



french institute
alliance française

22 East 60th Street
New York, NY 10022

T. 212 355 6100
F. 212 935 4119

info@fiaf.org
www.fiaf.org

FIAF HASKELL LIBRARY

Study Guide/Guide de l'étudiant

Beginner and Advanced Beginner/Niveau débutant et débutant avancé A1-A2

(last update: September 15, 2018)

Welcome to the FIAF Library!

You don't need to speak French like Balzac to enjoy the Library! The following guide will help you discover the resources in the Library at your level and will provide you with suggestions and ideas on materials to use to complement your activities in the classroom. A1 material is coded with **green stickers**, A2 materials have a **blue sticker**. Many resources for students can also be found on the Library page of the FIAF web site (www.fiaf.org).

Culturethèque: The online library of FIAF offers a large variety of electronic resources, including e-books "en français facile," (with audio accompaniment that can be slowed down), magazines to suit all interests, and comics. Click on the "Learn French" tab at the top and then on the resources grouped by your level. Sign up for your account at www.culturetheque.com.

Language-learning CDs, CD-ROMs, DVDs, books and magazines

This material is geared for independent study, and includes titles for pronunciation, vocabulary building, oral comprehension and grammar. Some come with texts, study guides or books. They are all classed by learning level (A1 green stickers; A2 blue stickers, B1 yellow stickers) on separate shelves. All material, with the exception of reference books, may be borrowed (2 weeks for audio CDs, magazines, DVDs and CD-ROM, 4 weeks for books). These are very popular items, so check every week to see what is on the shelf. You can also reserve any title. We are constantly adding to this collection, so keep your eyes open. *Note: materials with a 'reference' label on the spine are for onsite use only.*

- **Bien-Dire INITIAL** is an outstanding magazine for beginning learners of French that comes with an accompanying CD. This is the ♥most popular item among students♥Once you've mastered *Bien-Dire Initial*, we also have *Bien dire*, *ThinkFrench* and *LCFF Magazine*.

- **Easy-readers:** these books simplified yet sophisticated texts and stories often come with annotated vocabulary lists (FF). You will find classics, mysteries, biographies and civilization readers in three levels, with yours being the beginning level of (500-900 words). Easy readers that are bilingual or that come with CDs have been labeled with special stickers for easy identification. Read, understand and enjoy! Many of the same texts are available on Culturethèque.

Magazines/Périodiques

Even at your beginner level (A1 or A2), don't be shy about looking at the magazines on display. All magazines (except for the current issue) may be borrowed for a period of 2 weeks. We encourage you to take advantage of this resource. You can borrow an iPad and read magazines onsite from the Culturethèque site or from home with your own tablet.

General information on France: *France Guide*, *France Magazine*, *France Today*, *Living France* (Titles in English)

A selection of French general interest magazines:

<i>Artpress</i> (bi lingual)	<i>Détours en France</i>	<i>Marie-Claire</i>	<i>Phosphore</i>
<i>Art et décoration</i>	<i>Elle</i>	<i>Modes et travaux</i>	<i>Santé</i>
<i>Ça m'intéresse</i>	<i>Femme actuelle</i>	<i>Paris Match</i>	<i>Vogue</i>
<i>Cuisine et vins de France</i>	<i>Les Inrockuptibles</i>		

TV5Monde, the worldwide 24-hour television channel, is available for onsite viewing in the CR-FLE. TV5 is an excellent window onto the francophone world, offering a wide range of commercial-free, high-quality programs, including subtitled films, news, sports, and documentaries. French language students will be especially interested in the program “**Sept Jours sur la Planète**”, a 26 minute news program aimed at A2, B1 and B2 students, with activity sheets available for downloading. You may view the program live on Saturday mornings at 9:20 or on the website at <http://www.tv5.org/TV5Site/7-jours/>. And don't forget the fun “jukebox” of popular French songs, along with lyrics and study guides. The TV5Monde website has an entire section devoted to learners of French. Check out: ***Parlons Français, C'est facile!***

Dictionaries

An all-in one shelf for homework reference is located on a special shelf in the front room of the Library, just across from our DVD collection. Here you can find reference dictionaries, bilingual dictionaries (ex. French/Spanish), resources for verb conjugation, grammar, pronunciation and more.

Books/Livres

Books may be borrowed for four weeks. At your level, books may appear intimidating, but there are many in the Library that can be accessible to you (Dewey number in parentheses, or check the online catalog for details):

- *Découverte de la France* (FRANCE): located in the main reading room, this collection brings together travel guides and other works about France, Paris and the various regions. Discover the charms that each region of France has to offer and the characteristics that distinguish them as a tourist destination. Many books in English are available.
- *Vive la différence: Regards Croisés* is a collection, mostly in English, which aims to present a selection of titles that investigate the cultural comparison of family, religion, nationality, humor, love, business style, etiquette, ethics...and pets!
- *BD's*: a true French (and Belgian) art form, *bandes dessinées* and graphic novels are for both adults (Moebius, Régis Loisel, Jacques Tardi, David B., Gotlib) and children (*Tintin*, *Lucky Luke*, *Astérix & Obélix*, *Boule & Bill*). Familiarize yourself with this production not only for its linguistic style but also for its cultural interest.

Popular music

Culturethèque's IDTouch database offers over 26,000 albums of a wide range of musical styles and tastes, from classic to contemporary. Selections include individual albums and compilations of world music, sound tracks, rap, jazz, rock, blues, electronic, classical and opera. You will find all your favorite names of the French musical scene (Aznavour, Johnny Hallyday, Claude François, Georges Brassens, Serge Gainsbourg and Edith Piaf) as well as new and emerging independent artists on the European scene. These songs may be listened to via streaming, and are not available for downloading.

(www.culturetheque.com)

DVDs

- Let's be frank: at your level, the dialogues of films may be too fast for you to follow. But don't let that stop you from enjoying a film and trying to pick out words. The majority of the films are in French with subtitles; non-subtitled versions are clearly indicated on the box with a red dot. Many DVDs allow you to turn off the English subtitles (which we heartily encourage). Little tip: the Simenon television series is good for beginners; Inspector Maigret speaks quite slowly!

- <http://library.fiaf.org/smedia/img/docs/dvdFrenchsubtitles.pdf>.

- To get a complete list of DVDs available, consult the list on our website (<http://www.fiaf.org/library/cinema.shtml>) or search "DVD" in our online catalog.

- There is a portable DVD player available at the Library circulation desk for onsite viewing.

Please consult the study guide "Learning French with Cinema" for tips on learning French using films. <http://www.fiaf.org/library/pdfs/lang-learnfrenchwithcinema.pdf>.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS for learners of French:

Cercles de Lecture

A special reading group at your level (A2.) For details, see our webpage (<http://www.fiaf.org/library/bookclub.shtml>).

Faites vos jeux!

Team up with other students at this program where you can practice your French while playing fun games like Scrabble or Taboo *en français*. Refreshments are served. See our website for more details: <http://www.fiaf.org/library/faites-vos-jeux.shtml>

Homework S.O.S.

Avez-vous des difficultés à faire vos devoirs ? Avez-vous du mal à comprendre un point de grammaire ? Ronda Murdock est là pour vous aider. Apportez vos devoirs ou posez-lui des questions précises. Consultez notre site Internet pour plus de détails : <http://www.fiaf.org/library/homeworksos.shtml>