

# Reading: Skills & Strategies for Modern Languages

## What kind of texts will I read?

You will use a wide variety of reading material in lessons and for independent work...

- 📖 Task instructions
- 📖 Articles, blogs and online posts
- 📖 Texts created by AI
- 📖 Authentic poems and stories
- 📖 Vocabulary lists
- 📖 Knowledge Organisers
- 📖 Translation passages
- 📖 Song lyrics
- 📖 Letters and emails

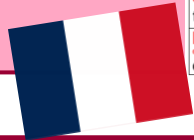


**Why read?** I just want to speak with people in French/Spanish!

- ✓ Reading a wide variety of texts will act as a stimulus for your own writing and speaking... you'll come across new phrases and vocabulary to use yourself.
- ✓ Reading will strengthen your phonics skills, helping you to connect the spelling with the sound of new words.
- ✓ Being able to understand passages in another language can help improve literacy skills in your native language... it's true!
- ✓ Reading will introduce you to the culture of the countries where the language is spoken – its customs, traditions, values, events, history and influential people.

## How does reading help speaking?

In lesson you will read aloud very often and use your developing phonics knowledge to decode the sound of even unfamiliar words. You'll use your phonics sheet to isolate the letter string you want to pronounce.



### PHONICS = Sound-Symbol Correspondence

Use the source words below to help you DECODE a new French word. These letters and letter strings are ALWAYS pronounced like this... **guaranteed!**

ai vrai ✓	an tante	au/eau faux ✗	ç français	ch chat
eil soleil	em/en novembre	h huit	gn ligne	i violet
ien bien	ill fille	im important	in vingt	j/ge j'ai /h
oi trois	on bonjour!	ou douze	qu qui	r frère
hard s cousin	th maths	tion attention	y physique	Accent? c = voice goes e = voice goes

### PHONICS = Sound-Symbol Correspondence

Use the source words below to help you DECODE a new Spanish word. These letters and letter strings are ALWAYS pronounced like this... **guaranteed!**

a azul	e nueve 9	i bien	o ocho	u uno 1
ce doce 12	ci cinco 5	ch chico	ca casa	co poco
cu cumpleaños	cu + vowel cuando	ga gato	go amigo	gu me gusta
ge genial	gi gimnasio	gue juguete	gui guitarra	h hola
j junio	ll ¿what's your name? me llamo	ñ español	qui quien	Accent? á é í ó ú Stress the letter
que porque	r/rr pero/perro	v verde	z diez	



## How can I improve my reading skills?

There is a whole range of strategies you can use to help you understand as much as possible from a text. Try these if you meet an unfamiliar word or phrase:

- ⇒ Use the title of the writing to narrow down the context when predicting or inferring meaning.
- ⇒ Does the word look like an English word or another word you know in a different language? Test it out... does it make sense within the context? These are called cognates.
- ⇒ Remind yourself that some words are False Friends... they look like a word you know but don't mean the same thing eg] **sensible** = sensitive [not sensible in English].
- ⇒ If the unknown word is a verb... can you tell **who** is doing the action from the verb ending?
- ⇒ If the unknown word is a verb... can you tell in **which tense** the verb is conjugated?
- ⇒ Are there any time phrases to help you identify the tense of the sentence?
- ⇒ Read forwards from the unknown word, as well as backwards from it – this will give you more of an idea and be more able to infer or predict.
- ⇒ Translate word-for-word into 'silly English' then be willing to tweak and re-order to make more sense of what you have read.
- ⇒ Are there pictures or images that can help you?

## Where can I access independent reading material?

In lesson you will be given many different examples of reading matter to keep. If you would like to read for pleasure and find material focussing on your interests then...

... use these online magazine sites for young people. You'll find current news articles on issues affecting teenagers.

1jour  
1actu

Primeras Noticias  
Asociación de Prensa Juvenil

chicos.net

NETFLIX

... watch your favourite shows in English but with the **subtitles** turned on in French or Spanish!



... borrow a foreign language book from our school library. **LOOK** how many we have... some are available as a Parallel Text too!



... borrow a book from the Modern Languages Department. We have all these Mr Men books and some poetry books too.