

American Association of Teachers of French National French Contest 2012

FLES CONTEST DATES: February 15-28, 2012



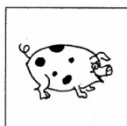
Other Important Dates of Note:

- Answer Sheets Due at Scoring Center: **March 7 2012**
- Recordings Due: **March 29, 2012**
- Release of National Results: **April 15, 2012**

LISTENING: (All Divisions) Students listen to a CD and choose the appropriate response from a series of pictures. A few non-visual items are included at the end for more advanced levels.

STUDENT HEARS: Qu'est-ce que c'est? C'est une vache.

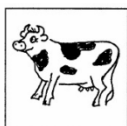
STUDENT SEES:



A.



B.



C.

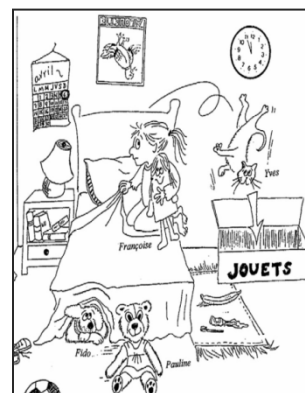
READING & STRUCTURE: (Divisions 2B, 3B, Hors Concours only, refer to Division guidelines) Picture identification, some elementary grammar, and question-answer items. **NOTE: There is no writing.**

EXAMPLE. Dans ses bras, Françoise porte _____.

- a. un nounours
- b. une poupée
- c. un coussin.

READING COMPREHENSION: (Division 3B and Hors Concours only, refer to Division guidelines) A reading selection followed by multiple choice questions.

SPEAKING: (All Divisions, **Hors Concours is now eligible**) Teachers are notified after initial scoring. Questions are given for the teacher to pose to the student. Teachers are requested not to prompt or pose additional questions of their own, but may rephrase questions that might be totally unfamiliar in form. Separate questions are provided for each division. It is assumed that the responses of younger students will be simple phrases or single utterances, whereas the older students can comment in a more complex form or elaborate on a response.



NOTE: Students are NOT to write out a statement before speaking and must not see the picture before the taping nor drill vocabulary from the picture in advance.

HOW TO PREPARE ? Past contest materials may be obtained from Lisa Narug (Box 3283, St. Charles, IL 60174) See our web site, www.frenchteachers.org/concours for more information.

NOTE: Use contest tapes and pictures throughout the year as supplementary oral activities!



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Contact Elizabeth Esper, P.O. Box 2508, Ashburn, VA 20146-2508 fles@frenchcontest.org

DIVISIONS: How do teachers determine which division is appropriate for their students? The basic contest is the same for all grade levels, with reading/grammar for the more advanced students, and a sliding scale for scoring based on amount of French study to evaluate fairly. A class meeting only once a week will not be competing at the same level as a class that meets five times a week, for example. Correct division placement is imperative to maintain fairness for all students.

NOTE : THE NUMBERS 1, 2, 3 DO NOT MEAN NUMBER OF YEARS OF FRENCH!

DIVISION 1A: Students in school grades 1, 2, 3. (Listening section only and speaking if qualified.)

DIVISION 2A: All grade 4 students; students in grades 5 & 6 who have just started French or are in strictly oral programs. (Listening section only and speaking if qualified.)

DIVISION 2B: Students in grade 5 or 6 with several years of French. Recommended for most 6th graders. (Listening, structure, and speaking if qualified.)

DIVISION 3A: Students in grades 1, 2, 3 who are in immersion or partial immersion programs, students privately tutored for two or more years, all students studying in French speaking countries, students with more than one year of immersion preschool. (Listening section only and speaking if qualified)

NOTE: "PARTIAL IMMERSION" would be any program with 500 minutes per week of French.

DIVISION 3B: Same as Division 3A but for students in grades 4, 5, 6.

HORS CONCOURS: Students who speak French at home with any member of the household. These students must do Division 3A (Grades 1-3) or 3B(Grades 4-6) contest and are now eligible for national prizes.

ORDERING: Please note that we will no longer use contest "kits", instead you will now be able to order individual copies for the exact number of students you have as in other levels of Le Grand Concours.

CONTENT: We are aware that FLES programs vary a great deal across the country, and no contest can reflect the emphasis of every individual class. So, only as a guideline for teachers, we list below the subject areas often touched on. They are also available on the internet. <http://www.frenchteachers.org/concours>

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. weather & seasons | 10. locutions of position (<i>dans, sur, devant</i> , etc.) |
| 2. school & classroom | 11. house, rooms, furniture |
| 3. food & table | 12. body & <i>avoir mal à</i> |
| 4. clothes (<i>je porte</i>) | 13. family members |
| 5. time & calendar | 14. simple descriptive adjectives |
| 6. numbers | 15. action verbs & aural distinction of <i>il/elle</i> |
| 7. negatives | 16. transportation & directions |
| 8. town & stores | 17. animals |
| 9. culture - daily life, holidays | 18. personal information |

PRIZES: **National Winners:** Olympic gold, silver, and bronze medals and certificates awarded in addition to many other prizes from National AATF

Mention Honorable: The names of the students just below the national winners are listed in Le Grand Concours newspaper and are honored by local AATF chapters.

Tableau d'Honneur: The highest scoring student in each division from every school will be listed in Le Grand Concours newspaper and honored by local AATF chapters.

FLES IS UNIQUE!

In many ways the FLES contest is the same as the secondary contest in format, which makes students comfortable with the procedure before they reach secondary school. What makes FLES unique is our speaking section for the top scoring students to emphasize what we all feel is the essential goal of FLES teaching: encouraging students to speak the language.