

## “French as a Foreign Language” Class Program

### Au-pair Classes

**Student profile:** Au-pair courses are intended for adult students whose objective is to acquire French language skills during their stay in France under the "au-pair" work status.

**Hours per week:** 4 hours per week in-class + access to the Culture Online program

**Duration:** 1, 2 or 3 trimesters, each 8-10 weeks long

**Class size:** 18 students maximum per class

**Pre-requisites:** according to the student's initial level (evaluated by the placement test)

- Level A1: complete beginners accepted at the start of the course
- Level A2: must have completed level A1
- Level B1: must have completed level A2
- Level B2: must have completed level B1
- Level C1: must have completed level B2
- Level C2: must have completed level C1

**Learning objectives:** Please consult the *Référentiel de formation* (syllabus) for overviews of each CECRL level.

### Methodological approach

Our teaching is based on a communicative method based on active participation of the learners (work in small groups, role-playing, etc.). Our teachers use recent FLE textbooks as well as numerous newspaper and magazine articles and rely on audio documents (French songs, recorded conversations, films, documentaries, digital and online resources, etc.). Course materials are custom-made by the teachers themselves.

Each day, students have assignments to do at home, which are corrected individually and returned the next day by the teacher. This exercise aims to develop written language skills. It is composed of various grammar, conjugation, writing, rewriting etc. exercises. At the end of their studies, students have developed balanced oral and written skills. An estimated 4 hours per week is spent on homework, including proofreading and studying the contents of the day's session and time spent on the homework assignments given by the teacher. This is essential to the student's progress and an integral part of the learning process.

**Contents:** Please consult the *Référentiel de formation* (syllabus) which details the pedagogical contents of each level.

### Course materials and activities

Materials vary according to course level and are composed of exercises from recent FLE textbooks, pedagogical tools created by our teachers, authentic documents, digital and online resources.

- Examples of oral materials: French songs, recorded conversations, films, documentaries, conferences, radio and tv programs, online resources, etc.
- Examples of written materials: excerpts from books, magazines, newspapers, graphic novels, etc.
- Examples of in-class activities: work in pairs and small groups, exposés, role-playing and board games

### Assessment

Several assessments are in place to evaluate, continuously and over time, each student's progress and performance.

#### Continuous assessment:

- Attendance at classes is required. We recommend active participation during classes.
- Homework is given daily at the end of each class, corrected individually by the teacher and handed in the next day (various grammar and conjugation exercises, writing assignments, rewriting etc.).
- Each student's speaking skills are evaluated during daily class activities.

#### Monthly examination:

- Monthly exams evaluate the skills acquired by the student (grammar, language structures, vocabulary, oral comprehension, written comprehension, written expression).
- Exams are graded out of 20.

#### Final examination (Etoile's diploma):

- Students who have studied for at least the 3rd trimester and have received a sufficient grade (10/20) in all the parts of the end-of-year exam can receive our diploma.
- Composed of a three-hour written test and a 10-minute oral test on a subject that the student will have chosen beforehand and prepared for 10 minutes, the final examination assesses students' acquired French-language skills.
- Diplomas are awarded in June at the end-of-school-year party.
- Students who do not meet the criteria to receive the diploma are awarded a certificate.

#### Internal certificates and external certifications:

- At the end of their stays, students receive a certificate indicating the type of course followed, dates of stay, the starting CECRL level and level reached, attendance rates and monthly exam grades.
- Students are encouraged to take an official certification (TCF, TEF, DFP...) and benefit from a reduced price in our certification center.