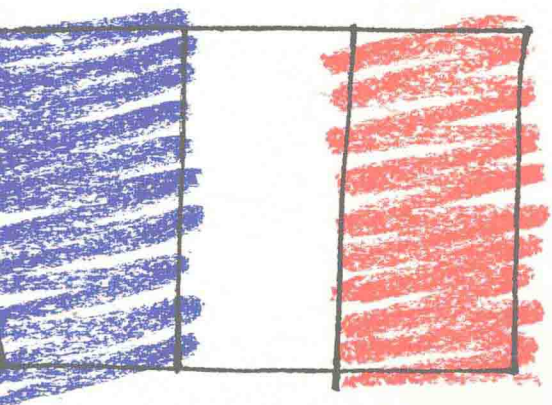


à vous

LA FRANCE!



A vous la France!

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EMC Publishing, Saint Paul, Minnesota

ISBN 0-8219-0196-6

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Published by EMC Publishing

300 York Avenue

Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101

Printed in Hong Kong

0 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

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Introduction

A vous la France! is the sort of phrase you might hear on television or radio meaning 'over to you in France' or 'come in, France'. It also means, 'France is yours — open to you to visit and enjoy'. Either way, it stands for contact with France and the French. This course aims to open up France to you by bringing you the sights and sounds of the country and its people.

A vous la France! is a course for people who speak little or no French and who would like to start speaking the language in a range of ordinary everyday situations, such as getting food, drink and accommodations, using transportation, shopping, getting things done and just having friendly chats with French speakers about family and home, work, likes and dislikes, and so on. The course is based on conversations filmed and recorded in France in which French people go about their daily lives using their everyday spoken language.

The complete program consists of the following components:

1. 15 video cassettes
2. 3 audio cassettes
3. this book
4. a text-workbook
5. notes for teachers
6. a Teacher's Guide

IMPORTANT

A vous la France! is based on a BBC television and radio series. Throughout this book reference is made to "TV" and "radio" because this program was originally presented in both media. The various related situational dialogs, which are part of the BBC TV and radio presentations, can be covered by students without having access to the existing BBC films (available on video cassettes) or the radio broadcasts (available on audio cassettes).

Furthermore, it should be noted that not all the sections marked with "radio" and "TV" are recorded on the audio cassettes. The accompanying Teacher's Guide lists all the sections recorded on the audio cassettes.



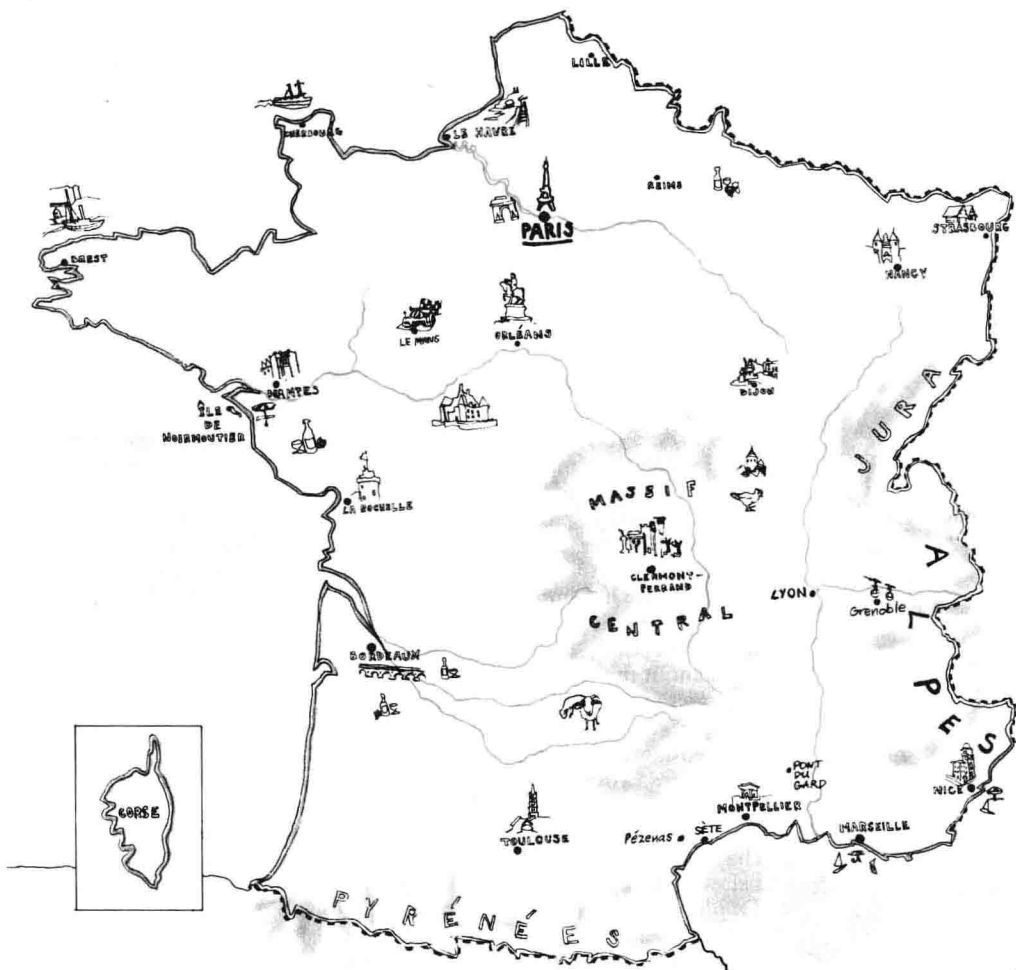
Sara Tomei (Radio)



Pierrick Picot (Radio)



Jane Cottave (TV)



The television program (video cassettes)

These cover the same language topics as the radio program, but in different settings. Film locations were in and around Grenoble, a large modern city in the foothills of the Alps in south-east France, and the historic southern town of Pézenas near Montpellier. The interviewer was Jane Cottave.

The radio program (audio cassettes)

The recordings were made in and around Bourg-en-Bresse, in southeast France, where our interviewers were Marie-Pierre Caréra and Jean Fournier, and in Nantes and La Rochelle in western France, where our interviewers were Sara Tomei and Pierrick Picot. In the program these recordings will be explained and used as the basis for lots of speaking practice. The program cannot show you France, but it will offer an excellent opportunity for you to listen to the sounds of the language and to develop your ability to speak it for yourself and express your own ideas.

The program falls into two main parts. The first consists of simple conversations that illustrate the basic language to be learned week by week. The second part is a mini-documentary on various aspects of French life. The language used here is rather more complex and the idea is not only to convey the flavor of life in the France of today but also to give you the chance of knowing what it's like to be 'thrown in at the deep end'. You shouldn't expect to understand these documentaries right away, but as time goes by you will discover that you are getting better at picking out the bits that really matter.

The book

Each chapter of this book corresponds to the program on radio and television and contains:

1. the texts of the basic conversations from the program. These include *Recontres*: a series of 'vox pop' interviews in which passersby in the street speak their minds on a range of subjects. Those texts marked "radio" were broadcast by the BBC (some are recorded on the audio cassettes) and are part of the video cassettes (original BBC TV series). Unmarked scenes are additional reading material recorded on location but not used in the program for reasons of time. Phrases whose meanings are not immediately obvious are translated into English after each conversation.
2. the main French structures to be learned. These are in boxes placed throughout the conversations.
3. *Quickies*: a series of short questions with which you can check whether you have understood the contents of the conversations and grasped some of the phrases used.
4. *Mots-clés*: a vocabulary list in which we have selected what we consider to be the most useful words to learn.
5. *En bref*: a section that sets out the language to be learned for each chapter. This is the language on which the exercises (see *Bon courage* below) are based.
6. *En plus*: further, more detailed information about words and usage.
7. *A propos*: a series of short articles in English on aspects of French life.
8. *Bon courage*: a series of exercises that can be used for checking whether you have learned that chapter's language and also what you have remembered from previous chapters.
9. *Documentaire*: a summary in French of the television (video cassette) mini-documentary, with an introduction in English. These can be used to prepare for the TV (video cassette) program or as reading practice in their own right. Difficult words and phrases are translated after each summary; other words should be looked up in a dictionary.

Chapters 5, 10 and 15 are review chapters and also contain tests with which you can check your progress.

At the back there is a general reference section. It contains:
a guide to French pronunciation;
a summary of the French grammar covered in the course;
answers to exercises — both *Quickies* and *Bon courage*;
a French-English vocabulary of the words in this book, except those in the *Documentaire* sections;
two indexes — one of the grammar covered in this book and one of the topics of French life.

The audio cassettes

Additional material for listening and speaking practice can be found on the three cassettes. They contain the following:

1. a pronunciation section, where words and phrases are presented in isolation so that you can concentrate on the sound. There are pauses for you to repeat what you have heard. The text of these pronunciation sections is found in the Teacher's Guide.
2. a selection of the basic conversations from the program that are also printed in this book.
3. at least two oral exercises per chapter that can be used to practice taking part in complete conversations in France in real-life situations. There are pauses for you to take part in the conversations, and the printed answers are also included in the Teacher's Guide.

The teacher's notes

These are intended for teachers who are using *A vous la France!* as a course book in their classes. They contain suggestions for developing the radio and television video cassette programs in class and for presenting more written and oral practice based on the course.

Some hints on using *A vous la France!*

It is worthwhile bearing a few points in mind when learning a foreign language.

Everyone learns in a different way and at different speeds. So there is no set time to spend with the course each week, but it is suggested that at the very least you watch each video cassette (if available) and listen to the recorded material for each chapter on the audio cassettes.

The boxes between the dialogues represent the minimum language you should become familiar with.

Mots-clés are chosen as the basic words that should be learned. There is no doubt that the secret of understanding a foreign language and speaking it yourself lies in knowing lots of words and a little grammar — not the other way around.

A propos is intended as relief from actual language learning and introduces you to various aspects of life in France and French customs and how they differ from American or British ones in a number of respects.

Beyond that, you should spend time learning the contents of *En bref* and, if you have the time and energy, *En plus*, which are designed to help you understand the workings of French in broader terms.

Do the written exercises in the *Bon courage* section, one or two at a time. You can check your answers in the back of the book. You should not treat any mistakes you make as proof of an inability to learn French. To get absolutely everything right would be the exception, not the rule. So remember that there is a positive value in getting things wrong — it demonstrates the gaps in your knowledge and shows what needs to be reviewed.

If you are really grammar-minded, you might like working through the grammar summary at the back of the book. This is very much an optional section meant for people who feel most at home if they know all the ins and outs of particular aspects of grammar.

Learning vocabulary, as was said above, is vital. The *Mots-clés* sections in this book contain about 750 words. These words are of high frequency and therefore, used often in everyday speech.

Vous désirez?

Buying a drink

Buying bread

Asking for tourist brochures, maps, etc

Telling someone a little about where you live

TV

I Five friends are in a café in Grenoble. When the waiter comes they order a coffee, a fresh orange juice, two shandies and a white wine with blackcurrant liqueur (*un kir*).

Garçon Messieurs-dames, bonjour.

Maud et Sophie Bonjour.

Garçon Vous désirez?

Fleb Un express, s'il vous plaît.

Garçon Un express.

Maud Une orange pressée.

Garçon Une orange pressée.

Dan Qu'est-ce que tu prends, Mimi?

Mimi Un panaché.

Dan Ah oui, moi aussi. (*turns to waiter*) Et deux panachés alors.

Sophie Et moi un kir, s'il vous plaît.

Garçon Alors, un express, une orange pressée, deux panachés et un kir.

Mimi Voilà. C'est ça.

Garçon Merci.

Fleb et Dan Merci.

vous désirez? *what would you like?*

qu'est-ce que tu prends? *what are you having?*

moi aussi *so will I, me too*

c'est ça *that's it*

To ask for something, just name it:

une orange pressée, ...

un panaché, ...

and add 'please':

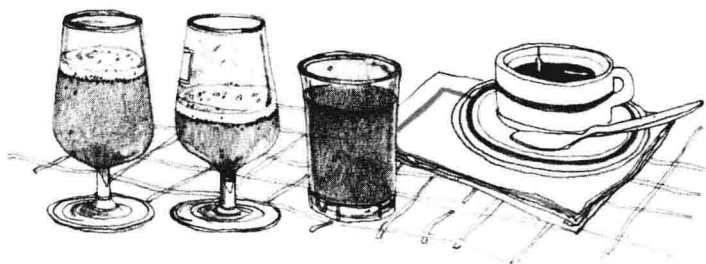
... s'il vous plaît.

Notice the two words for 'a': **une/un**

How to say 'that's it' or 'that's right':
c'est ça

Quickies

REMEMBER whenever you are doing the Quickies COVER UP THE PAGE ABOVE THEM except for the pictures.



- 1 Name the drinks in the pictures. Don't forget the two words for 'a'.
- 2 How polite can you be? Can you remember how to greet people, say please, thank someone?



TV

- 2 Anissa Inoubli is shopping. In a baker's shop (*une boulangerie*) she buys croissants and two different-sized loaves of bread.

Anissa Bonjour, madame.
 Boulangère Bonjour, madame, Vous désirez?
 Anissa Six croissants, s'il vous plaît.
 Boulangère Oui. (*she serves her*) Et avec ceci?
 Anissa Un pain et une baguette.
 Boulangère Et avec ceci, madame?
 Anissa C'est tout, merci.
 Boulangère (*ringing up prices on the till*) Alors, six croissants, une baguette et un pain, seize francs quatre-vingts.
 Anissa (*paying*) Là. Voilà.
 Boulangère Merci, madame.
 Anissa Au revoir, madame.
 Boulangère Au revoir, madame. Merci.

et avec ceci? *is there anything else?*
c'est tout *that's all*

To refer to more than one thing, an 's' is added in writing to most words:

deux panachés

six croissants

In speaking the 's' is not pronounced.

When saying 'hello', 'goodbye', 'thank you', etc
madame/mademoiselle/monsieur are usually added:

bonjour, madame

merci, monsieur

au revoir, mademoiselle

- Quickies**
- 1 The smaller size loaf of bread is the commonest sort bought. What is its name?
 - 2 Can you now say 'Goodbye' to the woman serving in the shop?

- Radio**
- 3 Jean Fournier goes to his local café in Bourg with a friend and orders two coffees: *un café* is black and *un crème* is white.

Patronne Bonjour, monsieur.

Jean Bonjour, madame.

Patronne Qu'est-ce que vous désirez?

Jean Un café et un crème, s'il vous plaît.

Patronne Un café et un crème, d'accord. (*she brings the coffees*) Voilà, messieurs. Le crème pour qui?

Jean C'est pour moi, madame.

Patronne (*putting the cups down*) Voilà, messieurs.

Later Jean asks for the bill.

Jean C'est combien, s'il vous plaît?

Patronne Quatre francs cinquante. (*Jean pays*)

Jean Tenez

Patronne Merci beaucoup, monsieur.

Jean Au revoir, madame. Merci.

Patronne Au revoir, messieurs. Bonne journée!

d'accord *certainly, right*

le crème pour qui? *who's the white coffee for?*

pour moi *for me*

bonne journée! *have a good day!*

To ask how much it comes to, the key word is **combien**:
je vous dois combien? ça fait combien? c'est combien?

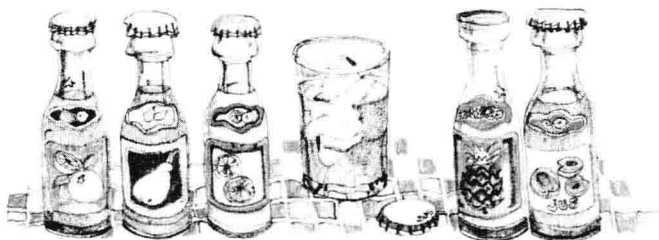
- Quickies**
- 1 How would you ask for a white coffee?
 - 2 What's the word for 'how much'?



Radio 4 In a baker's shop in Bourg, Marie-Pierre wants a different kind of loaf. She asks the young girl serving for *une flûte* and some croissants.

Vendeuse Bonjour, madame.
 Marie-Pierre Bonjour. Une flûte, s'il vous plaît.
 Vendeuse Oui. (*fetching it*) Voici. Avec ça?
 Marie-Pierre Quatre croissants.
 Vendeuse Oui. Voici. Ce sera tout?
 Marie-Pierre Oui. Combien?
 Vendeuse Alors, (*adding up*) six quarante et trois francs, neuf quarante, madame.
 Marie-Pierre Voilà.
 Vendeuse Merci. Au revoir, madame.
 Marie-Pierre Au revoir.

avec ça? (<i>like avec ceci?</i>)	<i>anything else?</i>
ce sera tout? (<i>like c'est tout?</i>)	<i>will that be all?</i>
combien?	<i>how much? (rather abrupt)</i>



Radio 5 In another café Jean wants a fruit juice and there are a lot to choose from: pineapple, apricot, orange, pear, grapefruit ...

Serveuse Bonjour, monsieur.

Jean Bonjour, madame.

Serveuse Vous désirez, monsieur?

Jean Un jus de fruit, s'il vous plaît.

Serveuse Oui. Ananas, abricot, orange, poire, pamplemousse?

Jean Pamplemousse, s'il vous plaît.

Serveuse Oui. Tout de suite.

She returns.

Jean Merci, madame. C'est combien?

Serveuse Six francs.

Jean (counting out coins) Cinq et six. Merci, madame.

Serveuse Merci, monsieur.

tout de suite *right away*

Quickie Can you remember the French for the sorts of juice available?



Radio 6 More choices in yet another café – this time draught beer or bottled beer. Jean is with his friend Alan.

Jean Bonjour, madame.

Serveuse Bonjour, messieurs. Vous désirez?

Jean Deux bières, s'il vous plaît.

Serveuse Oui. Pression ou bouteille, messieurs?

Jean (to Alan) Pression?

Alan Oui, oui. Ça va.

Jean Bon, alors deux pressions, s'il vous plaît.

Serveuse Oui, d'accord, messieurs.

Later Jean calls the waitress back to pay.

- Jean Pardon, madame.
Serveuse Oui, monsieur?
Jean Combien je vous dois?
Serveuse Alors, huit francs quatre-vingts, s'il vous plaît.
Jean (*counting out coins*) Six, sept, huit francs, huit francs cinquante, huit quatre-vingts.
Serveuse Merci, messieurs.
Jean Au revoir, madame.
Serveuse Au revoir, messieurs. Bonne journée!
Alan Merci. Au revoir, madame.

ça va OK, alright
combien je vous dois? *how much do I owe you?*

How to enquire if someone or something's OK:
ça va?
and to answer 'alright', 'OK' or 'fine':
cà va

- Quickies 1 What was the word for 'a beer'?
2 What two sorts were offered?

- TV 7 Claude Paccard, a visitor to Grenoble, arrives in the Tourist Office (*le Syndicat d'Initiative*). He asks for a street map and a brochure and gets a list of the hotels and restaurants as well.

- Claude Bonjour, madame.
Hôtesse Bonjour, monsieur.
Claude Vous avez un plan de Grenoble, s'il vous plaît?
Hôtesse Un plan de Grenoble. Voilà.
Claude Merci beaucoup. Et une brochure aussi?
Hôtesse Oui, voilà, la brochure ...
Claude Merci bien.
Hôtesse ... et la liste des hôtels/restaurants.
Claude Merci.
Hôtesse Je vous en prie.
Claude Au revoir, madame.
Hôtesse Au revoir, monsieur.

merci bien *thank you very much*
je vous en prie *don't mention it, you're welcome*

To ask someone 'have you got ...?':
vous avez un plan de Grenoble, s'il vous plaît?

- Quickies 1 What two things did he ask for? Make sure you can pronounce them properly.
2 How do you ask if someone has got something you want?



- Radio 8 In the *Syndicat d'Initiative* in Bourg, Marie-Pierre asks for a street map and a map of the Ain area.
- Hôtesse Bonjour, mademoiselle.
- Marie-Pierre Bonjour. Vous avez un plan de Bourg, s'il vous plaît?
- Hôtesse Oui. Voici un plan de Bourg avec une liste des hôtels.
- Marie-Pierre Et vous avez une carte de l'Ain?
- Hôtesse Oui. Voilà une carte de l'Ain et également une brochure sur la ville de Bourg.
- Marie-Pierre Bon, je vous remercie.
- Hôtesse Je vous en prie. Au revoir, mademoiselle.
- Marie-Pierre Au revoir.
- Hôtesse Bon séjour à Bourg!

je vous remercie (*like merci*) *thank you*

bon séjour à Bourg! *have a pleasant stay in Bourg!*

- Quickie A brochure is easy but what are the words for the two different sorts of map?

- Radio 9 Pierrick is in the *Syndicat d'Initiative* on the island of Noirmoutier near Nantes and he wants a map.
- Pierrick Bonjour, madame.
- Hôtesse Bonjour, monsieur.
- Pierrick Vous avez une carte de l'île, s'il vous plaît?
- Hôtesse Oui. Voilà une carte de l'île.
- Pierrick Merci, madame.
- Hôtesse Je vous en prie.
- Pierrick Au revoir, madame.
- Hôtesse Au revoir, monsieur.

- Quickie What does Pierrick ask for?

- 10 Madame Trabut has a pleasant surprise when she finds she doesn't have to pay to go into the Musée Dauphinois in Grenoble.

- Mme Trabut Bonjour, madame.
- Réceptionniste Bonjour, madame.
- Mme Trabut Un ticket, s'il vous plaît.
- Réceptionniste Non, non, c'est gratuit, madame.
- Mme Trabut C'est gratuit? Ah, mais c'est bien, ça! Vous avez une brochure, un catalogue?
- Réceptionniste (*pointing*) Une brochure, ici; un catalogue, ici.

Mme Trabut (looking through the catalogue) Et c'est combien, ça?
 Réceptionniste Vingt-cinq francs, madame.
 Mme Trabut (giving her the money) Merci.
 Réceptionniste Merci. Je vous en prie, madame.

c'est bien, ça! *that's good/nice*

Rencontres

TV

What is there to do and see in Grenoble? Our French interviewer, Jane Cottave, asked a number of people in the street and got a whole variety of answers.

Jane Madame, qu'est-ce qu'il y a à faire ou à voir pour un Grenoblois à Grenoble?

1^{ère} Passante Il y a beaucoup de choses, beaucoup d'activités, par exemple, bon, tous les sports d'hiver, le ski, la luge et puis l'été la montagne est très, très belle.

Jane Monsieur, qu'est-ce qu'il y a à voir ou à faire pour un Grenoblois à Grenoble?

1^{er} Passant Eh bien, il y a les spectacles, les musées, cinémas ...

2^{ème} Passant Il y a, disons, il y a beaucoup de théâtres.

2^{ème} Passante Il y a le Musée Dauphinois.

2^{ème} Passant Il y a de la musique.

2^{ème} Passante Il y a la place Saint André, l'église Saint Laurent.

1^{ère} Passante Des promenades en ville aussi. Il y a beaucoup de rues piétonnes.

2^{ème} Passante Puis il y a des cafés.

Jane Et vivre à Grenoble, c'est bien?

3^{ème} Passante Ah oui, c'est bien, oui, oui, bien sûr.

par exemple *for example*

en ville *in the town*

bien sûr *of course*

To say what there is/are:

il y a	la place Saint André
	le Musée Dauphinois
	l'église Saint Laurent
	les sports d'hiver

Notice the four words for 'the': *le/la/l'/les*

Quickies

- 1 What is the three-word expression that means both 'there is' and 'there are'?
- 2 If you like the town (or come to that, the film, the café, etc), how do you say 'It's nice'?