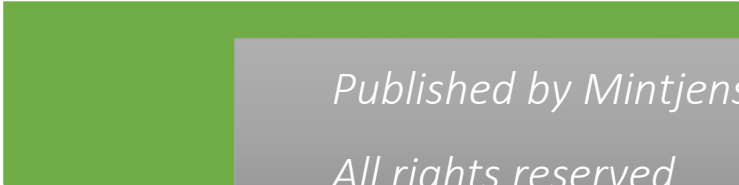


RONNY MINTJENS

My French
Portfolio

THE IDEAL COMPANION FOR EVERY
LEARNER OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE ...

*A Product of Mass
Instruction*



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My French Portfolio

My French Portfolio contains 333 questions and answer options that cover 20 language acquisition topics. It helps students understand all the questions that can be asked about the 20 topics and prepare and practise their personal responses to these questions. The various answer tables are presented in a way that allows the students to pick and choose the parts of the answers that best reflect their own situation.

The Portfolio also encourages the students to review the relevant vocabulary and grammar prior to answering the questions, thus providing a great revision tool in preparation for the different assessment components.

About the author

Ronny Mintjens is a practising language acquisition teacher, examiner and workshop leader for the International Baccalaureate. He is the author of several resources for the various stages in language acquisition in six different languages. He is a language teacher workshop developer, a language acquisition and mother tongue consultant, a moderator for the IB Programme Communities, the Head of Languages at a world-renowned international school and a tireless advocate for mother tongue entitlement in international education. Beyond his life as a linguist, Ronny is a world traveller, a published novelist and photographer, a former professional football coach, a serial writer and an avid reader.

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My French Portfolio

Welcome to your French Portfolio. This resource will help you turn your French language acquisition course into a personal journey and prepare you fully for the assessments.

What is the French Portfolio ?

Every language acquisition course is an organic course. You will learn vocabulary, grammar, syntax, skills and cultural facts throughout the various units that your teacher presents. While the course is open-ended, there are a wide range of themes and topics that *must* be covered and that are the same for all languages.

The following are the most common themes and topics of a language acquisition course :

Identities	Experiences	Human ingenuity	Social organization	Sharing the planet
Personal attributes	Daily routine	Transport	Neighbourhood	Climate
Personal relationships	Leisure	Entertainment	Education	Physical geography
Eating and drinking	Holidays	Media	The workplace	Environment
Physical well-being	Festivals and celebrations	Technology	Social issues	Global issues

Since the acquisition of a new language is an ongoing and organic process, you are encouraged to develop your personalized French **Portfolio**. The development of a Portfolio will help you a great deal as you expand your knowledge and understanding of spoken and written French and as you undertake progressively more complex readings, writings and oral presentations.

This Portfolio has been divided up into five themes and twenty topics. For each topic a number of questions have been suggested. The questions range from basic to complex and you are encouraged to answer each one of these questions whilst using the vocabulary and grammar that you learn in your lessons.

This process of answering many questions allows you to familiarize yourself with the topic-specific vocabulary, to revise and practise the grammatical concepts learned and to provide personalized answers in writing and speaking. The creative nature of the Portfolio also allows for differentiation, where you can challenge yourself to provide detailed answers, to explore grammatical variations (eg tenses) and to set minimum requirements for yourself (eg “use at least three adjectives”).

The table on page 4 shows you the various applications of your Portfolio.

Applications of the Portfolio	Writing	Listening	Reading	Speaking
Coverage of all the course topics	√	√	√	√
Vocabulary practice	√	√	√	√
Grammar practice	√	√	√	√
Writing practice	√		√	
Speaking practice				√
Listening practice		√		
Combining Portfolio paragraphs will lead to almost complete responses	√			√
Cultural understanding	√	√	√	√

By the time you reach the end of the course, you will have a complete set of questions and answers that will, in various forms, be tested in your various formative and summative assessments.

How do I use my French Portfolio ?

This Portfolio workbook contains a comprehensive list of questions and answer options that have been grouped by theme and by topic.

Your task is to :

- find the questions that you cover as you progress through the language acquisition course. For example, once you have covered part or all of the topic of “Eating and Drinking”, you should consult the Portfolio section on this topic;
- study the vocabulary and the grammar related to the topic in question before attempting to answer all the relevant questions;
- study the many answer options that have been given and select the ones that apply to your personal situation. From these options, construct your answers in a personalized manner. For example, when you describe yourself, simply select the features that correspond with what you look like. Of course, you are free to add more features or to change what needs to be changed;
- practise your writing but also your speaking : read the questions and the answer options out loud, draft your answer paragraph and learn how to say that paragraph;
- keep up to date with your course. As soon as you have covered a certain topic, or parts thereof, you should work on the corresponding questions. This will prevent your independent work from building up beyond manageable levels. Always remember that a new language is learned on a daily basis, not on the eve of the test or examination ...
- add your own additional questions at the end of each section. We do not claim to have produced an exhaustive list of questions.

Portfolio example

When you are being asked : « *Est-ce que tu peux décrire ta maison/ ton appartement ?* » (Question 14), you must not simply say that your house is big or small or that your flat has five rooms. In order to fully exploit this question and show how much you have learned in French, you should differentiate between :

- whether your home is a house, an apartment, a chalet, a mansion
- whether your home is big or small
- whether your home is modern or not
- whether your home is near the city centre, in the suburbs or in the countryside
- whether there is one floor or more than one floor
- how many rooms there are in your home
- which rooms there are in your home
- whether there is a garden or not
- whether there is a view of the mountains or of the town
- etc.

When describing your home, why not include a photo in your write-up, Powerpoint presentation or blog entry ? Be as creative and artistic as you can when working on your Portfolio – it is there for you to enjoy !

Possible formats of your Portfolio

Eventually your Portfolio will become a summary and a record of your language-learning experience. It is something you should celebrate and be proud of, so think of a way in which you can fully express yourself and revise best for your tests and examinations.

Some options include :

- using an exercise book to prepare your answers in writing;
- working on a word-processed Portfolio;
- developing a blog;
- creating Powerpoint presentations;
- producing short video clips;
- etc.

Your teacher may also ask you to produce a combination of the above (and other) options.

The addition of visuals to some of the responses will provide a great creative touch and will, in many cases, also aid recognition and recollection of these responses. Furthermore, you may occasionally present parts of your Portfolio to your classmates, either as practice or as an assessment.

Remember, in order to stand out from the crowd and fully explore your linguistic ability, you must produce answer paragraphs that have a range of vocabulary, grammar and cultural content. Don't be satisfied with one-word answers – they will not earn you good grades and they will limit the communication that you must establish with your audience.

Good luck !



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A. IDENTITÉS



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A.1. Caractéristiques personnelles



1. Comment vas-tu ?

Je vais bien, Ça va bien, Assez bien, Pas trop mal, Superbe,	merci,	et toi ? et vous ?
Comme ci comme ça,		
Ça ne va pas du tout. Ça va mal. Je ne me sens pas bien.		

2. Comment t'appelles-tu ?

Je m'appelle	Anna Christopher Daniela Ibrahim Suh Yoon
--------------	---

3. Comment est-ce que tu écris ton nom ?

A-n-n-a C-h-r-i-s-t-o-p-h-e-r D-a-n-i-e-l-a I-b-r-a-h-i-m S-u-h Y-o-o-n

4. Quel est ton numéro de téléphone ?

Mon numéro de téléphone est	1234 5678 876 54 321
-----------------------------	-------------------------

5. Quelle est ton adresse de courriel ?

Mon adresse de courriel est	cdupont@yahoo.fr jsmith@gmail.com
Note :	« @ » se prononce « <i>arobase</i> » en français « . » se prononce « <i>point</i> » en français Donc on dit : « <i>cdupont arobase yahoo point fr</i> »

B. EXPÉRIENCES



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B.1. Habitudes quotidiennes



6. A quelle heure est-ce que tu ... ? (routine quotidienne)

Les jours scolaires Pendant la semaine Tous les samedis matin Le dimanche Pendant le weekend	je	me réveille me lève m'habille ...*	à six heures à sept heures et demie juste avant le petit déjeuner le plus tard possible vers midi
Pendant les vacances D'habitude En général	j'aime	me réveiller me lever m'habiller ...*	après le déjeuner vers deux heures de l'après-midi en fin d'après-midi après le dîner assez tard dans la soirée juste avant de me coucher

*Réfère-toi au Student Workbook pour voir une liste détaillée des routines quotidiennes

7. Quelles corvées de ménage est-ce que tu fais chez toi ?

Chez moi Chaque matin Tous les jours Après le dîner Tous les samedis Quand j'ai le temps	je	prépare le petit déjeuner fais la vaisselle vide la poubelle range mes affaires nettoie ma chambre
	j'aide à	faire les lits promener le chien laver la voiture balayer la cuisine

8. Combien de fois par semaine est-ce que tu prépares le dîner ?

Je prépare le dîner	une fois par semaine chaque soir quand je n'ai pas de devoirs les mardis, car mes parents travaillent jusqu'à tard les vendredis, avant mon programme favori les dimanches, pour que mes parents puissent se reposer un peu
Je ne prépare jamais le dîner,	mon père est un excellent chef ! nous avons une bonne à la maison ma famille et moi, nous mangeons au restaurant tous les soirs chaque soir j'achète un repas à emporter

C. INGÉNIOSITÉ HUMAINE



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E.3. Environnement



259. Qu'est-ce que tu aimes faire quand tu vas à la plage ?

Quand je vais à la plage	souvent d'habitude parfois	je j'	me repose et je lis un bon livre fais de longues promenades joue au football ou au badminton me fais bronzer prends des photos des gens ramasse les ordures dans la mer
Je vais à la plage au moins une fois par mois avec mon école. Nous passons toute la journée à nettoyer la plage et à ramasser les bouteilles et les sacs en plastic. Nous collectionnons les ordures qui se sont échouées sur la plage et nous les emballons dans de grandes boîtes. Après notre travail, la ville nous offre un déjeuner !			

260. Qu'est-ce que tu aimes faire quand tu vas à la montagne ?

Quand je vais à la montagne	je j'	aime adore	faire une randonnée avec mes ami(e)s découvrir de nouveaux sentiers faire de la pêche dans les ruisseaux faire du camping passer la nuit sous les étoiles
Quand je vais à la montagne avec mes ami(e)s nous aimons passer la plupart de la journée à nous promener sur les sentiers et à ramasser les feuilles de plantes et d'arbres différents. Quelques-un(e)s d'entre nous aimons aussi faire des photos du paysage et de l'environnement. Le long des sentiers nous ramassons les déchets que d'autres promeneurs ont oubliés.			

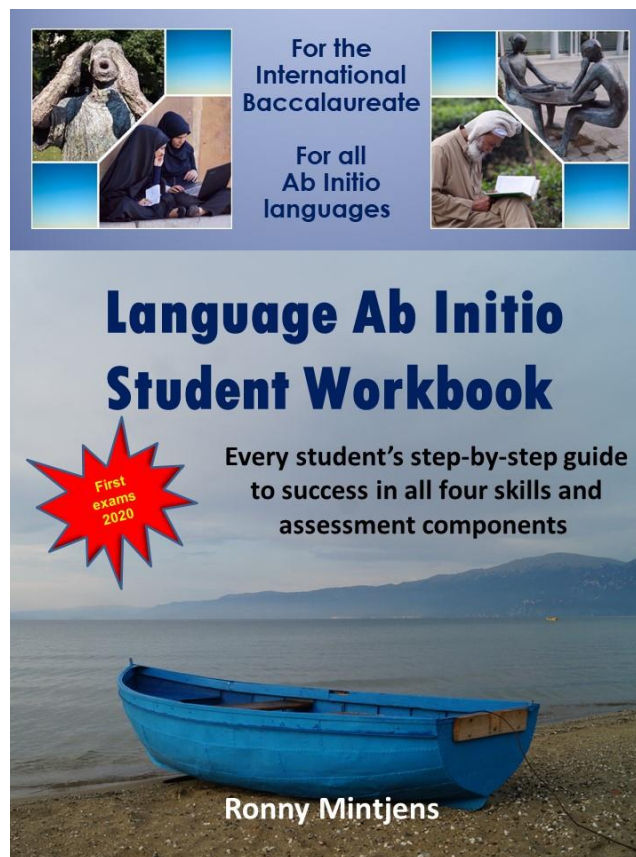
261. Qu'est-ce que tu fais pour protéger l'environnement ?

Pour protéger l'environnement je (j')	ramasse toujours les ordures suis devenu(e) membre du club écologique de mon école aide à sensibiliser mes copains et copines à l'environnement participe à des projets de sensibilisation en ville n'utilise jamais de sacs en plastic fais du recyclage de papier vais à l'école à vélo
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The Language Ab Initio Student Workbook

The Language Ab Initio Student Workbook covers all the components of this language acquisition course and provides a step-by-step guide to the various assessments. Each component is broken down into its various parts and plenty of advice and practice are provided in order to ensure that the student is fully prepared when it matters most. This workbook focuses on reading, writing, listening and speaking and is supported by online resources on the author's website (www.mihunlimited.com).

The introduction of a personal Portfolio helps the student create an ongoing record of their learning and allows them to manipulate the language according to the assessment tasks, the formats and the criteria. By making language learning fun and personal, the Ab Initio student will find a great deal of motivation to create, share and reflect on content and culture in the target language.



For more information, visit www.mihunlimited.com
To place an order, please contact mihabinitio@gmail.com

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Also by Ronny Mintjens

The Language Ab Initio Student Workbook

See description on page 19

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