

## Before reading :

Look at the title and the subtitles of this text. What do you think the purpose / aim of this text is?

## Read the text:

What kind of text is it ?  a funny historical text  a funny traveler's guide  a funny newspaper article

What is it about ? What do you think of the tone of the text ?

Who is it aimed at ?  The French  The Americans

Who does it deal with ?  The French  The Americans

Now write a sentence to present this text, using your answers.

## Vocabulary

### Introduction

Match the following words with their meaning:

Advisory

Accuracy

Ensured

Head for

go

exactness

guaranteed

advice

### General overview

Find equivalents for these words or expressions:

- limited:
- not used a lot:
- almost impossible:
- correct:
- deliberately:

Find a sentence that shows that French people are proud.

### The People

Find equivalents for these words or expressions:

- crazy people:
- in a queue:
- in a bad mood:
- hot-tempered:
- unsociable:
- with difficulty:
- attitude:

" Most French citizens are Roman Catholic, though you would hardly guess it from their behavior." Can you explain this sentence in your own words?

Is it true that in France " Many people are communists" ? Why is this evoked?

### Safety

Find equivalents for these words or expressions:

- to be conscious:
- to escape (a danger):

What period of the French History does this paragraph refer to?

### Culture & Cuisine

Find equivalents for these words or expressions:

- to be proud of:
- naked, without any clothes on:
- not to change:

Do you know (or can you guess) what a "snail" is in French? And a "slug"? To help you : "a shell" is "*une coquille*".

### Economy

Translate:

- *à peine:*
- *traîner, lambiner:*
- *en grève:*
- *divers:*

### A word of warning

Translate:

- *destiné:*
- *blessure:*
- *membre (du corps humain):*
- *situation critique:*
- *à l'étranger*

### Close up

1. Pick out the criticisms made about the French. Do you think they are justified ? Comment.
2. Pick out the positive aspects of France given in the text.
3. Pick out the pieces of advice which are given. What image of American tourists is conveyed here ?
4. Pick out passages you particularly like and explain why.