

G-STAR SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

IB French

Mr. Weiss

Summer Language Project

It is summer vacation! Time to relax, travel, play and forget everything you learned this year? No way! To maintain the language skills you gained this year, or to pique your interest for next year, here are some fun and helpful activities for you to complete over summer break.

First and foremost, keep a journal. We need to work on our writing for next year and the best way to do that is practice. Feel free to email me in French or take pictures of your journal entries and send them to me for feedback.

Duolingo, Quizlet and Kahoot are fun ways to practice your vocabulary and grammar skills. Remember, we are moving from very specific lists of vocab to studying broader topics next year. You will need as much vocab at your disposal as possible.

Keep track of any French (or) experiences you have in your journals and bring them in at the beginning of next year for credit.

This project is designed to enhance your vacation, not turn it into more school. Enjoy your break, get some rest and I look forward to a challenging year of IB next school year.

Passez de bonnes vacances

Mr. Weiss

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Assignment:	French Journal
Due date:	August 16, 2019
Grade:	50 pts

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Suggested Activities:

1. **READ A BOOK:** Read a piece of literature in French and reflect on what you read. You can obtain the texts at the library or purchase a copy online. Used copies are available, inexpensively, from websites like Amazon.com, or check out the following links:

<http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/search.html/?format=html&default_prefix=subjects&sort_order=downloads&query=french>

<[http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/search.html/?format=html&default_prefix=subjects&sort_order=downloads&query=>](http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/search.html/?format=html&default_prefix=subjects&sort_order=downloads&query=)

Recommended:

L'Étranger, Albert Camus

Le Petit Prince, Antoine de Saint-Exupery

You may also choose articles, graphic novels, children's books, short stories or poetry, in the target language, based on your own personal interests.

2. **WATCH A MOVIE:** Watch a movie of your choice in the target language. Try to watch using target language subtitles. Write a response that includes:
 - a. Film title and country of origin. When was it released?
 - b. Cast/Director (Who are they? What is their nationality? For what projects are they most well-known?)
 - c. Plot synopsis.
 - d. Observations on the language in the film (words you recognize, new words you learn, different accents or dialects.)
 - e. Thematic elements of the film. (What ideas is the filmmaker sharing with the audience?)
 - f. Cultural comparisons. (How does the film compare to American films? How does the culture represented in the film compare to American culture?)

3. **GO TO A MUSEUM:** Visit a Museum of your choice. Nearby options include: The Norton Museum of Art in West Palm Beach, the Boca Raton Museum of Art, the Cornell Museum of Art and History in Delray Beach, and the Vizcaya Museum and Gardens in Miami. For museum options throughout the state of FL visit http://www.floridasmart.com/attractions/museums_art.htm

Choose a work by a French (European, North American, African...) artist. It can be any kind of artwork: painting, sculpture, photograph, mixed media, etc.

Write a response that includes:

- a. A picture of the artwork at the top of the page.
- b. Some historical background about the artist and the piece. Research! Do not use Wikipedia. State your sources.

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- c. A description of the work. (Think about colors, composition, subject matter, symbols, themes & style.)
- d. State what you like about the work and explain why. How does the piece make you feel?

4. **TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR (or an actual tour if you are travelling abroad.):** Find a historic place or cultural site in a country that speaks the target language and has a website with a virtual tour available. For example, you could explore a famous museum, a château or historic home, a memorial site, an amusement park or resort, etc.

Write a response that includes:

- a. The name and website address of the place you visited.
- b. A picture of the destination.
- c. A description of the place; what services or activities it offers.
- d. Your opinion of the place. (What did you like? What did you dislike? Would you want to visit in person? Why?)
- e. Cultural comparisons (How does the destination compare to similar American destinations? Have you been anywhere similar? Describe.)

5. **LISTEN TO MUSIC:** Discover a recording artist, album, song or music video in your target language. Do some research to report on the following:

- a. Song title and country of origin. When was the music released?
- b. Recording artist (Who are they? What is their nationality? For what projects are they most well-known?)
- c. Song synopsis. (What is it about?)
- d. Observations on the language in the music (words you recognize, new words you learn, different accents or dialects.)
- e. Cultural comparisons. (How does the music compare to American music? Does the music seem to be influenced by ours? Does ours seem to be influenced by theirs? Describe the cultural similarities and differences expressed in the songs.)

6. **SHARE A MEAL WITH FRIENDS:** Go to a restaurant or host a dinner party to try some traditional dishes from French or speaking countries. In a written response, be sure to include the following information:

- a. Type of cuisine you tasted or prepared.
- b. With whom did you dine? Where did you go?
- c. What did you eat? Include the recipe, if possible.
- d. Describe the food. How did you like it?
- e. What can you tell about the target culture from the dish? (The ingredients, the flavors, the way the food is prepared.)
- f. Compare and contrast it to American cuisine.

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This would be a great activity to record or photograph. If you are cooking, you can even document how you prepared the meal. Video-based projects can be completed and credited to a group of students who worked together. Written responses must be individual.

7. **FOLLOW THE NEWS:** Research online to find an article that interests you from a reputable news source in your target language. It could be an article exploring current events, politics, culture, sports, fashion, etc.

Here is a good place to start: <http://libguides.mit.edu/flnewspapers>

In your response, include the following:

- a. The name of the publication and country/city of origin.
- b. Title and author of the article.
- c. Summary of the article in your own words. Do not translate the article.
- d. List and define the key words you needed to look up.
- e. Cultural comparisons. How does the story relate to the United States? Has it been covered in the American media? Do we experience similar news events here? What significance does the story have globally?

8. **MAKE A PICTURE BOOK:** Create an album, scrapbook, travel log, poster, power point or other creative project documenting your adventures this summer. You may also create a fictional storybook of the summer you wish you had.

This can be completed as a group assignment if you create a summer vacation video with your friends. The video must contain appropriate target language dialog.

All projects must contain the following elements:

- a. Title page/book cover with the title of your story, your name and an illustration or photograph.
- b. Illustrations or photos throughout the book.
- c. Story or captions written in the target language appropriate to your level.
- d. A summer vacation activities theme.