

Rosa's French Calendar: Mes Mois Pr préférés

Learning objective: To recall, spell, and use French vocabulary for the months of the year while applying them to personal preferences and cultural context.

Join Rosa the parrot on a linguistic adventure! Use this fact-file to map out the French calendar. Fill in the boxes to demonstrate your understanding of the months, their order, and how to express your personal interests in French.

Word bank: janvier · février · mars · avril · mai · juin · juillet · août · septembre · octobre · novembre · décembre · Mon mois préféré est... · parce que... · il fait froid · il fait chaud

1. Chronological Order: List the twelve months of the year in French, ensuring the spelling is accurate. Explain why the French language uses a lowercase letter for months when written in a sentence, unlike in English. (4 marks)

2. Personal Preference: Complete the sentence 'Mon mois préféré est...' (My favourite month is...) and justify your choice using at least two French adjectives or reasons. (3 marks)

3. Compare and Contrast: Compare the French months to the English months. Identify any cognates (words that look or sound similar) and explain how these similarities might assist a learner in memorising new vocabulary. (4 marks)

4. Seasonal Logic: Select two months and describe the weather typically associated with them in France using French phrases. Justify your selection based on the Northern Hemisphere's seasonal cycle. (3 marks)

5. Critical Analysis: What might happen if the calendar system was not divided into twelve months? Suggest an alternative way to organise a year and explain the mathematical implications of your system. (5 marks)

6. Creative Extension: Design a 'Festival Calendar'. Choose three months and invent a new French celebration for each. Write the name of the celebration in French and describe one activity that would take place during it. (6 marks)

Extension challenge: Research the 'Bastille Day' celebration (Le quatorze juillet). Write a short paragraph explaining why this date is significant to French history and how it compares to national celebrations in the UK.