other foreign languages). This highly participatory class will introduce French language, culture, correct pronunciation, and some history and geography through a variety of fun media including games, songs, and various interactive methods. There will be very light homework assignments, online flashcard activities, two VERY low-key oral cultural reports and a famous French person visual board project (all reports are in English).

**PREREQUISITES:** Students must be able to **write legibly and do the homework assigned** – including the memorization / learning of 10-15 words a week, **and be prepared to participate in classroom activities**.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:** All curricula materials will be handed out in class in the form of class book, handouts and CDs, as they have been developed specifically to coincide with the material they will be learning in French I if they continue on with French. Additional materials needed (this is not an exhaustive list)

- 2+ Mechanical pencils at each class (these are **REQUIRED** so that sharpening is kept to a minimum)
- 2" loose-leaf binder w/ pockets and paper.
- Access to Internet to do required online flashcards on Quizlet.
- A parent who is willing to come along side student if he is struggling with basic information processing or application.

**GRADES/ HOMEWORK/ TESTS:** I will be grading on a typical percentage scale (note: this class, alone or with the other sections, A & B, will **NOT** qualify as high school credit for French I). Homework, class participation, listening to / interacting with the homework exercises on CD, the 2 mini-reports, completing **three** 10 minute Quizlet sessions per week, and French person board will be the subject of grades. Students will mainly be given about 10-15 new words to memorize a week, easy homework assignments (like matching, crossword puzzles, finishing sentences, creating sentences, etc.) and other easy activities to complete at home. There will be 5 small tests on vocabulary and grammatical concepts taught, but no quizzes or final exam.

### **IMPORTANT THINGS YOU'LL WANT TO KNOW:**

- Students will bring prize candy on a rotating basis for the class to share (I will notify you when it's your turn)
- The student / parent agreement must be turned in **at registration (see further documents)**
- **Students will be REQUIRED to participate in Quizlet online where the words for our specific class are in flashcard and game form. I have found this program helps to improve students' learning of the vocabulary by 150%!**
- **All CDs are loaned materials, and are to be returned by the last class or no final grade is issued.**
- This is an **UNIQUE CLASS** as a student can take it three times and have a completely different course each time. Read more on the information sheet in the **Prospectus** below.