

Rosa's Seasonal Calendar: Les Mois de l'Année

Learning objective: To identify, spell, and sequence the twelve months of the year in French.

Read the passage below with Rosa the parrot. Use your knowledge of the months to answer the questions, ensuring you use the correct French spellings.

Bonjour! I am Rosa. I love flying across the world and learning how different countries track the seasons. In France, the year begins with cold weather in janvier, but soon we see the flowers bloom in avril. By the time we reach juillet and août, the sun is shining brightly! As the leaves turn orange in octobre and the air grows crisp in novembre, we prepare for the festivities of décembre. Learning the months in French helps us understand the rhythm of the year.

Word bank: janvier (January) · février (February) · mars (March) · avril (April) · mai (May) · juin (June) · juillet (July) · août (August) · septembre (September) · octobre (October) · novembre (November) · décembre (December)

1. Identify the three months that make up the winter season mentioned in the passage (janvier, février, décembre). Explain why you think these are considered the coldest months in the Northern Hemisphere. (2 marks)

2. Rosa says that flowers bloom in 'avril'. If a gardener wanted to plant seeds three months before avril, which month would they choose? Write your answer in French. (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the spellings of the months in French and English. Identify two months that look very similar and explain why you think they share such a resemblance. (2 marks)

4. Justify your answer: If your birthday is in September, how would you write that date in a full French sentence? (e.g., 'Mon anniversaire est en...') (2 marks)

5. What might happen if the calendar order was changed? Why do you think it is important for everyone to agree on the sequence of months? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a circular calendar representing the four seasons. Colour-code each month: blue for winter, green for spring, yellow for summer, and orange for autumn. Label each segment with the correct French month name.



Extension challenge: Research why the French months are not written with a capital letter at the start (unless at the beginning of a sentence). Write a short paragraph explaining this rule and provide three examples of sentences using months in the middle of a sentence.