



# PIONEERS Co-Op

P.O. Box 6425, Jackson MI 49201

Voice: (517) 888-4328 Email: OfficeAdmin@pioneershess.org

Website://pioneershess.org

## Overview of FRENCH STUDIES (Grades 7-12)

**Tutor:** Mrs. Virginia Udrys  
vrudrys@hotmail.com  
517-784-7834

**Text/Resources:** *French Now! Level I* (4<sup>th</sup> Edition) ISBN: 9780764179587  
*French/English Dictionary: Merriam-Webster French-English Dictionary*  
(any French/English Dictionary is fine.)

The class will be "full speed ahead":

- ◆ A High School or college textbook will be used
- ◆ Tests, quizzes will be completed
- ◆ One-hour per day homework
- ◆ Grades will be given at this level
- ◆ Extra-credit assignments will be available

Kids are **all** "programmed" to learn language and the earlier the better. They will **all/each** catch on, some sooner, some later. Please encourage a **persistent** attitude. **Quitting** simply forestalls the necessity (colleges look for language study) and the later is harder, because of additional "struggles" with math, sciences, and so on.

### Course Objectives:

1. Show young people why, what, and how to study language(s).
2. The big picture: goals, methods, process, development, rewards.
3. It's a life-long interest — like piano-playing and art. The undertaking is large; the task difficult and/or demanding, but very worthwhile and rewarding after some level of proficiency is reached.
4. Dependent upon individual verbal capacity, experience, development, and one's ability to focus and reflect grammar is analyzing one's own thought process and communication of ideas, discernment of detail.
5. Striving toward these goals, step by step, to mastery of language develops focus, memorization, recall, speech, presentation, confidence, sense of humor about self and perspective about humanity, appreciation of variety in cultural thought patterns, beauty in different aspects of language and literature, originality, creativity of expression; in general, broadens mental balance and spiritual/cultural capacity and maturity, enriches life (both) in its seriousness as well as in its imaginative playfulness.
6. A skill, an art, a building all must rest on a secure foundation. If your youngster enjoys language, encourage this interest. Praise, gifts of books, cassettes, videos, dictionaries, artifacts, maps should motivate supplementary learning and active continued interest in ultimate degree(s) of mastery. Help with discipline in scheduling daily language activities will show your appreciation, support and respect for their good intentions. A little each day, increased in increments over time is ideal, Five minutes practice, but daily, then increased to ten and so on up to one our will ensure a disciplined and deep foundation. Language must become part of the speaker, it/they need a little stirring up each day and lots of settling to the bottom over time, with some breaks from the routes.



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7 - Asking a student to interpret foreign language movies is asking a beginner to perform Beethoven's Sonata in public at Carnegie Hall! As long as the student is happy and secure and studies/practices adequately, be patient and inquire whether he picks out anything recognizable from the movie you're watching. If a student can catch a word, a phrase, an idea or topic in his target language, congratulate him. It is not easy. As parents we ought to have a decent appreciation for language study and let the praise fit the undertaking. It took the youngsters ten to sixteen years to "master" their own tongue and that is not even yet "complete!"

**Student Evaluation:** Students will receive a percentage grade each semester based upon the following:

Quizzes:	33.3%
Homework:	33.3%
Midterm or Final:	33.4%

### Grading Scale

90-100%	=A
80-89%	=B
70-79%	=C
60-69%	=D
Less than 60%	=E