Le Monde Francophone

French is a Romance language spoken in 29 countries. It is a descendant of the Latin language spoken in the Roman Empire. This is where the term Romance comes from. Other Romance languages from the Roman Empire include Italian (italien), Spanish (espagnol), Portuguese (portugais), and Romanian (roumain).

A Francophone refers to a nation, group, or places where French is spoken, primarily as the primary language.

Le Francophonie as it is now known can be defined as the world community of French-speaking countries, or the collective unit formed by French-speaking people. The French language is being used as a way to bring about a coming together, a sharing, and a collaboration that is strengthening those countries that have linguistic commonalties. As a result, people have an opportunity to come into contact with a huge array of cultural differences and diverse traditions, which fosters tolerance - something the world needs more of.

Where can one find Francophones?

Francophones can be found on every continent, except for Australia.

All over the world, there are over 30 countries in which French is either the primary language, or in which some French is spoken.

North America (L’Amerique du Nord)

In North America, about 1/3 of the population of Canada (Le Canada) speaks French. The French speakers primarily live in the province of Quebec (Le Quebec). Creole, a dialect of French, is also spoken in Louisiana (La Louisiana). Louisiana is located in the United States.

Central America (L’Amerique Centrale)

Two Caribbean islands Martinique (la Martinique) and Guadeloupe (La Guadeloupe) are part of France. Their inhabitants are considered French citizens. Some French is also spoken on the island of Haiti (L’Haiti).

South America (L’Amerique du Sud)

In South America, French is spoken in French Guiana (La Guyane Francaise) which is located on the northeastern coast of South America.

Europe (L’Europe)

Besides France (La France), French is also spoken in parts of Belgium (La Belgique), Luxembourg (Le Luxembourg), and Switzerland (La Suisse).

Asia (L’Asie)

Although the presence of French has not always been significant in Asia, it’s importance is growing rapidly. Currently French is spoken in Laos (Le Laos), Cambodia (Le Cambodge), and Vietnam (Le Vietnam).
Africa (L'Afrique)
French is spoken on the large island of Madagascar (Madagascar)
In North Africa, French is understood and spoken by many people of Algeria (L’Algerie), Morocco (Le Maroc) and Tunisia (La Tunisie). Many of inhabitants in these countries have also left Africa to go to France. In France they have gained French.
In Western and Central Africa, about twenty African countries have adopted French as their official language.

- The countries are as follow:
  Mauritania (La Mauritanie)  Togo (Le Togo)
  Mali (Le Mali)  Benin
  Niger (Le Niger)  Cameroon
  Chad (Le Tchad)  Central African Republic
  Senegal (Le Senegal)  Gabon
  Guinea (La Guinee)  Republic of Congo
  Burkina Faso (Le Burkina Faso)  Rwanda
  Ivory Coast (La Cote D’ivoire)  Burundi

French Language Facts that you may not know:
* French is the 5th spoken language in the world, after Mandarin (Chinese), English, Spanish and Arabic.
* 274 millions of people speak French in the world.
* 54.7 % of Francophones are in Africa. French official language is spoken in 29 countries.
* French is spoken on six continents.
* Canada has the largest French speaking minority.
* French is the third most used language on the internet.
## List of French Speaking Countries

Francophone countries of the world. List of countries where French is native language, or French is regularly in use.

### French Speaking Countries in Europe

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
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<td>Monaco</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
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### French Speaking Countries in Africa

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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>Central African Republic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chad</td>
<td>Comoros</td>
<td>Democratic Republic of the Congo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Congo, Republic of the</td>
<td>Côte d'Ivoire</td>
<td>Djibouti</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equatorial Guinea</td>
<td>Gabon</td>
<td>Guinea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madagascar</td>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>Mauritius</td>
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<td>Morocco</td>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>Réunion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Seychelles</td>
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<td>Togo</td>
<td>Tunisia</td>
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### French Speaking Countries in the Americas and the Caribbean

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<th>Country</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>French Guiana</td>
<td>Guadeloupe</td>
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<td>Haiti</td>
<td>Martinique</td>
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### French Speaking Countries in Australia and the Pacifics

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<th>Country</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>French Polynesia</td>
<td>New Caledonia</td>
<td>Vanuatu</td>
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</table>

French is the official language** in Belgium, Benin, Burkina, Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central, African, Republic, Chad, Comoros, Côte, d'Ivoire, Democratic, Republic, of, the, Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial, Guinea, France, Guinea, Haiti, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Monaco, Niger Republic, of, the, Congo, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Switzerland, Togo, and Vanuatu.
PLEASE ANSWER THE QUESTIONS:

1) From the list of the French speaking countries, locate the country and color it in the map below:

2) Based on the reading above, answer the questions below:

a) What is Francophonie?
b) In how many countries, is French the official language?
c) French is the (number) _________ spoken language in the world?
d) Where are most of the Francophones countries?
e) What is the French Dialect called in Louisiana?
f) Name two French speaking countries in North America:
g) Name two French speaking countries in Asia:
h) Name two French speaking countries in Africa:
i) Name two French speaking countries in Europe: