



Rectorat

Inspection Pédagogique Régionale

ANGLAIS

Dossier suivi par
Michèle ANDREANI
Téléphone
05.96.52.27.28
Fax
05.96.52.27.29
Mel
ce.ipr@ac-martinique.fr

Les Hauts de Terreville
97279 Schœlcher
cedex

Welcome!

You've been appointed as a foreign language assistant in the Academy of Martinique

Here is some information about the French Educational System and the different types of schools in which you will be working:

SCHOOLS

College:

Four forms:

6^{ème} , 5^{ème} , 4^{ème} , 3^{ème}

Age group: 11 to 14, 15

Final exam: Brevet des Collèges – English is not included in the exam yet but should be soon-

Lycée:

Three forms:

2^{nde}, 1^{ère}, Terminale

Age group: 15 to 18, approximately –students might be older if they have repeated a year-

Final exam: “Bac” –short for “Baccalauréat”-



The French Educational System is a very centralised one, with a very precise national curriculum, but it offers the students numerous choices of options and main subjects. Students do not specialize in scientific or literary subjects as early as in the English or American system. All students take French, languages, and even philosophy at the final exam, even if they have chosen sciences or maths as their main subjects.

In “colleges” as well as in “lycées”, most students study English as their first foreign language.

In “collèges”, the time devoted to English varies from 4 hours a week in 6^{ème} to three hours in the other forms.

It is more complicated in “lycées”, especially in “première” and “terminale,” as students specializing in literary subjects - “série L”- have more English lessons than those who have chosen maths, sciences, economics- “série ES, S”- or more technical subjects- “séries STG”.

In “seconde”, all students study English three hours a week.

In 1^{ère} and Terminale, some students have chosen the “Anglais renforcé” option, so that they study English 6 to 7 hours a week, with a special curriculum including the study of a novel in the English language.

All these details should help you understand why you are confronted with so many different types of pupils, and why teachers ask you to do so many different things!

The English exam at the “baccalauréat” is **written**, except for “séries STG” and “Anglais renforcé” which is **oral**. Things are currently changing and there should be an oral exam for all students in the next few years. Bear this in mind when you teach students! You might find they are shy or not used to expressing themselves orally. **Your challenge will be to make them speak and realize that the English language is a means of communication between REAL HUMAN BEINGS!**

YOUR DUTY AS AN ASSISTANT

You will be asked to:

❖ **Take small conversation groups (split classes)**

Planning class or online activities, follow-up workshops, role-plays, pair work and games to enable students to practise their English and acquire conversational spontaneity and fluency.

❖ **Team teach with the class teacher**

Supporting the English teacher with the whole class present, you will be the main resource for native speaker reading, pronunciation and speaking. You may help to exploit texts for conversation classes.

❖ **Provide coaching for students (solo teaching)**

20 minutes mock oral exam, for example to help students to develop their speaking skills.

You may be asked to:

❖ **Help students to develop written language skills**

You may assist them in writing research papers or to create a PowerPoint presentation.

❖ **Give remedial assistance to individual problems of students**

❖ **Hold an English club**

❖ **Collaborate to a school exchange project**

❖ **Transcribe to tape materials aimed at enriching the audio or video collections of the school library or the Foreign Languages department.**

Don't be surprised if you're asked to do some research about specific themes such as Australian Aborigines, the Civil right Movements or Comic Relief. Even if teachers rely on you to tell students about your own culture or your native country, they might also need you to deal with some cultural themes on the national curriculum. Don't worry, you're not expected to give a university lecture!

TEACHING TIPS

- ❖ Make your role clear as a member of staff, not a member of the student body (no matter how close in age) so do not set out to be “mates” with them. Keep a friendly distance, keep personal details about boyfriends to yourself. Students need to perceive you as a teacher.
- ❖ Think of the dress code! Don't wear beach clothes or mini skirts which are forbidden to pupils!
- ❖ Sound professional: be careful about your voice (clear and calm) and posture. Students need to feel you are in control or they will take control.
- ❖ Assert yourself: establish rules from the start and make them clear. No more than five will do. For example: do not start the lesson or explain activities if students are talking. Always expect silence before you speak. Have signals for students to speak (putting up hands)
- ❖ Be organised: plan. If you need the video or computer room, make sure your class is scheduled; what will you write on the board? How long will the activity last? What will you do if they get too noisy?
- ❖ Plan to go from familiar to unfamiliar, from easy to harder.
- ❖ You are not expected to do things the way a teacher does. Keep in mind the importance of games and competition.
- ❖ Show real interest: listen to their answers and react. Keep your response as natural as possible.
- ❖ Make an effort to learn and use their names: ask them to make cardboard name plates for desks or mark names on a seating plan of the room.
- ❖ Be patient: you may be the first native speaker some of the students have ever met! Give them time to ask you questions and to get used to your accent.
- ❖ Have fun: try to relax and enjoy yourself. A sense of humour helps too!

Teamwork with the teachers: seek help and confirm guidelines with them beforehand. Discuss the topics you would like to work on or that they would like you to deal with. Take time to consult them as they might not have the time to come and see you. Go as often as you can to the staff room in order to keep in touch with them.

Please note down on a copybook everything you do with the students: this will help you each time you see them again, as you will have many different groups!

