





## ficincemanta. Vol.4

#### Cuisine

Francophonie Culinary Delights: Diverse Tastes, Chefs, Recipes in a Bite–sized Read!

> Elegance Unveiled: Francophonie Fashion, Style Stories in a Snapshot!

Fashion

**Folklore** 

Chilling Chronicles: Francophonie Horror, Unearth Dark Tales in Swift Suspense.

Facts

Fascinating Francophonie: Quick Facts, Explore Diversity, Rich Heritage in Snippets

Time Capsule: Francophonie History Unveiled, Heritage Narratives in Brief.

#### History

#### Misc

Francophonie Miscellany: Diverse Gems, Briefly Explored in Every Page

All Things French: Dive into Parisian Charm, Cuisine, Style, History

**Everything French** 

Francophonie Geog: Explore French Speaking World, Snapshots of Global Diversity

Geography



Lt. Gen. S H Kulkarni (Retd.) PVSM, AVSM, VSM\*\*

One active chapter within the Mayo fraternity is the Mayo French Society.

Our goal is to develop world-class leaders who are sensitive to and mindful of everyone on Earth. It is tremendously beneficial for our future leaders to develop the ability to feel at ease in the company of people from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

Le Concours de la Francophonie du Mayo held its 10th edition in October 2023. This year again the festival turned out to be an incredibly entertaining, busy and inspiring event.

France is the 5th most spoken language in the world. Therefore I am convinced speaking this beautiful language will be a huge asset for the future of all the students.

## MESSAGE FROM THE HOD

M. Kunal Kumar Chef du département de français

Hello and welcome to the French Language Department.

In October 2023, Le Concours de la Francophonie du Mayo celebrated its 10th anniversary. I am very happy to see how LCF has evolved over the years. In particular I am very happy that many creative competitions have been integrated and that new sections have been added to the Francomania magazine. As we believe in connecting and not only communicating, we are proud to have put in touch many Francophile people from various countries. Le Concours de la Francophonie du Mayo showcases a wide scope of events ranging from Singing Competitions to Spell Bees. They aim at creating an open, vibrant space for the students to interact and learn not just about the francophone culture but also from the vibrant experiences of their peers. In the past ten years, we have organized ice breaking sessions, cultural event, treasure hunts, cooking workshops, which have been specially integrated in the festival to enhance enjoyment and interactions. Thanks to these diverse activities, all the participants have expanded their knowledge and skills, made many new international friends and taken back unforgettable memories.

#### MR PAUL LOYRETTE

**FRENCH** TEACHER IN MAYO COLLEGE

#### DO YOU THINK MAYOITES ARE KEEN LEARNERS?

I am impressed by the Mayoites' vast scope of interests and activities. They are busy 24/7: studying, playing sports, performing on stage, hosting international competitions, traveling to debating tournaments... I often wonder if they have time to sleep. A Mayoite is always learning something new inside or outside the classroom.

What is it you like most about Mayo College?

Paul Loyrette, born in Paris, holds a Masters in French Literature from La Sorbonne UNIVERSITY. Passionate about travel and Languages, he has worked in Italy, Germany, China, Russia, and Uzbekistan.



I have taught in many schools around the world but Mayo is truly unique. The sports facilities are amazing and the main building is so beautiful especially at night. I love being part of a vibrant community, where staff and students are always open to consider new ideas and implement innovative projects.

#### You are coming for the second time to Mayo, what changes did you encounter?

I have changed a lot. When I first came to Mayo six years ago, it took me a long time to adapt. Living subsequently in China, Russia and Uzbekistan has taught me a lot. I came back to India with a much more open and relaxed mindset.

#### WHAT MADE YOU COME BACK TO MAYO?

I love living on the campus (JAI BT!) and not having to take the metro every day to go to work. But the main reason I came back is India. There are so many fascinating cities and historical sites I want to discover. Over Diwali I am planning to travel to Ellora and Ajanta caves via Indore. And I would like to organize a school trip to Pondicherry in order to show the boys that France is nearer that they think.

#### Are there any similarities between the education systems in Mayo and France?

The two systems could not be more different. In France, lessons start at 8am and finish at 4 or 5pm. The focus is on academic subjects. We hardly do sports and rarely take part in any pastoral activities. I believe the Mayo system is much healthier and stimulating.

#### What do you think about the personality of Indian people?

I love your spontaneity and flexibility. In Europe everything must be planned three months in advance. A friend of mine has already booked her hotel room in Pushkar for March 2024!

#### WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT INDIAN CULTURE?

The foooood! Especially South Asian cuisine! Besides I am a big fan of traditional Indian fashion and love wearing kurtas and jutis. Too bad I cannot wear them for my lessons....

#### What were your impressions of LCF 2023?

I was so impressed with the amazing level of the participants. They sang and performed like true professionals! As a French teacher I was thrilled to see how my native language can inspire so much efforts and enthusiasm!

#### What does mayo lack?

It is a shame that students have to choose between French and German. It would be great if they had the chance to learn both languages. And why not Spanish...

#### LAST WORDS?

#### Go Mayo! Allez Mayo!

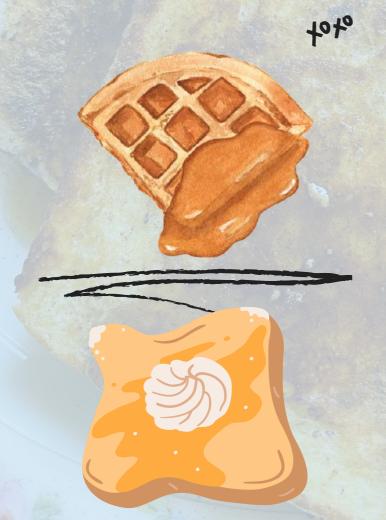
### Readers...

GET COMFY, GRAB YOUR POPCORN (OR MAYBE A CROISSANT DIPPED IN CHOCOLATE - WHO AM I TO JUDGE?). AND PREPARE FOR A WILD RIDE THROUGH THE HILARIOUS AND FASCINATING WORLD OF FRANCOPHONE COUNTRIES THAT'LL HAVE YOU LAUGHING SO HARD, YOU MIGHT JUST **SNORT** YOUR **MORNING COFFEE!** 



FRANCOPHONE

# BELGIAN WAFFLES VS FRENCH TOAST



Belgium is a country that is very famous for its mouthwatering waffles. They can be eaten in Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner or even as a snack (AH I WISH I HAD ONE RIGHT NOW!). The Belgian waffles and the French toast are two breakfast foods that have been popular around the world for generations. Both are sweet and are enjoyed with condiments and toppings. However, there are many differences that make them unique in their own way.

#### SO WHICH IS BETTER?

The choice between a Belgian Waffle for a crispy, soft, warm, and light breakfast or a French Toast for a savory, fluffy, and traditional breakfast depends on your preference.

#### IN THE END

Both are the perfect dish for a good breakfast and are perfect for your sweet and savory cravings. Both the dishes have an interesting origin and both are closely related to their countries' culture. Try them for yourselves to find out which is better.

"PS: I ATE A PAGE MANIFESTING BOTH RN."

## ALL ABOUT SWISSERLAND IS BETTER AT MORE THAN JUST MAKING BANK VAULTS CHOCOLATES



Switzerland is renowned for its luxurious chocolate treats, achieved through top-notch ingredients and skilled techniques. Swiss chocolate

is famous for its melt-in-your-mouth texture, buttery smoothness, and unique flavors. Brands like Lindt, Milka, and Toblerone offer mouth-watering flavors and tantalizing add-ons like nuts and almonds.

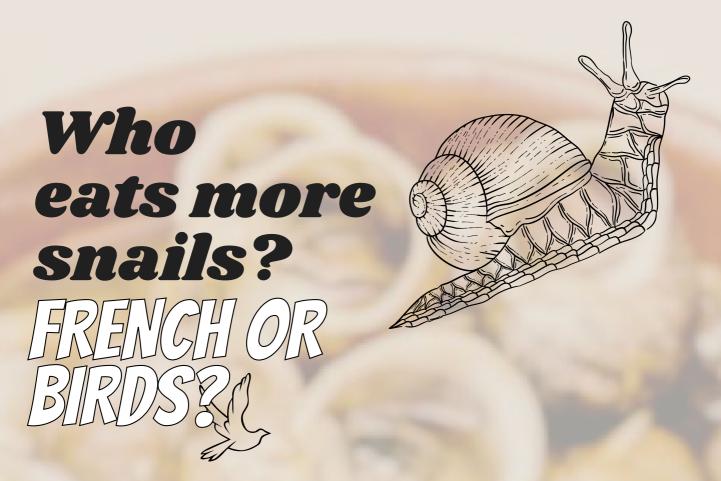
Switzerland is renowned for its precision and cleanliness, and its chocolate-making is an art form that has earned global recognition. Swiss chocolates are exquisite and reflect the country's excellence in craftsmanship.

## BASICALLY,

SWISS CHOCOLATE IS MUCH MORE
THAN JUST A TASTY TREAT. IT'S A
TESTAMENT TO THE SWISS
COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE AND
ATTENTION TO DETAIL. SO THE NEXT
TIME YOU INDULGE IN A PIECE OF
SWISS CHOCOLATE, REMEMBER THAT
IT'S NOT JUST A SNACK -

#### IT'S A WORK OF ART.

AND WHO KNOWS, MAYBE ONE DAY
THE SWISS WILL EVEN FIGURE OUT
A WAY TO MAKE BANK VAULTS OUT
OF CHOCOLATE.



French cuisine, renowned for variety, features the famous **escargot**. Recent studies surprisingly show the French **consume** more snails than **birds annually**.

This culinary quirk, challenging stereotypes, adds a unique flavor to French culture, extending its love for escargot beyond France.

Consider trying it for an authentic culinary experience when in France.

# The love between Charles de Gaulle and Cheese

The great General Charles de Gaulle once mused, "How can anyone govern a country that has 246 varieties of cheese?" As the Chairman of the provisional government of the French Republic, he was well aware of the vast array of fromage that his homeland boasted. Today, France is home to a staggering 1600 distinct types of cheeses, each falling into one of eight families that include pressed, soft, blue, and fresh cheeses, to name a few. Through the EU's Common Agricultural Policy, established cheeses, including many French varieties, are granted a PDO, as are those in Italy's DOC system and Spain's system.

However, it is worth noting that Italy, with its approximately 2,500 varieties of cheese, may have been a more fitting place for General de Gaulle to have governed. Nevertheless, his remark may have been a reflection of his desire to celebrate the diversity of France's people. Despite their many differences, the French unite under concepts like "la patrie" and "le citoyen". This spirit of unity in diversity is shared by other nations, such as India and Switzerland.

## IT'S UNLUCKY TO TURNA BAGUETTE

#### Upside - umoa

In **France**, flipping a baguette upside down is believed to bring *financial misfortune*, ingrained in the culture for centuries. This superstition is taken seriously, with some people discarding their bread to avoid bad luck.

#### In Conclusion,

the baguette is **not just a tasty bread**; it's also a significant symbol of French **culture and heritage**. So, if you want to **avoid any bad luck**, make sure you handle your baguette with CARE AND RESPECT!

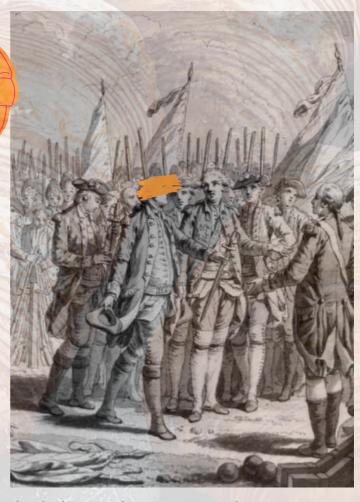
#### THE FRENCH REVOLUTION:

## ABRIEF HISTORY OF HOW CROISSANTS OVERTHREW THE MONARCHY

During the French Revolution, peasants, initially seeking bread, found croissants in the royal bakery. After consuming them, they *revolted* against the monarchy, demanding rights.

Croissants, shaped like the

French flag's crescent moon,
symbolized national pride
during the revolution.



The **aroma** of these pastries *fueled* the fight for freedom, playing a role in shaking up the monarchy and shaping France's destiny.



THE ENCHANTING

WORLD OF



## AT LEAST WE CAN WEAR PANTS!

In 2013, France ended a 200-year ban on women wearing **pants**, **overturning** the 1799 law.

Debates surrounded its intent—whether to prevent women from impersonating men or uphold traditional gender roles.





Despite early rebels like **Marlene Dietrich** challenging the law by wearing pants, it endured until its abolition in 2012.

Now, women in France can wear whatever they choose.



## THE ENCHANTING WORLD OF

#### French Fashion





French fashion exudes chic elegance but also surprises with charming quirks.

STRIPES ARE A FRENCH FAVORITE, SEEN IN BRETON SHIRTS AND STRIPED TROUSERS, ADDING WHIMSY TO DAILY WEAR SCARVES, A FRENCH STAPLE, ARE DONNED YEAR-ROUND WITH CREATIVE FLAIR, DEFYING PRACTICALITY.





## TRADITIONAL DRESS OF CONGO

Congo's traditional dress celebrates its rich culture, identity, and history, reflecting the diversity and heritage of different ethnic groups. While visually appealing, the garments are also practical, designed for Congo's climate.





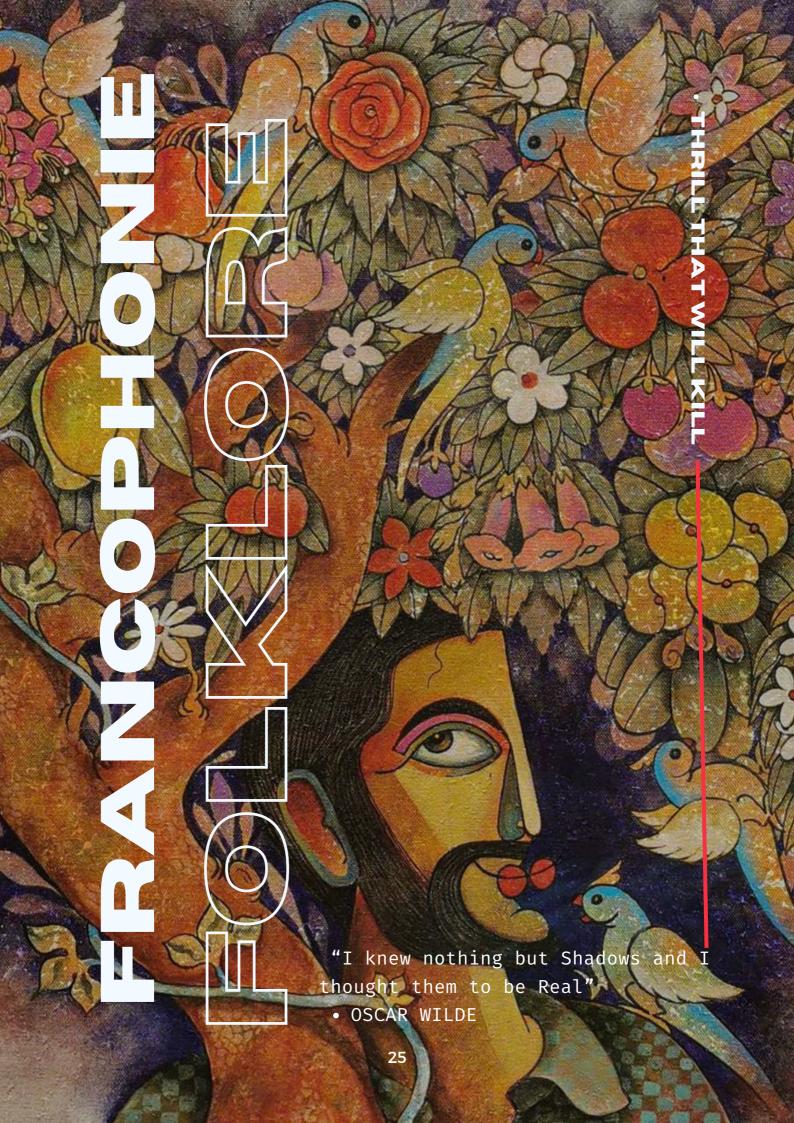






#### Madagascar's Timeless' LAMBA

Madagascar's lamba, versatile garment with multicultural roots, serves as an emblem of Malagasy identity. It's used for clothing, protection, and social featuring expression, intricate designs that tell local stories. This cherished symbol reflects Madagascar's rich heritage.



In the eerie depths of Belgian folklore, a sinister presence lurks in the shadows, waiting to ensnare-unsuspecting souls who dare to venture into the night. This malevolent creature is known as Kludde, a water beast of grotesque proportions that has haunted the nightmares of generations. As we delve into the spine-tingling legend of Kludde, prepare to be transported into a world where the line between reality and terror blurs.

#### • The Origin of Dread

Tapetum Lacidum

Kludde, a mysterious creature in Belgian folklore, is believed to inhabit watery realms, resembling a massive, grotesque figure with slimy fur and clawed hands.

#### A Shape-Shifting Horror

Mity

One of Kludde's most chilling attributes is its shape-shifting ability. It can morph into various forms, making it a cunning and elusive predator. While it may appear as a harmless animal or even a fellow traveler in distress.

#### The Whispers of Doom

Brown

Black

Kludde is a deceitful creature that uses eerie messages at night to terrify its prey, often mimicking the cries of a lost child or loved one in danger.

#### • A Cautionary Tale

Kludde's legend warns travelers in Belgium about the dangers of dark landscapes and the blurred lines between reality and the supernatural during dark nights.

DARKNESS I BECAME

Locanthrope

Rad by bite

Aly known cure

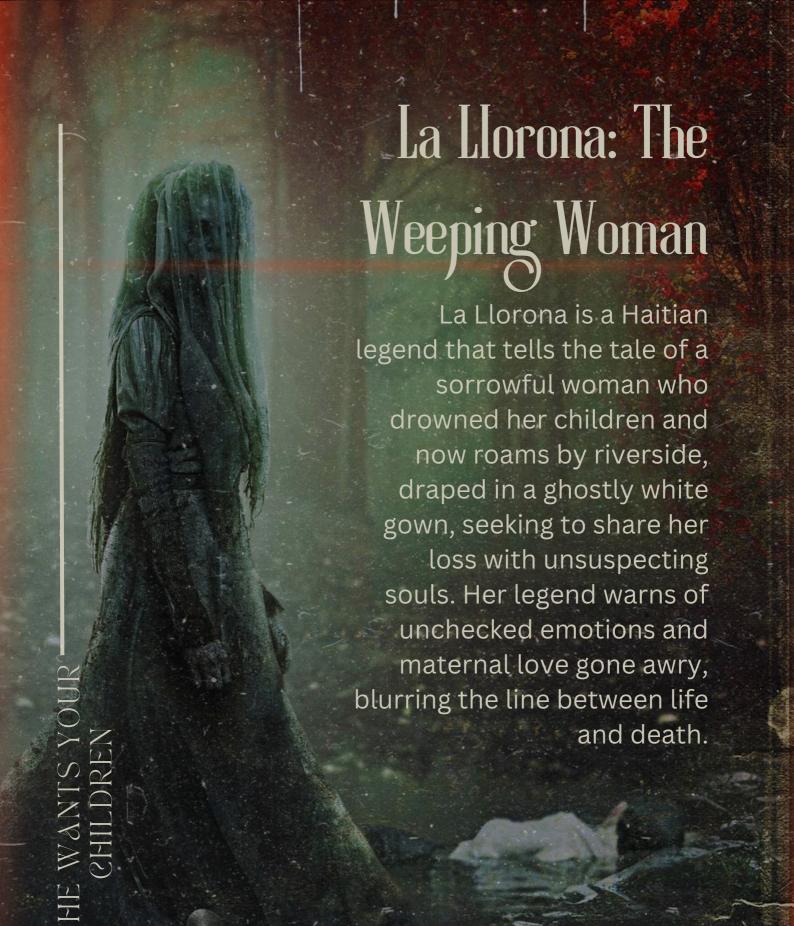
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### YEIIII THAIPS

Legends of the Yeti in the Alps describe it as a monstrous, shaggy beast with red eyes and powerful claws, attributed with both power and mystery. Some see it as a mountain guardian while others believe it to be a vengeful spirit.

The Yeti remains an elusive and captivating creature that instills both fear and awe in those who encounter it, despite numerous attempts to locate it.

Recent reports and eyewitness sightings suggest the Yeti may have migrated to the Alps, thrilling enthusiasts who have passed down stories of the creature for generations. Scientific evidence is awaited to uncover the truth behind this legend and reveal a less scary or more mysterious side to the creature.



### FACTS.

sort of unbelievable but fully true



## SWITZERLAND BEST PLACE FOR HEALING HIDDEN PARADISE

Switzerland is the only country in the world that has a square flag. Well, it tries to stand out but basically, it's pointless.

You cannot name your child however you want so in Switzerland, no naming your child a brand name, place name, etc.

Switzerland is one of the world's safest countries with a very low crime rate, with the fact that they have one of the highest rates of gun ownership.

They Drink a Lot. The Swiss population consumes 36 liters of wine, 56.5 liters of beer, and 8.4 liters of pure alcohol per person per year.

#### MAYO COLLEGE

SOME INTRESTING FACTS;

The Mayo College Coat Of Arms was made by Mr Lockwood Kipling, father of Rudyard Kipling.

Out of all the boarding schools, only Mayo College has a Museum

Mayo College is one of the oldest boarding schools in India and the Main Building is so magnificent that it is said that the picture of it is present in the British Archives.

The Museum as well as the library is said to have things and books that are from the Colonial period of India.

## Amazing facts

#### The French Language

#### French is the official language of 29 countries

French extends globally, from France, Belgium, Switzerland, and Canada to lesser-known places like Senegal, Djibouti, Madagascar, Vanuatu, and French territories. Its influence knows no borders, enchanting the world.



#### Exploring the Vintage City Streets



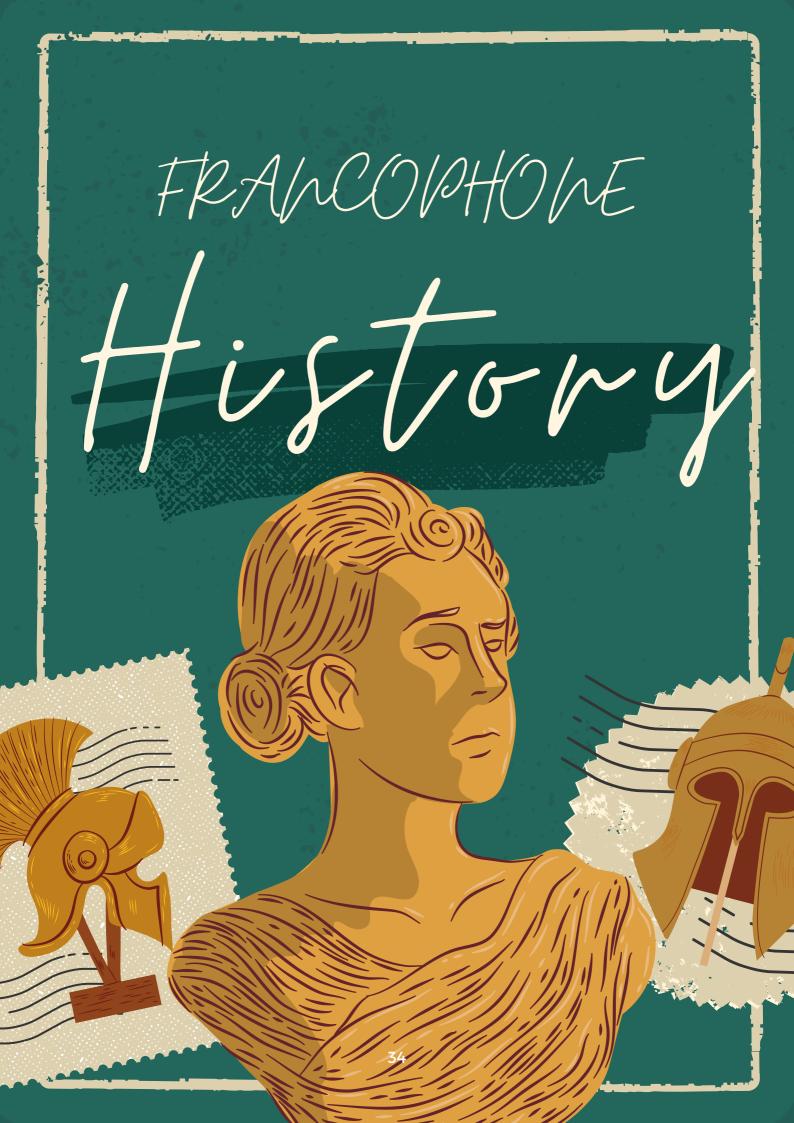
French **pronunciation** varies across regions, including Europe, Canada, Africa, and within France, similar to the diverse accents and dialects in different U.S. regions.





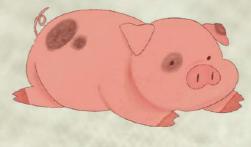
lust as someone from London sounds different from their friend in Liverpool, regional accents vary in France too. Lyon has a classic French accent, Marseille a thick twang, and Paris a posh one.

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#### IT IS !LLEGAL TO NAME

#### YOUR PET NAPOLEON



France, known for croissants, wine, and the Eiffel Tower, hides intriguing depths and quirky laws. Naming a pig Napoleon is illegal here, despite his historical significance as Emperor. This prohibition dates back to 1804, during his reign when people playfully named their pigs after him. He disliked it, leading to a law that persists today, risking fines or imprisonment if you defy it.





RA A V A A A A A

Madagascar's queen, a blend of stern leadership and hidden eccentricities, made a lasting impact. Her with fascination lemurs, love for French secret fashion, and genuine care for her people endeared her to the nation. Despite her brief reign, she left a legacy as a remarkable ruler who embraced both quirks and compassion, making her unforgettable in the hearts of the Malagasy people.

#### FLIGHTS RATHER THAN LIGHTS

France's history of innovation includes the invention of the hot air balloon in 1783, which became a symbol of freedom and adventure.

This achievement marked the beginning of hot air balloon travel, with France remaining pioneers in this field.



# 1 AVIII

A miscellaneous group consists of many different kinds of things or people that are difficult to put into a particular category.



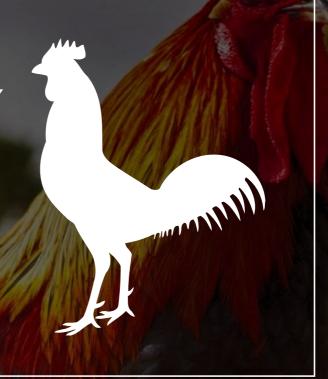
#### How to Avoid Accidentally Insulting Your Waiter

To avoid unintentional insults to your waiter in France, address them as "Monsieur" or "Madame" and avoid using generic terms like "hey you." Opt for medium-rare steak, not well-done, and never mix red and white wine. Remember to tip a few euros for good service. Follow these tips for a seamless dining experience in France.

#### THE ROOSTER IS ABSURD

#### IN THE FRENCH COUNTRY SIDE,

roosters symbolize more than décor—they embody the essence of French culture, representing national pride and adorning fan gear for sports teams.





Rooted in Christian tradition, they hold religious significance, often perched atop church steeples for divine symbolism. A historical tale links the rooster to a victorious moment during the Hundred Years' War. Whether for pride, religion, or history, the rooster stands as a cherished symbol of France, adding a touch of crowing confidence to its culture.



In France, "posthumous marriage" is legal, dating back to the Napoleonic era, to provide benefits to surviving partners. It requires proof of pre-planned marriage and a judge's approval within two years of the partner's passing. Although rare, it's a complex and emotional process.

Whether you find it romantic or a bit creepy, posthumous marriage showcases how cultural practices and legal systems can blend in unexpected ways. Who knows, maybe one day you'll be deciding whether to tie the knot with your departed partner. Just remember, in France, it's totally legit.



MARRYING A DEAD PERSON?

THEY
MARRYTHE
SOLUTION
SOLUTIO

French culture is almost as imbibed in our daily lives as much as Western culture is. Bread, berets, breakfast foods- many things come to mind when someone mentions France. As it turns out, most of these things weren't even invented in France. so stop fantasizing about getting a French kiss, put down that croissant and let's find out the real origin of these hings today.



#### FRENCH FRIES

Yes, the first shocker had to be this!

I'm sorry to tell you that if you thought you'd go to France and have a taste of authentic French Fries, you were wrong. Because for that, you'd need to visit Belgium. Yes, Belgians have been frying potatoes since the 1600s and relishing this treat just like they sliced and fried their fish.

Surprisingly, the Americans didn't discover this until *World War I* when US Soldiers stationed in Belgium tasted the fries and *nicknamed* them "French" Fries concerning Belgium's official language. So, these fries originated in Belgium and became a staple diet for the United States even though their name was "French Fries", and that too, was a very misleading one. But I'm sure you'll agree that "Belgian Fries" wouldn't roll off your tongue as much as "French Fries" would.

#### FRENCH HORN

The French Horn was not invented or modified in France but by German makers Heinrich Stölzel and Friedrich Blümel. Despite this, the horn's intricate design earned it the nickname "French" horn, which has stuck over time.





#### FRENCH TOAST

The dish was invented by the Ancient Romans in the 5th century and remains unchanged. However, a New Yorker named Joseph French added a modern twist in 1724 and the dish was named after him instead of France.

WELCOME TO THE FRENCH REALM OF COMPLAINING—A SPACE WHERE EVERY GRUMBLE TRANSFORMS INTO A MASTERPIECE.

#### THE FRENCH ART OF

# COMPLAINING



#### **INTRIGUED? LET'S EXPLORE!**

French, a perfect venting medium, turns complaints into a symphony of expression. Passion for food, wine, and culture sets the stage for high standards, viewing complaints as a tool for positive change and a commitment to getting your money's worth.

In France, complaining is cultural, seen as a means to enhance everyone's life. Their humor, even in adversity, adds an extra layer to this art form.





In conclusion, complaining is a **refined art** in France, woven into their **culture**.

Embrace it—you might become a

Master Complainer yourself!

#### STRICT BATHROOM RULES

#### In Switzerland

WELL, WELL, LOOK WHO'S GOT SOME STRICT BATHROOM RULES!



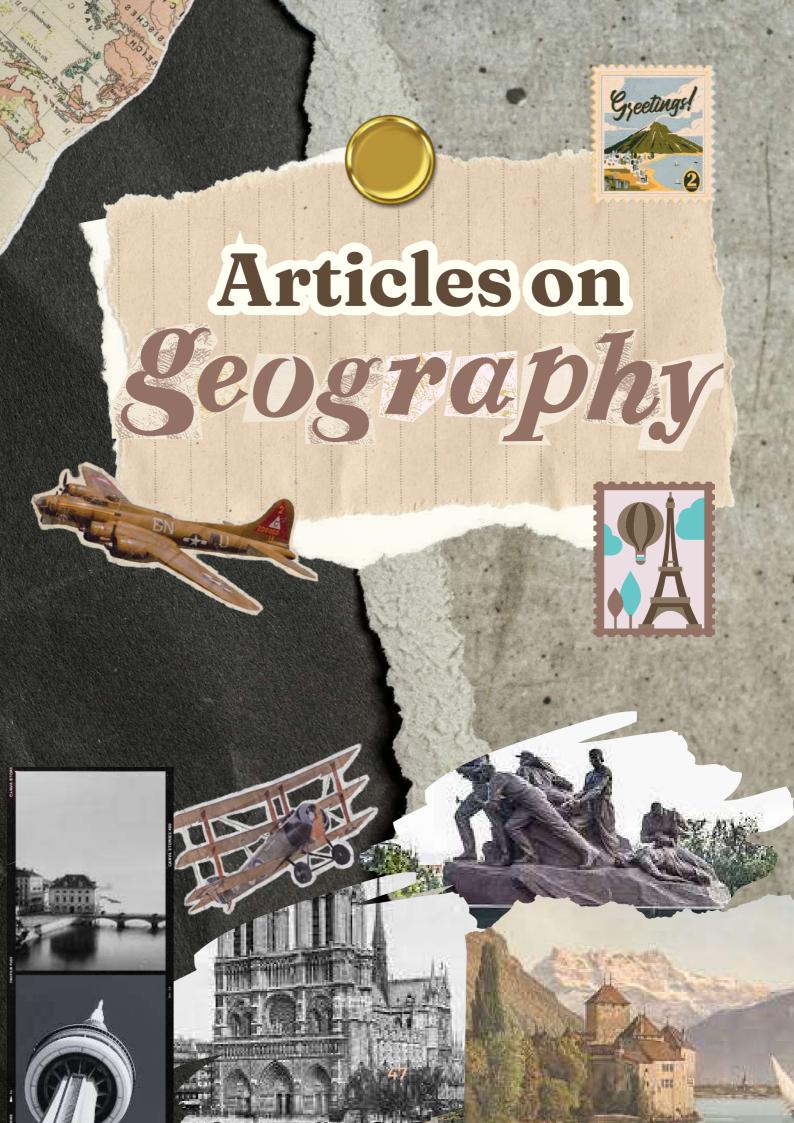
In Switzerland, you can't flush after 10 PM—yes, seriously! Imagine the post-10 PM household: everyone tip-toeing, fearing a fork drop might lead to trouble. Bathroom trips? Better hold it or face arrest by the toilet police. How they enforce this? Shadow agents, warnings, or straight to toilet jail? It's a bit absurd, right?

#### MAYBE THERE'S A SILVER LINING-

it could be a water conservation strategy. The Swiss, slyly promoting mindful water use under the guise of beauty sleep. Or, perhaps, they're just having fun with laws. Whatever the case, Swiss bathroom etiquette is no joke. Visit Switzerland, keep it down post-10 PM, or risk a dry situation.



SO THE NEXT TIME YOU'RE IN SWITZERLAND, REMEMBER TO KEEP IT DOWN AFTER 10 PM, or you might find yourself in hot water or more accurately, not in any water at all.



#### EI-FFEL FOR

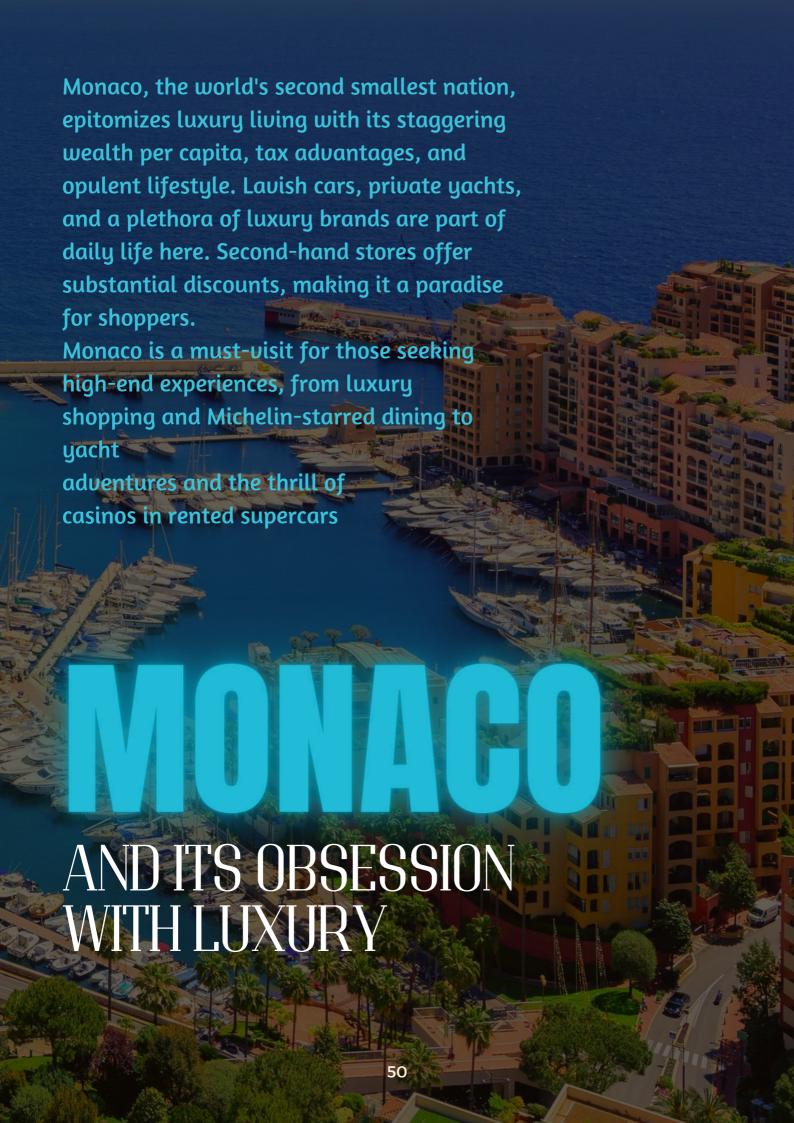
THE EIFFEL TOWER, INITIALLY TEMPORARY FOR THE 1889 WORLD'S FAIR, WAS SAVED BY GUSTAVE EIFFEL AND NAMED AFTER HIM. BUILT IN JUST OVER TWO YEARS, IT CONSUMED TONS OF CHEESE AND BEER. ORIGINALLY "TOUR DE 300 MÈTRES," IT'S A SYMBOL OF ENDURING BEAUTY, AND A PLAYFUL REMINDER FOR SINGLE FRIENDS TO TREAT THEMSELVES TO A DATE AT THE TOP.

#### THE CITY OF LIGHTS

PARIS, THE CITY OF LIGHTS, IS A
GLOBALLY RENOWNED DESTINATION
KNOWN FOR ITS ROMANTIC ALLURE AND
PICTURESQUE CHARM. DRAWING
MILLIONS OF TOURISTS EACH YEAR, THE
CITY BOASTS EXQUISITE ARCHITECTURE,
RICH HISTORY, TOP-NOTCH MUSEUMS,
AND DELECTABLE CUISINE



ICONIC LANDMARKS LIKE THE EIFFEL TOWER, NOTRE-DAME CATHEDRAL, AND THE ARC DE TRIOMPHE SHOWCASE A STUNNING FUSION OF ARCHITECTURAL STYLES. THE SEINE RIVER IS ADORNED WITH MAGNIFICENT BRIDGES LIKE THE PONT NEUF AND THE PONT ALEXANDRE III, ADDING TO PARIS'S ARCHITECTURAL SPLENDOR.



## EANE





















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# SPECIAL THANKS

Ms. Priyanka Shaktawat
Ms. Tanya Jain
Mr. Kunal Kumar
Mr. Paul Loyrette



