

# MAURIL Makes Learning French Fun



Creating bilingual families and fostering a love of the French language is as exciting as it is challenging. Formal classes, books and traditional apps are all great tools, but what if you could learn French while doing something you already enjoy, like watching a clip of a TV show, a news report or a captivating documentary? A free language-learning app called Mauril does just that, with a decidedly Canadian twist.

The Mauril app uses audio and video content from CBC and Radio-Canada to immerse learners in the French language and the myriad of ways that Canadians speak. Each clip has been carefully chosen by the app's pedagogy team to include real-life settings and expressions that reflect the diversity and accents found throughout Canada. Learners can then test their oral comprehension skills with multiple-choice questions and move on to more challenging levels at their own pace.

This is an approach to language learning that is much more than

memorizing words. In addition to oral comprehension questions, Mauril invites app users to step out of their comfort zones with daily language challenges. Suggested challenges vary according to learning level and include "order from a menu in French" or "record your outgoing telephone message in French". The objective is to help learners gain confidence in their verbal and comprehension skills in a practical, and sometimes playful, way.

## Learning a new language can be a family affair

Another great way to ignite the love of the French language in younger family members is with *Zoomizoom*, CBC/Radio-Canada's popular bilingual children's show. Each of the 20 episodes, available for free on Mauril.ca, features characters speaking French and English as they navigate their daily adventures. This highly entertaining show provides a great opportunity for kids to practise listening comprehension skills.

Watch *Zoomizoom* as a family and discuss the content with your children after each episode. "What was your favourite part?" "What did character x do?" With each episode, language comprehension will grow. Parents can also find *Zoomizoom* units on Mauril, with questions intended for children.

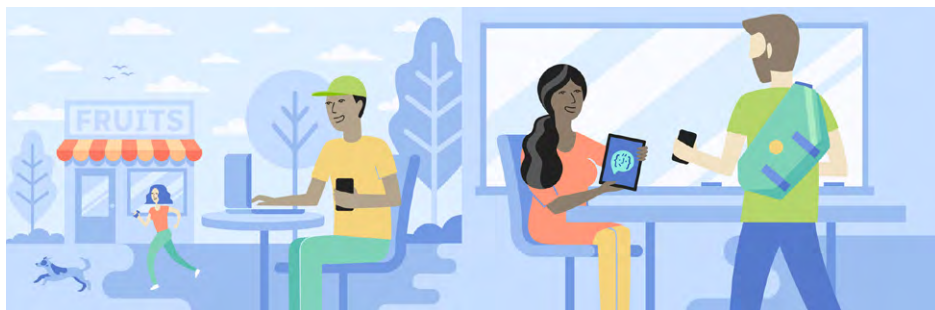
Although the app was designed for adult learners, parents can adapt the Challenges section to suit younger family members. Encourage bilingualism in your household by having "French-only" dinners once a week, switching the audio of favourite shows to French or trying to speak to young children in French at bath time. Exposure, along with the willingness to step out of your comfort zone, are key practices in the language-learning experience.

## A helpful tool for teachers

Since its launch in April 2021, French language teachers across Canada have been using Mauril as a tool to complement classroom learning. Students look forward to doing their "Mauril homework", since it means watching and listening to award-winning video and audio clips. What's more, they can do it at their own pace and from anywhere.

The app's pedagogy team has worked with passion and precision to curate a level-appropriate learning experience for language learners. Mauril levels are inspired by the Canadian Language Benchmarks system, and cover levels 1-8, which are equivalent to Common European Framework of Reference levels A1-B2. A placement test allows students to start at the appropriate level for their needs.

The pedagogy team is also creating an ever-expanding "Guide for Teachers" section with tips on how to use Mauril in the classroom and as homework for students. Many teachers are already using the app's content as a basis for



## Almost 50,000 Canadians have downloaded the Mauril app since its launch in April 2021.

group discussion, as a reward or as a prompt to do everyday language challenges.

### What's next?

To keep things interesting for learners, Mauril will continue to evolve with new content and functionalities. The Mauril team will also be organizing webinars to help learners and teachers maximize

the app experience, and will organize events to foster community and celebrate bilingualism across the country. Discover more about Mauril's unique language-learning experience at [Mauril.ca](https://mauril.ca).

Mauril can be downloaded for Android or iPhone on your smartphone or tablet, or you can use the online version at [app.mauril.ca](https://app.mauril.ca). ■



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