

French Sayings
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Grades 3-4

Introduction

In this lesson, students become investigators by examining Elements of French and English Conversation, in new, familiar, and easy Dialogues, 1814.

Content Areas and Grade Levels

This lesson utilizes language arts and foreign language skills. It is primarily intended for grades 3 and 4, but can be adapted for lower grades.

Curriculum Standards

Curriculum Standards to be addressed in this lesson are:

Social Studies

- H-1A-E3 Identifying and using primary and secondary historical sources to learn about the past
- H-1C-E4 Recognizing how folklore and other culture elements have contributed to our local, state, and national heritage

Language Arts

(among others:)

- ELA-1-E6 Interpreting texts to generate connections to real-life situations
- ELA-5-E2 Locating and evaluating information sources (electronic reference work)

Foreign Language (For those students who are studying French)

Implementation Overview

This lesson is to be implemented within a unit of study celebrating the Louisiana Purchase of 1803. This particular lesson can take 1-2 class periods of 25-45 minutes each.

Resources Needed

The following materials will be necessary for the implementation of this lesson.

- Perrin, John. *Elements of French and English Conversation, in new, familiar, and easy Dialogues.* (New Orleans, Printed by Roche brothers, 1814). Available through the LSU Digital Library at <http://www.louisianadigitallibrary.org/u/?lapur,8905>.

Entry Level Skills and Knowledge

For this lesson, the students do not need basic foreign language skills.

Evaluation

The students will be evaluated by the teacher's observation. A point value may be applied to the written projects and responses to the prompts (as described in the Possible Variations section).

Possible Variations

For grades 2-4, a written paragraph may accompany the responses. Students may also use a computer program, such as Kid Pix, to create flashcards of the French phrases. This could be formatted into a slideshow in order to make a presentation of the class' work.

Procedure:

- Have students read excerpt from the book.
- Have the students examine the English sayings: What were some of the typical phrases? Are there any common patterns or themes to the phrases?
- Are these phrases we still use today? Still useful information?
- Why would there be a need for a French book in "new, familiar, and easy dialogues"?
- Practice saying the French phrases.
- Choose 3 sayings to illustrate. Try to have your drawings match the time period.
- Computer program—Create "flashcards" of the French phrases. Use Kid Pix, create a slideshow