

Dear student,

**Welcome to French!** As your new teacher, I am very excited to further your journey on the path to fluency. Speaking French is an incredibly useful skill and this year my goal is to give you the skills needed to have the same kind of incredible experiences I have.

**About me:** I am from Syracuse, NY and English is my first language. I started French in 7th grade, and added Spanish when I went to college at SUNY Albany. I studied abroad in both France and Spain for a total of one and a half years! Now, I speak both fluently and teach Spanish at CMS and French at the High School.

**What French has done for me:** Before teaching, I used my French in sales to be able to speak and translate for Québécois clients. I used French working at SUNY Study Abroad, advising students and promoting exchange programs. I read books, listen to music, and watch TV in French. I have made connections with local francophone families and use it when I travel Europe.

**What I want French to do for you:** I want you to enjoy all the benefits French brings! Speaking a second language gives you more job security (and often higher pay) in almost any kind of work. It allows you to understand a whole world of music, books, TV shows and movies. Speaking French means you can make friends with – or eavesdrop on - over 100 millionnew people. Even those who only study a little French will find themselves better at English and more prepared for standardized tests because of their expanded vocabulary.

**French has something for everyone.** Foreign language class is like all of your other classes combined. There are days when we read and write like in English. There are days where we learn formulas like in math and science. There are days when we move around and make projects like in gym or art. We might even have some performances. No matter what your strengths are, you’ll find a place to shine in my class.

Please see the rest of this packet for classroom policies and expectations. Read them, know them, and follow them, and we can have a great year!

See you in class!
**Monsieur Luttinger**

**M. LUTTINGER’S CLASSROOM RULES AND EXPECTATIONS**

**Required Materials:**

These materials need to be brought to class every day.

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| --- | --- |
| 2 inch three-ring binder | Planner/agenda book |
| Looseleaf paper for binder | Pencil with eraser (I avoid pens) |
| Subject dividers for binder | Pencil case (recommended) |

**My Code of Conduct:**

* Students will be **prepared** for class, have their materials, and be in their assigned seats when the bell rings.
* Students will be **respectful** of others. No one has the right to disrupt another person’s learning.
* Students will be **mature**. Rough housing, bullying, inappropriate language, throwing objects, sound effects, or other kindergarten behavior will result in a grade penalty and disciplinary action.
* Absolutely **no cell phones or electronic devices** (iPod touch, etc) unless given permission by the teacher.

**Grading:** Homework: 10%,Quizzes: 30%,Tests and Projects: 40%**,** Participation: 10%, Classwork 10%.

**Homework Policy:** Homework is an opportunity to practice what we have learned in class. A completed assignment – even with mistakes- receives a 100 as long as it shows effort. If an assignment is not turned in or shows no effort or care, it receives a 0. There is no inbetween.

**Late Policy:** Students can turn in assignment up to a week late and receive a 100 for completion. After a week, it is at the teacher’s discretion whether or not to accept a late assignment. If the assignment’s answers have been given out in class, the student will need to complete an alternate assignment for credit.

**Passes:** One boy and one girl may leave the class at a time.

**Sickness and absence:** Students who miss class have as many days to turn in late work as they missed of class. For example, a student who was sick for 2 days may turn in an assignment 2 days after it was due and still receive full credit.

**Participation:** The participation grade (10% of final grade) is based on a student’s behavior, effort, and completion of classwork. See the attached rubric for how you will be assessed.

**Tests, Quizzes, and Projects:** Each unit will have a unit exam and several quizzes. Not all units have projects. If you are not happy with a quiz or test grade, you may come see me to do corrections to earn back half of the points you lost.

**Online Translator Policy:** Online translators such as google translate are not allowed, not even for single-word translations. These translators are innaccurate and using them is not only cheating, it’s a sure-fire way to get a weird translation! A student caught using a translator to complete an assignment will receive a zero on that assignment with no opportunity to make it up. I encourage students to use either a French-English paper dictionary, or better yet, [www.wordreference.com](http://www.wordreference.com).

**Contact me:** luttingerf@chatham.k12.ny.us

**RETURN THIS PACKET SIGNED. IT IS YOUR FIRST HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT.**



Sign below to show you have read and understand the guidelines for my French class.

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Student Signature Parent/Guardian Signature

**PARTICIPATION RUBRIC**

Note: any student whose in-class performance is even lower than the description for “1” can receive a zero.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | PREPAREDNESS | ENGAGEMENT AND COMPLETION | ATTITUDE | EFFORT |
| 1 | Nearly always unprepared. | Virtually no participation or completion of in-class assignments. | A regular disruption to the learning of others. | Student made virtually no effort even when given multiple chances. |
| 2 | Unprepared more often than prepared, meaning he/she could often not participate in class. | Rarely participated and completed anything in class. | A negative influence on others more often than not. | Rarely completed any work, even the simplest tasks. |
| 3 | Overall good, but at times could not participate because of being tardy or missing work. | Completed work and participated on his/her good days only. | Positive and respectful as often as not. Sometimes helpful, sometimes a distraction. | Completed work that was easy, quickly lost steam when it got tough. |
| 4 | Nearly always prepared and on-time, with a hiccup here or there. | Participated and completed nearly everything. | Positive and respectful nearly always. | Rarely gave up, gives a good faith effort in class. |
| 5 | Always prepared and on-time, any missed work made up immediately. | Raised hand often, completed classroom tasks every time, participated in games and dicsussions. | Positive and respectful for own work and with others. | Always tried his/her best, even when it got tough. |

**Self-assessment: \_\_\_\_\_/20 Teacher’s assessment: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/20**