

Summer assignment – Advanced Placement French Language and Culture (2019-2020)

Chers élèves,

First of all, I am very excited to have you in class next year! AP is one of my favorite classes to teach because it is a class where we get to know more about each other as we discuss a vast array of topics. It is always amazing to see how much progress you make as French-speakers throughout the year! Remember that French AP is a course conducted almost entirely in French. Therefore, it is **imperative** that you do something in French at least once a day during summer. Trust me, it is easier than you think and before you know it, you'll be picking up new words and understanding French much better, with less effort required. **EVERY DAY** watch at least 15 minutes of a French movie, TV show or of the news (preferably, without subtitles and from a variety of Francophone regions – the 2017 AP exam had many excerpts of Canadian French). Go to the library and flip through a French language magazine. Download a podcast or stream a French radio station like NRJ.fr that you can listen to in the car, in the shower, or on your morning jog. Like/follow/add a French news or magazine website or page to your favorite social media account and read what they post. Listen to music in French and learn a song or two, etc. There are many ways to stay in French mode throughout summer and be ready for AP, so find the ones that suit you, but make sure you vary your activities as much as possible.

For your summer reading (*Le Comte de Monte Cristo*), I am asking you to do the following:

1. Take your time reading the book assigned to you. You do not need to look up every single word unless you feel it will impede your comprehension of the story. The more you read, the quicker and more accurately you'll be able to infer the meaning of many unknown words.
2. You will find assigned questions for your readings **starting early-June** on your current French 3 Honors class Quia page. If you are a student I have not had previously, please email me at may.basse@aquinas-sta.org as soon as possible for information on registering for the website.
3. **You must complete the online work through Quia by two deadlines: July 31 and August 23.** The activities are not timed, you have unlimited attempts and you have the ability to save your work and return to it later. Each activity will have the due date listed next to the activity name. The deadlines are to help you stay on track with some French exposure during the summer so the deadlines are non negotiable. When you return in August, you will do a little project on the story. Details to follow .
4. Review the grammar you have encountered in the past. You will be doing review during the year as well, but it will be easier if you lay some of the groundwork first, as we do not linger on grammar lessons like we did in the first 3 years of French. There are many great online resources, especially through the University of Texas in Austin: <http://www.laits.utexas.edu/tex/gr/index.html#ten>
5. Review past vocabulary. Remember that everything builds on prior knowledge and this is especially true in a foreign language class. You still have access to all the Quizlet sets from my classes, so feel free to use those. <https://quizlet.com/mmebasse>

If you have any questions after carefully reading and following these instructions, or if you have any concerns, feel free to email me (may.basse@aquinas-sta.org) and I will do my best to respond within 48 hours. However, I will be unavailable from July 15 until August 12.

Looking forward to a great year with all of you! *Bonnes vacances et bonne lecture!*