



# MFL Sunderland Primary French Podcasts

lesson

21

## Welcome to the MFL Sunderland Primary French podcast. Lesson 21 – Where in the world is French spoken?

In this lesson you will learn how to say the names of some other countries in the world where French is spoken. You will also learn how to ask questions about these countries, to help you with the classroom activities for this lesson.

**Notes:** This podcast covers Lessons 21a and 21b of the Scheme of Work.  
Countries where French is spoken are called “Francophone” countries.

*Like other French nouns, the names of countries in French are either masculine or feminine. Generally speaking, countries that end with –e are feminine, with very few exceptions. The gender of the country affects how we talk about it. In English we would say “I like France” but in French we have to add the article and say “I like the France”.*

*Listen to the masculine countries first. (Although the first one isn't actually a country at all.)*

le Québec	Quebec
le Sénégal	Senegal
le Mali	Mali
le Maroc	Morocco
le Luxembourg	Luxembourg
le Laos	Laos
le Vietnam	Vietnam
le Zaïre	Democratic Republic of Congo

*Maintenant à toi. Ecoutez, répétez.*

le Québec	(pause)	le Québec	(pause)
le Sénégal	(pause)	le Sénégal	(pause)
le Mali	(pause)	le Mali	(pause)
le Maroc	(pause)	le Maroc	(pause)
le Luxembourg	(pause)	le Luxembourg	(pause)
le Laos	(pause)	le Laos	(pause)
le Vietnam	(pause)	le Vietnam	(pause)
le Zaïre	(pause)	le Zaïre	(pause)

Masculine French-speaking countries

Feminine countries

Now listen to the feminine countries.

la Guadeloupe      *Guadeloupe*  
 la Tunisie          *Tunisia*  
 la France          *France*  
 la Guinée          *Republic of Guinea*  
 la Côte d'Ivoire    *Ivory Coast*  
 l'Égypte          *Egypt*  
 la Suisse          *Switzerland*  
 la Guyane          *Guyana*  
 l'Algérie          *Algeria*  
 la Belgique        *Belgium*

Maintenant à toi. Ecoutez, répétez.

la Guadeloupe	(pause)	la Guadeloupe	(pause)
la Tunisie	(pause)	la Tunisie	(pause)
la France	(pause)	la France	(pause)
la Guinée	(pause)	la Guinée	(pause)
la Côte d'Ivoire	(pause)	la Côte d'Ivoire	(pause)
l'Égypte	(pause)	l'Égypte	(pause)
la Suisse	(pause)	la Suisse	(pause)
la Guyane	(pause)	la Guyane	(pause)
l'Algérie	(pause)	l'Algérie	(pause)
la Belgique	(pause)	la Belgique	(pause)

"in" or "to" a country

The gender of a country also affects the preposition that you use with it when you want to say "in" the country or "to" the country.

For the masculine countries you use "au". Therefore "au Sénégal" means "in Senegal" or "to Senegal", and "au Luxembourg" means "in Luxembourg" or "to Luxembourg".

For the feminine countries you use "en". So "en France" can mean either "in France" or "to France" and "en Suisse" is either "in Switzerland" or "to Switzerland".

Countries which are also islands pose additional problems. You generally use "à" for these. If you want to say "in Martinique" or "to Martinique" you say "à la Martinique", as the island is known as "la Martinique" in French. The island of Madagascar is a real odd one out. It appears to be neither masculine nor feminine, and when you say you are in it or going to it you say "à Madagascar".

Ideas

To help your class to practise the country names and using "au" and "en" you could combine them with the transports and the verb "aller" from Lessons 19 and 20. Here are some examples of the sorts of (nonsense) sentences you could make:

Je vais au Mali en voiture. *I go to Mali by car.*

Vas-tu en Algérie à pied ? *Do you go to Algeria on foot ?*

Lucy va à Madagascar en bus. *Lucy goes to Madagascar by bus.*

*Let's practise some of the questions that you will need to ask in French in order to teach successfully Lessons 21a and 21b.*

Qu'est-ce que c'est ?      *What is it ?*

C'est quel pays ?      *What country is it ?*

C'est le Québec ou la Martinique ?      *Is it Quebec or Martinique ?*

*Maintenant à toi. Ecoutez, répétez.*

Qu'est-ce que c'est ?      (pause)      Qu'est-ce que c'est ?      (pause)

C'est quel pays ?      (pause)      C'est quel pays ?      (pause)

C'est le Québec ou la Martinique ?      (pause)      C'est le Québec ou la Martinique ?      (pause)

**That's the end of this podcast. If you think you need a bit more practice, go back to the beginning and work through the activities again.**

**A bientôt!**

Some other resources that you might like to use in conjunction with this podcast :

Podcast: Intercultural Understanding – France

[www.sunderlandschools.org/mfl-sunderland/resources-pr-fr-podcasts.htm](http://www.sunderlandschools.org/mfl-sunderland/resources-pr-fr-podcasts.htm)

French-speaking countries

[http://french.about.com/od/francophonie/ss/whatisfrench\\_2.htm](http://french.about.com/od/francophonie/ss/whatisfrench_2.htm)

International Day of Francophonie – 20<sup>th</sup> March

<http://french.about.com/od/francophonie/a/dayoffrancophonie.htm>

Map of Francophone countries

<http://tinyurl.com/francophonie-map>

This would also be a good opportunity to address some of the Year 3 objectives of the Intercultural Understanding strand of the KS2 Framework for Languages, in particular looking at all the languages that are spoken in your classroom, in your community and throughout the world.