

French Reading List

French teachers report that they have used these titles with success. Please send any other readers that should be added to this list! Thanks!

Susan Gross

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Elementary school:

These books from Carlex <http://www.carlexonline.com/> pre teach vocabulary and are illustrated.

The Three Bears

Little Red Riding Hood

The Pied Piper of Hamelin

Mrs. Fox and Mrs. Stork

Get any children's literature that is familiar to the students (Clifford, Good Night Moon, The Giving Tree, Where the Wild Things Are, The Very Hungry Caterpillar) and read it to them kindergarten-style. Discuss each page, and personalize everything!

Junior High and High School:

French 1

Pauvre Anne, Le voyage de sa Vie, Fama va en Californie, Presque Mort \$5 each
Blaine Ray www.blaineraytprs.com

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Beginner's French Reader Glencoe Publishing

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French 1 - 2

The following titles may be level 1 or 2. The "Pearson Modern Languages K-12" catalogue has lots of readers. Order the catalogue and check out the titles. They are written by French-Canadian authors, and they are graded for beginning French students! PERFECT! The prices are Canadian, so you will have to convert them to US dollars.

De Toutes les Couleurs

Le Chant de la Mer

Vacances à la Western

Pearson Education Canada

<http://www.pearsoned.ca>

Escapade en Martinique

The "A l'Aventure" readers. EMC Publishing <http://www.emcp.com/>
(There are four titles in this series)

La guerre des Boutons ISBN 209 031 925-9 CLE international
<http://www.cle-inter.com/>

From their "En français facile" 500 mots selection. Their readers are great for upper levels too!

French 2-3

** EMC Publishing <http://www.emcp.com/> has excellent readers and literary adaptations that are appropriate for levels 2, 3, and 4.

The Somerset books are really cute. They are in the "Heritage Jeunesse" catalog. This catalog also has the Baby Sitters Club books, Goosebumps books and series like that for levels three and four. Feel free to call, Mary Sosnowski knows her merchandise and can describe it for you!
<http://www.sosnowskibooks.com/>

French 3

Le Petit Prince, and Petit Nicholas books. are perennial favorites.

J'ai Vendu ma Sœur (Canadian)

Many other good books are available in the catalogues from Pearson, EMC, Héritage Jeunesse, and other publishers. Let student interest and reading level be your guide. Adaptations of classics might begin in level 3 and continue in level 4.

French 4

Oxford French Vocabulary Builder ISBN 0-19-860267-7
Oxford University Press (Available from Border's)

This is a darling book in comic-strip style. Well-illustrated, well-written, good idiomatic and conversational language, I highly recommend it. You can even use it for your textbook of mini-stories in French 3 or 4!

AP French

Radio France Internationale web site has a section with brief, simplified news articles accompanied by on-line listening exercises. Many of these articles are GREAT for building vocabulary essential to understanding current events. RFI prepares about one article a week and there is an archive section. The exercises are EXTREMELY well done. You can listen over and over again, read a transcription, and/or do the exercises and check your answers.

<http://rfi.fr/> Find "La langue française" in the menu on the left-hand side of the page. Click on "écouter" Under "Apprendre", choose "Le journal en français facile"

This will take you to the listening exercises. These articles are selected with the entire world in mind. Many will be of little interest to your students. Still, most classroom reading does not give them the breadth of vocabulary necessary to easily read and listen to the news and to talk about current events: politics, economics, unemployment, etc. These little articles can go a long way toward filling in that gap. What I like is that you can do a VERY thorough job of one of them in 30-60 minutes Nikki McDonald <nmcdonald@cox.net>

Virtually any authentic literature is fine *if* you verify the reading level FIRST!! (To verify reading level, remember that 75% vocabulary mastery is minimum for in-class reading, 90% is minimum for assigned reading.)

The classroom library

Free Voluntary Reading is the most powerful reading activity there is. You need a library of materials at all different levels and of all different interests. Include comic books, TV Guides, newspapers, magazines, translations of familiar (children's) stories, bay books, children's books, readers that you have examined from other publishers, and short-story books. You will soon have several short-story books if you simply type up (correct errors, and elaborate with extra descriptions and even extra sentences) any really good story that you get from students on essays, tests, or free-writes. Sign the short story with the student's name. When you have 15 -20 stories, print them out and staple, titling it "Contes de Français III, 2008-2009" or some such title.

To build your library, and to get students to buy their own books, join the French Scholastic book club. It is the GREATEST,

French Scholastic book club: <http://www.scholastic.ca/clubs/lecture/lancez.htm>

Sources for books for your library:

Mary Sosnowski owns a book company of nothing but children's books in French and Spanish. She is knowledgeable about language acquisition and a reading expert. She is (of course) a HUGE fan of TPR Storytelling®. She will tell you about every single book, if you like!
<http://www.sosnowskibooks.com/>

Amazon.com

Continental Book Company has a wide selection of literature, magazines, dictionaries, AND they have knowledgeable employees!

Continental Book Company <http://www.continentalbook.com/>

AMSCO School Publications, Inc. <http://www.amscopub.com/>

World of Reading, Ltd. www.wor.com

MEP School Division www.mep-eli.com

Lots of readers in French, Spanish, German, Italian, Latin, BIG BOOKS

Bayard Jeunesse <http://www.bayard-jeunesse.com/> is a French publisher of children's books. Check out their "Je bouquine" series. It has 40-page novels!

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Kids can read stories on-line in class or at home on www.momes.net

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A great source is: www.readinga-z.com You must subscribe (about \$30) and then you can print out tons of books for all levels!

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Archie comic books in French!

www.clubpasseport.qc.ca

Archie and Jughead = \$2.49 Canadian

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A series of French readers titled “Galaxie” www.harcourt.canada.com

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French readers with an audio CD.

<http://www.aquilacommunications.com>

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eBay = search for “French Children’s books.”