



Le français pour l'avenir
French for the Future

Planning Guide for Your
Franconnexion
Session!



Prepared by
French for the Future

Steps to Organize Your Franconnexion Session

A **Franconnexion Session** is an event in which students have the opportunity to take part in workshops and cultural activities that help them connect the French learned in the classroom with the real-life benefits of knowing both of Canada's official languages.

Follow these steps to create an event that will:

- encourage students to stay in their French courses throughout high school and beyond
- help students see that French is very much alive outside the classroom walls
- motivate students to make French a part of their lives
- provide students with a positive environment in which to practise their French-speaking skills
- re-energize in-class French learning!



Choose Your Type of Franconnexion Session

Determine the length of the Franconnexion Session you would like to run. There are three types:

A. One-hour Franconnexion Session

- Requires minimal planning time
- Suitable for all types of groups, large or small
- Could fit within a class period
- Can be organized entirely by using the free toolkit

B. Half-day Franconnexion Session

- Requires little planning time
- Suitable for all types of groups, large or small
- Is likely to have a greater impact on participants

C. Full-day Franconnexion Session

- Ideal if you can invest the time to plan a full-day event
- Is likely to have the greatest impact on participants
- Depending on what is planned, may require a small budget

In the pages that follow, you will find examples and task checklists for each type of Franconnexion Session.





Build and Customize Your Event

Example of a ONE-HOUR Franconnexion Session

8:30 Welcome

Room: Classroom or auditorium

Description: Participants gather in classroom or auditorium, French for the Future’s video “Why Learn French?” is projected in the background, welcoming words by organizer

Resource people: Teachers to lead participants into the auditorium (if necessary), technician (if necessary)

Materials: Projection screen, computer and projector, speakers, DVD of mini-video*

8:40 Workshop or virtual presenter

Room: Classroom/other

Description: Types of workshops: French for Careers, French for Travel and Study, French for Fun or virtual guest speaker

Resource people: Bilingual people of the community to facilitate workshops, teachers/supervisors

Materials: Dependent on facilitators’ needs and resources available at school, virtual guest speaker DVD*

9:00 Trivia game

Room: Classroom/other

Description: French for the Future’s PowerPoint trivia game on *la francophonie canadienne*

Resource people: Teacher/volunteer presenter

Materials: Computer, projector, screen, French for the Future’s PowerPoint trivia game*

9:20 Closing

Room: Auditorium

Description: Draw for door prizes, thank-yous, closing words from organizer

Resource people: Teacher/supervisor

Materials: Prizes* (from French for the Future and perhaps from the community)

*Materials included in the free toolkit

How to Plan a ONE-HOUR Franconnexion Session

	Task Checklist	✓
1	Determine the date of the Franconnexion Session.	
2	Identify the participants. Will it be for be students in grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and/or 12?	
3	Determine the number of participants. Will the Franconnexion Session be for one group only, or several? One school or several?	
4	Identify the room or place where the event will occur. If many groups take part in the Franconnexion Session, can the event take place in the auditorium?	
5	Find resource people who can speak to the participants by running a Franconnexion Session workshop (see Resource A and B in this guide). Invite them by using the ready-made invitation letter template (see Resource C in this guide).	
6	Determine the schedule for the day. How many presenters will you have? How long will each presentation/workshop be? What time will the event start? Which activities and materials from the free toolkit will comprise your event?	
7	Personalize the poster template (see Resource D in this guide) and use it to promote your Franconnexion Session!	
8	Fill out the registration form (available for download at www.french-future.org). Send it to French for the Future along with the preliminary schedule of your Franconnexion Session to register and receive the free toolkit for your event!	



Example of a HALF-DAY Franconnexion Session

8:30 **Welcome**

Room: Auditorium

Description: Participants gather in auditorium, French for the Future's video "Why Learn French?" is projected in the backdrop, welcoming words by organizer or master of ceremonies (m.c.)

Resource people: Teachers to lead participants into the auditorium, m.c., technician (if necessary)

Materials: Projection screen, computer and projector, speakers, DVD of mini-video*

8:45 **Virtual presenter**

Room: Auditorium

Description: Virtual guest speaker (occurs in the form of a plenary session), discussion

Resource people: Teachers/supervisors

Materials: Virtual guest speaker DVD*

9:15 **1st series of workshops**

Room: Classrooms

Description: Types of workshops: French for Careers, French for Travel and Study, French for Fun. Ideally, there is a maximum of 25 participants in each workshop.

Resource people: Bilingual people of the community to facilitate workshops, teachers/supervisors

Materials: Dependent on facilitators' needs and on available resources at the school

10:15 **Break**

Room: Auditorium

Description: After the break, participants go to the workshop that they have chosen.

Resource people: Teachers/supervisors

Materials: Snacks

10:30 **2nd series of workshops**

See 9:15

11:15 **Trivia game**

Room: Auditorium

Description: A few participants are selected to get up on stage or students are divided into groups to play the trivia game on *la francophonie canadienne*.

Resource people: An energetic and entertaining facilitator, teacher or m.c.

Materials: Projection screen, computer and projector, table and chairs, French for the Future's PowerPoint trivia game*

11:45 **Closing**

Room: Auditorium

Description: Draw for door prizes, thank-yous, closing words from organizer or m.c.

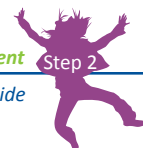
Resource people: Teacher/m.c.

Materials: Prizes* (from French for the Future and perhaps from the community)

How to Plan a HALF-DAY Franconnexion Session

	Task Checklist	✓
1	Find people within your school or community who could help you organize the event. Do you wish to create a committee to support you?	
2	Determine the date of the Franconnexion Session.	
3	Identify the participants. Will it be for be students in grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and/or 12?	
4	Determine the number of participants. Will the Franconnexion Session be for one group only, or several? One school or several?	
5	Identify the room or place where the event will occur. If many groups take part in the Franconnexion Session, can the event take place in the auditorium?	
6	Find resource people who can speak to the participants by running a Franconnexion Session workshop (see Resource A and B in this guide). Invite them by using the ready-made invitation letter template (see Resource C in this guide).	
7	Determine the schedule for the day. How many presenters will you have? How long will each presentation/workshop be? What time will the event start? Which activities and materials from the free toolkit will comprise your event?	
8	Find someone energetic and entertaining to be the master of ceremonies (m.c.).	
9	Personalize the poster template (see Resource D in this guide) and use it to promote your Franconnexion Session!	
10	Fill out the registration form (available for download at www.french-future.org). Send it to French for the Future along with the preliminary schedule of your Franconnexion Session to register and receive the free toolkit for your event!	

*Materials included in the free toolkit



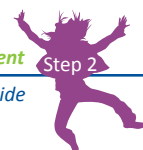
Example of a FULL-DAY Franconnexion Session

- 8:30 **Welcome**
Room: Auditorium
Description: Participants gather in auditorium and receive the day's program. The French for the Future video "Why Learn French?" is projected in the backdrop.
Resource people: Teachers to lead participants into the auditorium, technician (if necessary)
Materials: Projection screen, computer and projector, speakers, programs (to be distributed), DVD of mini-video*
- 8:40 **Welcome address**
Room: Auditorium
Description: The organizer or master of ceremonies (m.c.) and special guests welcome and speak to participants, guidelines for the day are given at this time.
Resource people: Special guests or keynote speaker, m.c.
Materials: Microphone, speakers
- 9:00 **Trivia game**
Room: Auditorium
Description: A few participants are selected to get up on stage or students are divided into groups to play the trivia game on *la francophonie canadienne*.
Resource people: An energetic and entertaining facilitator, teacher or m.c.
Materials: Projection screen, computer and projector, table and chairs, French for the Future's PowerPoint trivia game*
- 9:30 **Break**
Room: Auditorium
Description: After the break, participants go to the workshop that they have chosen.
Resource people: Teachers/supervisors
Materials: Snacks
- 9:45 **1st series of workshops**
Room: Classrooms
Description: Types of workshops: French for Careers, French for Travel and Study, French for Fun. Ideally, there is a maximum of 25 participants in each workshop.
Resource people: Bilingual people of the community to facilitate workshops, teachers/supervisors
Materials: Dependent on facilitators' needs and on available resources at the school

Example of a FULL-DAY Franconnexion Session

- 10:45 **2nd series of workshops**
See 9:45
- 11:45 **Lunch**
Room: Cafeteria
Description: Lunch is served at school for all participants and volunteers
Resource people: Teachers/supervisors
Materials: Lunch
- 12:15 **3rd series of workshops**
See 9:45
- 13:15 **Virtual presenter**
Room: Auditorium
Description: Virtual guest speaker
Resource people: Teacher
Materials: Virtual guest speaker DVD*
- 13:30 **Performance or cultural activity**
Room: Auditorium
Description: Concert by a local francophone artist or band or a movie screening, drama group, etc. Performers should aim to engage student participation.
Resource people: Local artists
Materials: Dependent on needs of performer
- 14:20 **Closing**
Room: Auditorium
Description: Draw for door prizes and thank-yous, closing words from organizer or m.c.
Resource people: Teacher/supervisor, m.c.
Materials: Prizes* (from French for the Future and perhaps from the community)

*Materials included in the free toolkit



How to Plan a FULL-DAY Franconnexion Session

	Task Checklist	✓
1	Find people within your school or community who could help you organize the event. Do you wish to create a committee to support you?	
2	Determine the date of the Franconnexion Session.	
3	Identify the participants. Will it be for be students in grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and/or 12?	
4	Determine the number of participants. Will the Franconnexion Session be for one group only, or several? One school or several?	
5	Identify the room or place where the event will occur. If many groups take part in the Franconnexion Session, can the event take place in the auditorium?	
6	Do you have a budget to invite a performer (drama group, musicians, etc.)?	
7	Make a decision regarding a special lunch for participants. Do you have a budget for lunch? If not, is there a restaurant that could sponsor the event by offering lunch?	
8	Find resource people who can speak to participants either by running a Franconnexion Session workshop or presenting as a keynote speaker (see Resource A and B in this guide). Invite them by using the ready-made invitation letter template (see Resource C in this guide).	
9	Determine the schedule for the day. How many presenters will you have? How long will each presentation/workshop be? What time will the event start? Which activities and materials from the free toolkit will comprise your event?	
10	Find someone energetic and entertaining to be the master of ceremony (m.c.).	
11	Personalize the poster template (see Resource D in this guide) and use it to promote your Franconnexion Session!	
12	Fill out the registration form (available for download at www.french-future.org). Send it to French for the Future along with the preliminary schedule of your Franconnexion Session to register and receive the free toolkit for your event!	

Resource A

Suggestions for Finding Resource People for Your Franconnexion Session

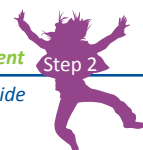
Everyone has a story to tell, and sharing those stories can serve as a useful resource that can create a big impact on its listeners!

Think of resource people within your community who could come speak to your Franconnexion Session's participants. Brainstorm with your students or colleagues to determine the possibilities that exist for you!

Whether it's someone who works in French, who was offered a great opportunity because he or she speaks French, someone who regrets not learning French and missed out on an opportunity, or someone who has had some unforgettable experiences thanks to their studies in French, your students can surely benefit and learn from their perspectives! Invite them by using the invitation letter template (see Resource C in this guide).

You would be surprised at the possibilities of bilingual people from the community who you can invite to your event! Examples include:

- former students from your school or school board
- Members of Parliament
- students or teachers of francophone schools
- university and college students
- bilingual professionals (e.g. police, nurses, lawyers)
- school personnel
- people who work in the business world
- university or college professors (e.g. from a French faculty or bilingual establishment)
- parents of your students
- tradespeople
- your colleagues
- employees of provincial and federal ministries
- local francophone organizations
- athletes and sports teams (e.g. from provincial leagues) and coaches
- Olympic athletes
- Royal Canadian Military Police
- representatives of media bodies on the local, provincial or national level (e.g. CBC)
- chefs and culinary professionals



Resource B

Types of Franconnexion Session Workshops

In sharing their stories and personal experiences, the resource people that you invite from the community can help run one of the following workshops:

French for Careers

A workshop in which students meet someone who uses French in his/her job and discover how their French skills could help them professionally. Presenters discuss their current job industry, their job experiences that speaking French has brought them, stories of people who have missed out on opportunities because they did not speak French, or the roles in which they have had to use their French skills and consequently the benefits presented in their professional lives. Examples include: French relating to various careers such as the RCMP, medicine, marketing, tourism, music, visual arts, or media.

French for Travel and Study

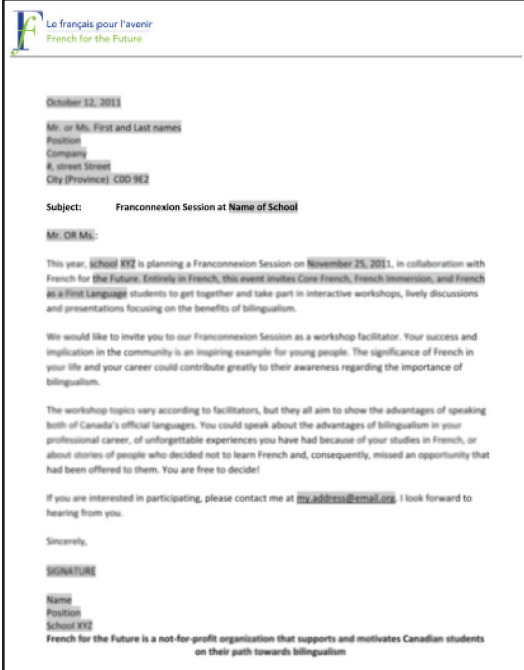
A workshop in which students discover how French can culturally enrich their lives. Presenters can share information and/or personal experiences with students regarding opportunities of using in French in a unique environment. Examples include: French relating to travel adventures, studying abroad in French, French language exchange programs, social tourism and international volunteer opportunities, or postsecondary opportunities in French.

French for Fun

This is a hands-on workshop where students practise their French in a fun environment. Examples include: Improvisation, culinary lessons, dance, scavenger hunt, or role playing. Presenters of other workshops can also incorporate such activities into their presentations.

Resource C

Invitation Letter Template for Presenters (for download at www.french-future.org)



Le français pour l'avenir
French for the Future

October 12, 2011

Mr. or Ms. First and Last names
Position
Company
A, street Street
City (Province) C00 9E2

Subject: Franconnexion Session at Name of School

Mr. OR Ms.:

This year, School XYZ is planning a Franconnexion Session on November 25, 2011, in collaboration with French for the Future. Entirely in French, this event invites Core French, French Immersion, and French as a First Language students to get together and take part in interactive workshops, lively discussions and presentations focusing on the benefits of bilingualism.

We would like to invite you to our Franconnexion Session as a workshop facilitator. Your success and implication in the community is an inspiring example for young people. The significance of French in your life and your career could contribute greatly to their awareness regarding the importance of bilingualism.

The workshop topics vary according to facilitators, but they all aim to show the advantages of speaking both of Canada's official languages. You could speak about the advantages of bilingualism in your professional career, of unforgettable experiences you have had because of your studies in French, or about stories of people who decided not to learn French and, consequently, missed an opportunity that had been offered to them. You are free to decide!

If you are interested in participating, please contact me at my.address@email.org. I look forward to hearing from you.

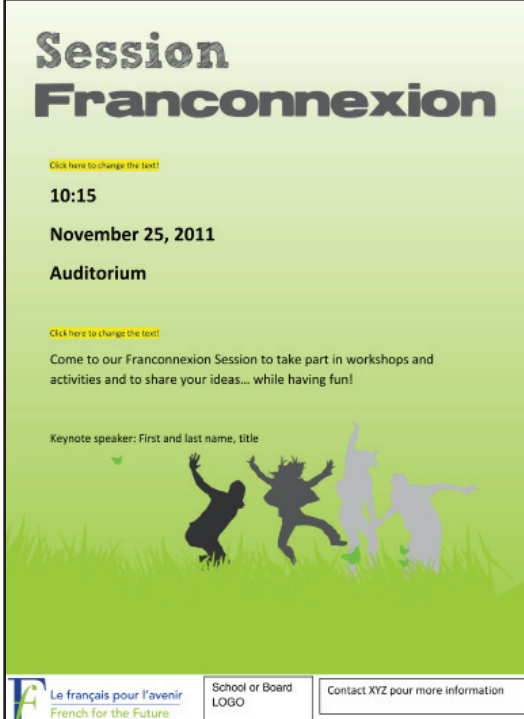
Sincerely,

SIGNATURE

Name
Position
School XYZ
French for the Future is a not-for-profit organization that supports and motivates Canadian students on their path towards bilingualism.

Resource D

Franconnexion Session Poster to Promote Your Event (for download at www.french-future.org)



Session
Franconnexion


[Click here to change the text!](#)

10:15
November 25, 2011
Auditorium

[Click here to change the text!](#)

Come to our Franconnexion Session to take part in workshops and activities and to share your ideas... while having fun!

Keynote speaker: First and last name, title



Le français pour l'avenir
French for the Future

School or Board LOGO


Contact XYZ pour more information



Register Your Event!

REGISTER YOUR EVENT by completing the registration form (available for download at www.french-future.org). Send it, along with your Franconnexion Session’s preliminary schedule, to French for the Future by email, fax, or mail to receive the free toolkit for your event!

If you are ready to organize your Franconnexion, or have questions regarding the organization of a Franconnexion Session, please contact info@french-future.org.

			
REGISTRATION FORM Franconnexion Session			
Salutation:		First name:	Last name:
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs./Ms.			
I am:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Student <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher <input type="checkbox"/> French Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____			
School:			
School Board:			
Address of the School:			
City:		Province:	Postal Code:
Telephone number:		Email Address:	
Type of Franconnexion Session:			
<input type="checkbox"/> One-hour session <input type="checkbox"/> Half-day session <input type="checkbox"/> Full-day session <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____			
Grade of participants: (Please indicate all that apply.)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Grade 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Grade 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Grade 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Grade 11 <input type="checkbox"/> Grade 12			
Date of Event:		The event will take place:	
Approximate number of participants:			
I want to nominate a student as Student of the month on the French for the Future page.			
<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no			



Receive the Free Toolkit!

RECEIVE THE FREE TOOLKIT filled with activities and materials to use for your Franconnexion Session!

- a virtual guest speaker: a DVD of the entertaining and inspiring personal story of an anglophone’s pathway to bilingualism
- a PowerPoint trivia game on *la francophonie canadienne*
- 2 mini-videos: “French for the Future” and “Why Learn French?”
- an official Franconnexion Session banner to display during your event
- a full-size bilingual version (36” x 24”) of the popular poster “Why Learn French?” to display in the classroom
- door prizes for students

In using this planning guide and the **free toolkit**, you will be equipped to bring French to life for your students by running your own Franconnexion Session. In demonstrating the concrete value of French, your event will help students understand the real-life benefits of speaking both of Canada’s official languages.



Bonne Session franconnexion !

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