

KS3, KS4

# Mastering vocabulary

TEACHING  
PACK

- Differentiated resources for years 9-11
- Vocabulary starters, games, revision and learning strategies
- Suitable for use with all exam boards

teachit sample

NEGATIVES  
NOUNS  
ABBREVIATIONS  
opinions  
antonyms  
false friends  
ADJECTIVES  
cognates  
VERBS  
NEGATIVES  
VERBS  
NOUNS  
numbers  
time phrases  
COGNATES  
opinions  
numbers  
time phrases  
SYNONYMS  
EXPRESSIONS  
NUMBERS

# Contents

Introduction .....	3
1. Learning strategies .....	5
10 tips for memorising vocabulary .....	6
Memory challenge template (PowerPoint 1) .....	8
Word wheel template .....	9
False friends quilts .....	12
2. Vocabulary starters .....	18
Word play starters: opinions (PowerPoint 2) .....	19
Triangle puzzles: time expressions .....	20
Make the link: synonyms, antonyms and connected words .....	33
3. Vocabulary games .....	43
Verb games (PowerPoint 3) .....	44
Snakes and ladders: decodable verbs .....	46
Speedy verb race .....	49
4. Vocabulary revision .....	53
Take 10 words (PowerPoint 4) .....	54
Revision quiz cards .....	55
Pick 'n' mix worksheets .....	62
5. Exam tips .....	69
10 exam tips to share .....	69

# Introduction

This pack is designed to help you accelerate your students' French vocabulary acquisition and equip them with effective strategies to learn and retain new words. It is suitable for use throughout years 9, 10 and 11 (as well as for revision) with AQA, Edexcel and Eduqas/WJEC exam boards. The resources are research and evidence-based, drawing on:

- cognitive research into memorisation
- examiners' reports from reading and listening papers
- core vocabulary lists provided by exam boards
- best classroom practice by experienced teachers.

The vocabulary included in this pack offers a manageable and practical starting point for expanding your students' word power. We have carefully selected high frequency words from the exam boards' lexicons of general vocabulary, including verbs, adjectives, opinions and time expressions. We have also included many words identified in recent examiners' reports from the different awarding bodies as being generally less well known by students.

This pack is primarily designed to boost the comprehension skills needed for the GCSE reading and listening exams. However, it will also help expand students' vocabulary for use in the speaking and writing exams. For comprehensive vocabulary lists please refer to your exam board's specification documents.

## Differentiation

As far as possible, the resources in this pack have been differentiated into three levels: bronze, silver and gold. These broadly correspond to upper key stage 3, Foundation and Higher levels of attainment. However, you may want to mix and match with the level that is right for your class or adapt the vocabulary that is included to best suit your students. Classifying words by difficulty is somewhat subjective and all students will benefit from revisiting more basic vocabulary in any case.



Bronze



Silver



Gold

# Take 10 words: set 2

Mastering  
vocabulary

Translate these words (French to English)

## Bronze

1. la viande
2. fermer
3. la fenêtre

## Silver

4. l'amour
5. fumer
6. une assiette

## Gold

7. mal à l'aise
8. plein de gens
9. le lieu de naissance

10. What does 'nouveau' mean and how else might you see it spelt?

**Answer:** New. Also spelt: nouvel, nouvelle(s), nouveaux (depending on m/f/pl agreements).

## Bronze

à l'avenir

in the future

l'an / l'année

year

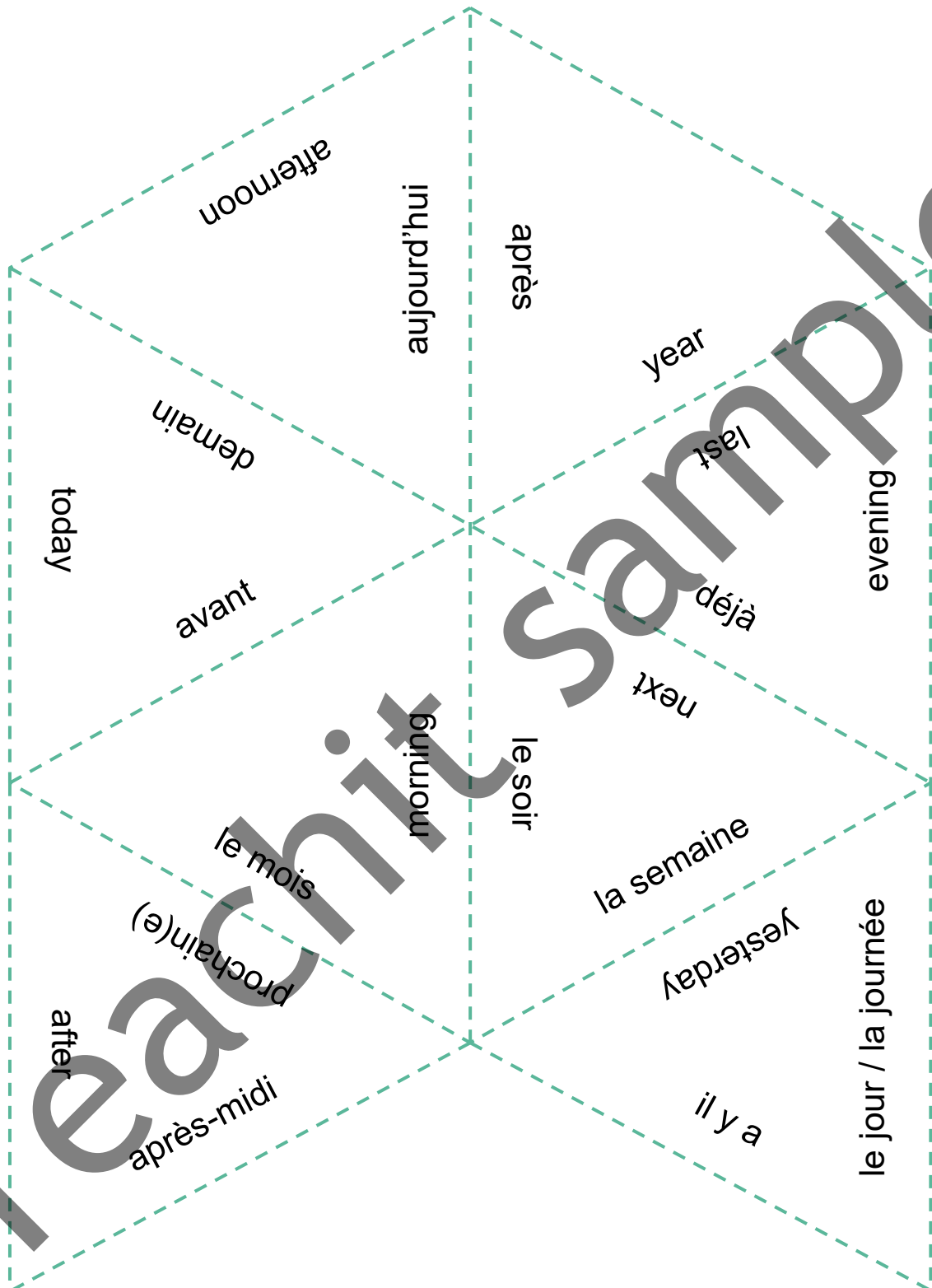
le matin

morning

hier

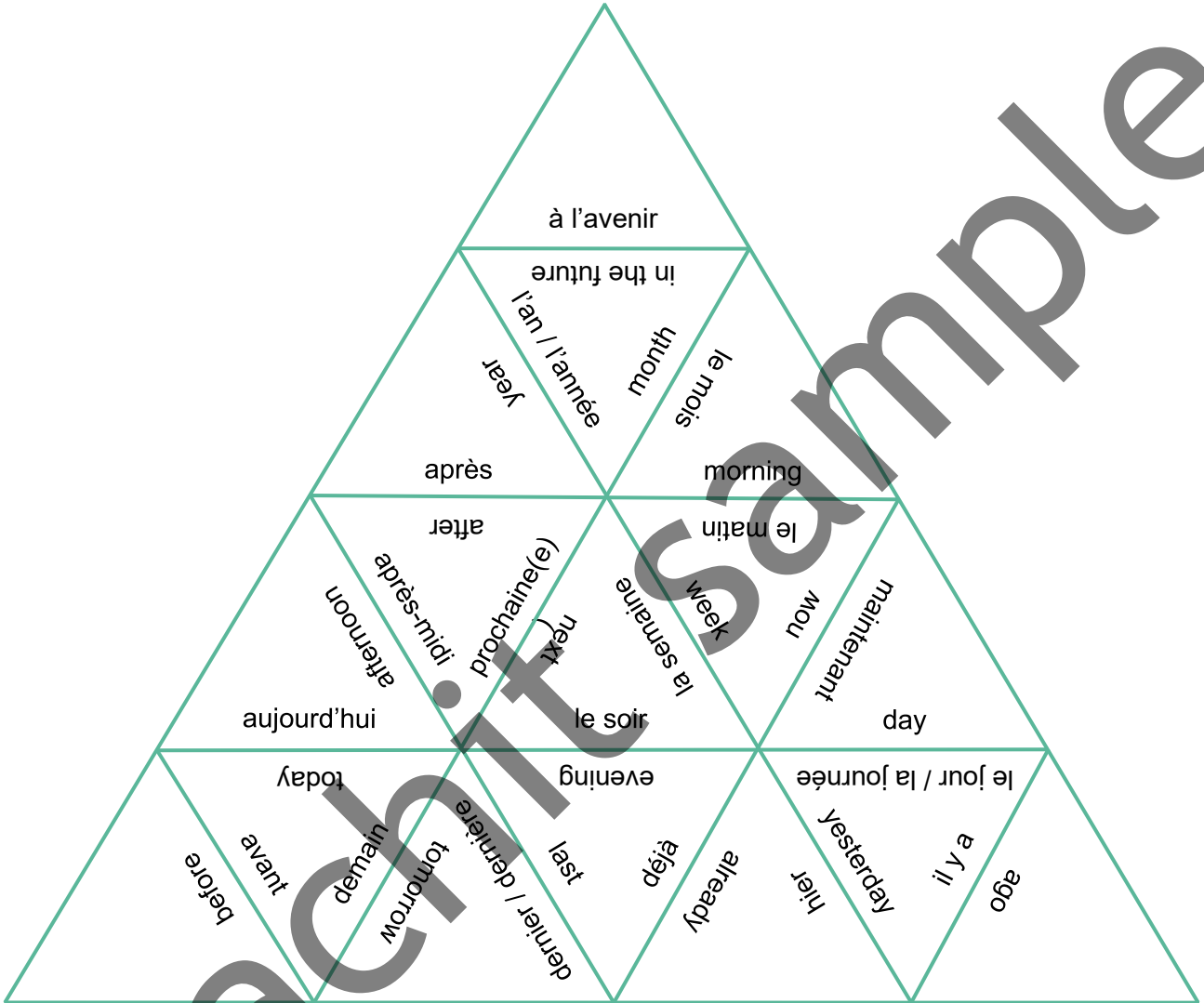
yesterday

each hit sample



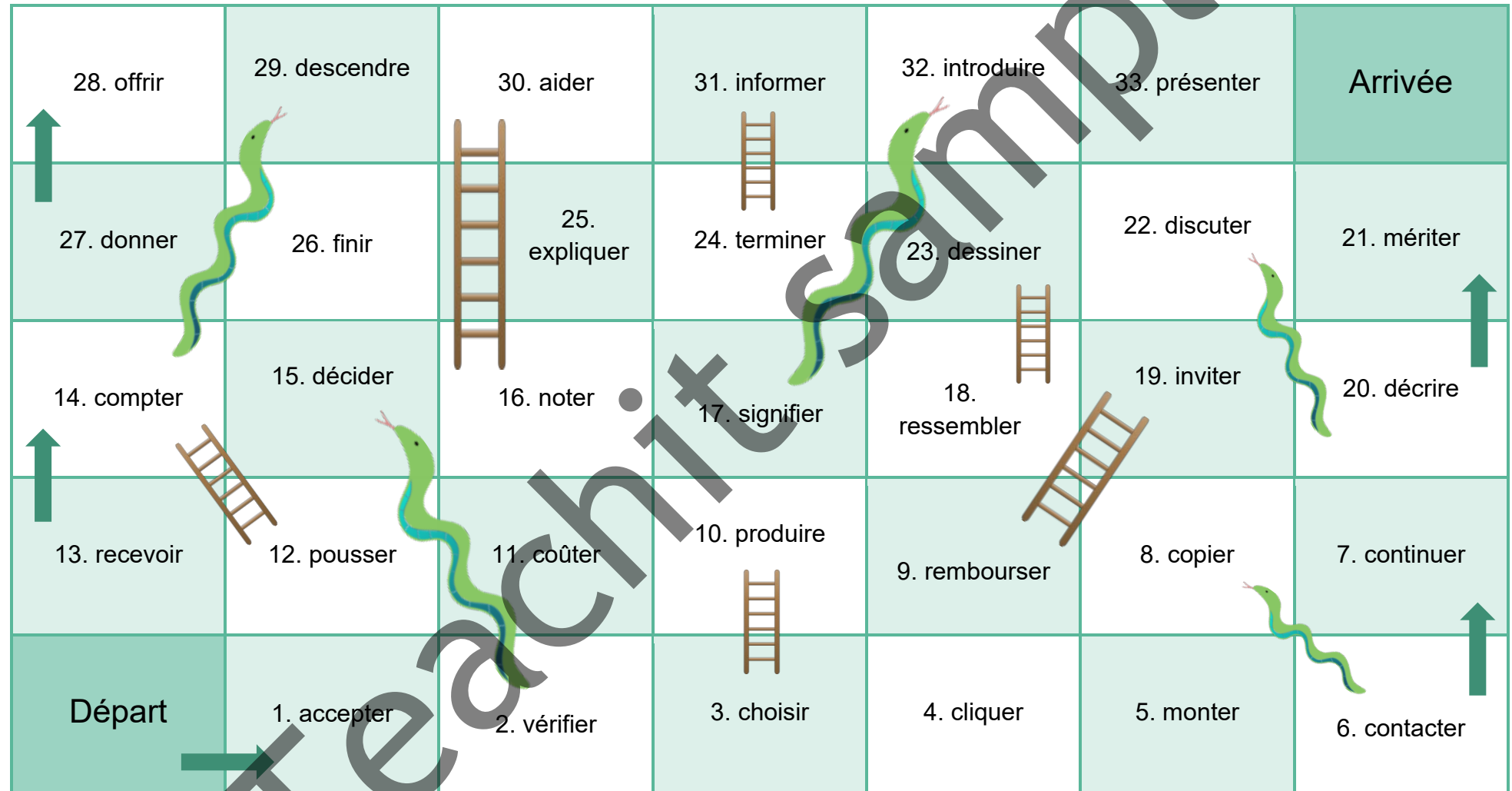
Answers

Bronze



# Snakes and ladders: decodable verbs (French to English)

Roll a dice to move forward. Translate the verb you land on or move back one square. Climb up ladders and slide down snakes.



## Speedy verb race (French)

Silver



lire	sortir	apprendre	vivre
chercher	perdre	commander	gagner
tomber	reposer	trouver	rentrer
écrire	traverser	durer	espérer
s'occuper de	savoir	louer	connaître



## Speedy verb race (English)

Silver



to read	to go out	to learn	to live
to look for	to lose	to order	to win / earn
to fall	to rest	to find	to go home
to write	to cross	to last	to hope
to take care of / to look after	to know (a fact)	to rent / hire	to know (a person/place)



## Revision quiz cards

Silver

<p><b>Q:</b> If something is <i>formidable</i> in French, is it negative or positive?</p> <p><b>A:</b> Positive (great).</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> What do the words <i>rigolo</i> and <i>drôle</i> have in common?</p> <p><b>A:</b> They both mean funny.</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> What do the words <i>embêtant</i> and <i>casse-pieds</i> have in common?</p> <p><b>A:</b> They both mean annoying.</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> What is the opposite of <i>agréable</i>?</p> <p><b>A:</b> <i>Désagréable</i>.</p>
<p><b>Q:</b> Which verb suggests the closest relationship?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sourire</li> <li>s'entendre</li> <li>rencontrer</li> </ol> <p><b>A:</b> 2 (to get on).</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> How would you react to an insult and why?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>pleurer</li> <li>pardonner</li> <li>se fâcher</li> </ol> <p><b>A:</b> Own answer plus meaning (to cry / to forgive / to get angry).</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> What does <i>presque</i> mean?</p> <p><b>A:</b> Almost.</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> What does <i>sauf</i> mean?</p> <p><b>A:</b> Except.</p>
<p><b>Q:</b> What do the words <i>escalier</i> and <i>ascenseur</i> have in common?</p> <p><b>A:</b> Both ways of going up (stairs/lift).</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> Where would you do <i>de la voile</i>?</p> <p><b>A:</b> On water / on a lake / at sea.</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> What time frame does <i>avant-hier</i> relate to?</p> <p><b>A:</b> Past (the day before yesterday).</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> What time frame does <i>bientôt</i> relate to?</p> <p><b>A:</b> Future (soon).</p>
<p><b>Q:</b> What is the opposite of <i>à l'heure</i>?</p> <p><b>A:</b> <i>En retard</i> (late).</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> If you are <i>à l'extérieur</i>, where are you?</p> <p><b>A:</b> Outside.</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> What is another word for <i>l'hôtel de ville</i>?</p> <p><b>A:</b> <i>La mairie</i> (town hall).</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> <i>Ils nettoient</i>. What are they doing?</p> <p><b>A:</b> Cleaning.</p>

<p><b>Q:</b> If you are <i>au chômage</i>, what do you need?</p> <p><b>A:</b> A job.</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> You see a sign saying <i>interdit</i>. What does it mean?</p> <p><b>A:</b> Forbidden / no entry.</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> Which is <b>not</b> a meaning of the word <i>propre</i>?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. clean</li> <li>2. properly</li> <li>3. own</li> </ol> <p><b>A:</b> 2.</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> If you are <i>à l'étranger</i>, where are you?</p> <p><b>A:</b> Abroad.</p>
<p><b>Q:</b> What does <i>rembourser</i> mean?</p> <p><b>A:</b> To refund.</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> What is the opposite of the verb <i>descendre</i>?</p> <p><b>A:</b> <i>Monter</i>.</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> What are two meanings of the verb <i>gagner</i>?</p> <p><b>A:</b> To earn or to win.</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> What is the difference between <i>savoir</i> and <i>connaître</i>?</p> <p><b>A:</b> To know a fact or to know a person/place.</p>
<p><b>Q:</b> What is the opposite of the verb <i>perdre</i>?</p> <p><b>A:</b> <i>Trouver</i>.</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> Which French verb do birds, planes and Superman have in common?</p> <p><b>A:</b> <i>Voler</i> (to fly).</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> Is the word <i>triste</i> positive or negative?</p> <p><b>A:</b> Negative (sad).</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> If something's <i>parfait</i>, how would you describe it in English?</p> <p><b>A:</b> Perfect.</p>
<p><b>Q:</b> Which is suitable for clothing?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. bois</li> <li>2. soie</li> <li>3. verre</li> </ol> <p><b>A:</b> 2 (silk).</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> What is the opposite of <i>contre</i>?</p> <p><b>A:</b> <i>Pour</i>.</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> When would someone say <i>bonne année</i> to you?</p> <p><b>A:</b> In January (Happy New Year).</p>	<p><b>Q:</b> Which word is <b>not</b> a meaning of <i>l'argent</i>?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. gold</li> <li>2. silver</li> <li>3. money</li> </ol> <p><b>A:</b> 1.</p>

## Pick 'n' mix worksheet

Gold

## A. Match the connectives by numbering or colour coding them.

y compris	évidemment	puisque	ensuite	c'est-à-dire	pendant que	alors
since / as	that's to say / i.e.	while	obviously	next	so / then	including

## B. Connect the opposites with lines.

partout	dessous
depuis	nulle part
dessus	autour de
à travers	peut-être
d'un côté	jusqu'à
sans aucun doute	de l'autre côté

## C. Translate these expressions.

bien sûr	
au secours	
à tout à l'heure	
meilleurs vœux	
à votre santé	
quel dommage	
amitiés	
de rien	

## D. Choose the correct meanings for these abbreviations.

CDI		PE
CES		resource centre
EPS		homeless person
HLM		mountain bike
SDF		French rail service
SNCF		council housing
TGV		secondary school
VTT		high speed train

## E. Complete the missing letters.

better	mi_ _ x
best	L_ _ mei_ _ eu_
worse	p_ _ r_
not yet	p_ _ en_ _ re
to not go	n_ _ p_ _ a_ _ er
nobody	p_ _ rs_ _ nn_

## F. Write the number words as digits and symbols.

quatre-vingt-dix =	une centaine =	la moitié =
onzième =	mille euros =	vingt-et-unième =

## G. Label these opinions as P (positive) or N (negative).

ça m'énerve	ça me fait rire	ça me plaît	ça ne me dit rien	effrayant	enchanté
habile	incroyable	inquiétant	juste	mignon	moche