

1. **French** is spoken in over 43 countries in the world with over 265 million speakers.
2. Approximately **45 %** of English vocabulary comes from **French**. As you learn **French**, you also enhance your grammar and vocabulary skills in English.
3. New England counts almost 300,000 people who speak **French** at home, **French** being the third-most common language in the region.
4. Math and English SAT scores are progressively higher as the years of **French** study.
5. **French** is the only language along with English to be spoken on all 5 continents (the only two truly global languages).
6. **French** is the second most prevalent language on the Internet after English.
7. **French** is an official language of Canada, the largest trading partner of the USA. Canada-USA trade is the largest two-way trade in the world.
8. **French**, along with English is the official language of:

<input type="radio"/> United Nations	<input type="radio"/> UNESCO	<input type="radio"/> NATO
<input type="radio"/> International Labour Bureau	<input type="radio"/> European Community	<input type="radio"/> Universal Postal Union
<input type="radio"/> International Olympic Committee	<input type="radio"/> International Red Cross	<input type="radio"/> Interpol
9. **French**-speaking Africa represents an area larger than the USA.
10. **French** is the most widely taught second language after English with 100 million students and 2 million teachers.
11. In the last ten years, the number of **French** speakers on the planet has increased from 175 to 200 million.
12. **France** has the world's greatest number of Nobel Prize winners in literature (12).
13. A good knowledge of **French** enables you some of the best theatre and films in the world.
14. For those with appropriate **French** skills, there are also possibilities for work in the following fields:

<input type="radio"/> International business	<input type="radio"/> International agencies	<input type="radio"/> Tourism and hospitality
<input type="radio"/> Diplomatic service	<input type="radio"/> Post Office	<input type="radio"/> Government
<input type="radio"/> Computer technology	<input type="radio"/> Pharmaceuticals	<input type="radio"/> Engineering
<input type="radio"/> Teaching, translation, interpreter	<input type="radio"/> Fashion	<input type="radio"/> Medicine
15. In 1995, the United States did business/trade with the following countries in order of importance:

1) French -speaking countries	2) Japan	3) Spanish-speaking countries.
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16. After weighing six factors (number of primary speakers, number of secondary speakers, number and population of countries where used, number of major fields using the language internationally, economic power of countries using the languages, and socio-literary prestige), Weber compiled the following list of the **world's ten most influential languages**: (*number of points given in parentheses*)*

1. English (37)	6. Chinese (13)
2. French (23)	7. German (12)
3. Spanish (20)	8. Japanese (10)
4. Russian (16)	9. Portuguese (10)
5. Arabic (14)	10. Hindi/Urdu (9)

*from Comrie (1998), Weber (1997), and the Summer Institute for Linguistics (SIL) 1999 Ethnologue Survey as well as charts comparing the number of speakers of each language and the number of countries using each language.