Preface

Vis-à-vis engages students with its unique integration of contemporary culture and communicative building blocks, providing the tools they need to build a solid foundation in introductory French. The hallmarks of *Vis-à-vis* are well known:

- an easy-to-navigate chapter structure with four lessons in which vocabulary, grammar, and culture work together as integrated units;
- an abundance of practice activities that range from form-focused to communicative;
- a balanced approach to the four skills;
- diverse coverage of the Francophone world that includes an outstanding video program featuring bloggers and cultural footage from eight different Francophone regions.

These features support the core goals of the introductory French course—communicative and cultural competence—and lay the groundwork for student success.

McGraw-Hill Connect® French and McGraw-Hill LearnSmart®

In its sixth edition, *Vis-à-vis* continues to evolve to meet the changing needs of instructors and students by responding to feedback from the users themselves. Employing a wide array of research tools, we identified a number of areas for potential innovation; the new program builds upon the success of the fifth edition with an expanded emphasis on contemporary language, pronunciation, culture, and technology to create a truly communicative, interactive experience. On the digital side, this new edition offers **Connect French** and **LearnSmart,** with their unparalleled adaptive and digital learning resources. These powerful tools, now an integral part of the sixth edition, complement and support the goals of the *Vis-à-vis* program and address the needs of the evolving introductory French course.

How do Connect French and LearnSmart Support the Goals of the *Vis-à-vis* Program?

Communicative Competence

One of the major challenges of any introductory language course is to give each student ample exposure to the language and sufficient opportunity for speaking practice to inspire them to communicate with confidence. In **Connect French,** students have full access to the digitally enhanced e-Book, the online *Workbook / Laboratory Manual* activities, **LearnSmart**, and all of the accompanying audio and video resources, giving them the ability to interact with the materials as often as they wish.

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Each chapter of the *Vis-à-vis* program contains the following exciting enhancements to promote communicative practice and competence:

- **Interactive vocabulary presentations** (**Paroles**) with audio allow students to listen, record, and practice the new vocabulary at home.

- **Interactive textbook and workbook activities for vocabulary and grammar in Connect French,** many of which are auto-graded, give students the opportunity to complete their assignments and come to class better prepared to participate in paired and group activities.

- **Blackboard Instant Messaging** provides the necessary tools for students to work in pairs online or to practice speaking together before coming to class.

- The **Voice Board** feature allows individuals to record their own voice as many times as they wish before they post their recording to which other students may respond.

- New **Prononcez bien!** activities with a recording feature provide students with opportunities for discrete-word and contextualized practice that gives them more confidence in their speaking abilities.

> " *I am particularly interested in the inclusion of more pronunciation practice and pronunciation activities. This is what the existing textbooks are usually lacking. The accompanying recording of the explanations and the activities will be very helpful both to students and their instructors.* "
>
> —Andrzej Dziedzic, *University of Wisconsin*

Leçon 1: Paroles

Deux chambres d'étudiants

references

23. value:
10.00 points

Click PLAY and listen to the word. Then click RECORD MY VOICE and repeat.

1. play ▶ un canapé
   ● record my voice
2. play ▶ le mur
   ● record my voice
3. play ▶ une affiche
   ● record my voice
4. play ▶ une commode
   ● record my voice
5. play ▶ une enceinte
   ● record my voice
6. play ▶ un iPod*

Leçon 1: Paroles

Les amis d'Anne et de Céline

B. Vos camarades de classe. Post a message to the Voice Board describing the hair, eyes, and height of someone in the classroom. Then listen to a description left by a classmate and record your own response guessing who it is.

Follow the *Voice Board* instructions below to participate in this group discussion.

Instructors:
Your students will record and post their responses using the Voice Board, seen here.

You can record a message to your students when you view the question *after* adding it to the assignment.
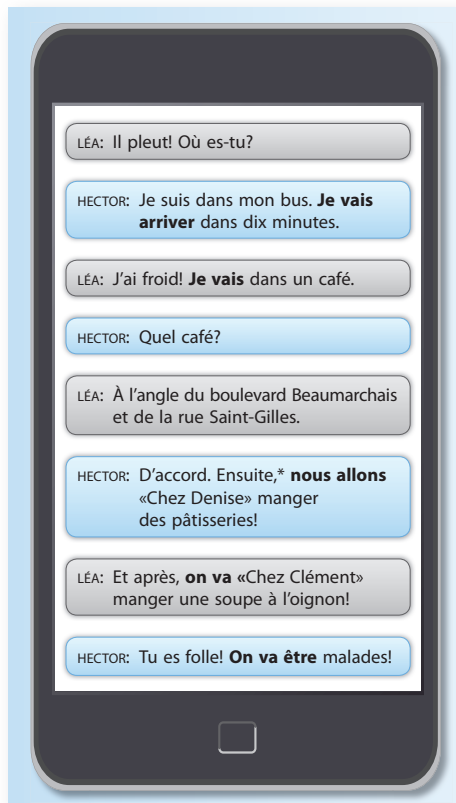
How to post on the Voice Board:
- Select a classmate's post, or choose a classmate from the Participants dropdown, and click the play button to listen
- Click Reply to respond to a classmate, or New to record your own post
- Use special characters if you type a response

Need more help?

Voice Board

Prononcez bien!

1. **Masculine vs. feminine forms of nationalities** (page 35)

   Beaucoup de nationalités! Your housemate is back from his second introductory French class. He's impressed by the number of nationalities represented in his class. He lists them for you, although he omits articles as he is still unsure about them. You help him by telling him the appropriate article **un** or **une**.

   MODÈLE: You hear: mexicaine
   You say: une Mexicaine

2. **The vowels in *le, la,* and *les*** (page 39)

   Une nouvelle colocataire! One of your housemates has moved out and Isabelle, a French student, is moving in. She asks you to help her unpack. Listen to what she says and complete the paragraph with the names of the objects she asks you to bring into her room. **Attention!** Don't forget the article (**le, la,** or **les**).

   1.   2.   3.   4.

   5.   6.   7.

   ISABELLE: «S'il te plaît, apporte (*bring*) _____,¹ _____,²
   _____,³ _____,⁴ _____,⁵ _____⁶

LÉA: Il pleut! Où es-tu?

HECTOR: Je suis dans mon bus. **Je vais arriver** dans dix minutes.

LÉA: J'ai froid! **Je vais** dans un café.

HECTOR: Quel café?

LÉA: À l'angle du boulevard Beaumarchais et de la rue Saint-Gilles.

HECTOR: D'accord. Ensuite,* **nous allons** «Chez Denise» manger des pâtisseries!

LÉA: Et après, **on va** «Chez Clément» manger une soupe à l'oignon!

HECTOR: Tu es folle! **On va être** malades!

de la viande
du vin rouge
du poulet
de la bière
de l'eau minérale

Choisissez la forme correcte du verbe **sortir** pour le pronom sujet **je.**

Do you know the answer? (Be honest.)

| Yes | Probably | Maybe | No—Just guessing |

> **"Vis-à-vis** *provides a mixed approach that integrates the best of communicative language pedagogy with useful tech tools for technologically enhanced, personalized online language learning. Probably the most up-to-date and refreshing French I out there.* **"**
> —Sarah Gordon, *Utah State University*

- **Four new, lively mini-dialogues** featuring the blog characters have been recorded to provide students with a spirited introduction to the new grammatical structures in context.

- Seventeen **Grammaire interactive** tutorials, each with a brief practice quiz, focus on structures that students typically struggle with, such as the partitive, and the **passé composé** vs. the **imparfait.** These tutorials, accessible only in **Connect French**, give students an alternative means of learning, reviewing, and checking their comprehension of selected grammar points.

In addition to the **Connect French** chapter resources, **LearnSmart** modules for vocabulary and grammar have been developed specifically for *Vis-à-vis.* This powerful adaptive system helps students pinpoint their weaknesses and provides them with an individualized study program based on their results. Audio prompts for vocabulary and grammar help students strengthen both their listening and writing skills. All students, no matter their previous language experience, can benefit from using **LearnSmart,** which includes built-in reporting and a competitive scoreboard to increase student engagement. Our research has shown that students using **LearnSmart** have significantly improved their learning and course outcomes.
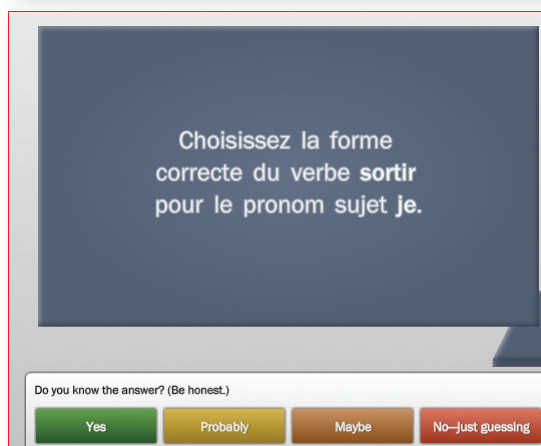
By using these powerful digital tools, students have myriad opportunities to build their communicative skills. By assigning **Connect French** and **LearnSmart,** instructors save valuable class time for interactive practice.

Cultural Competence

The program's meaningful and extensive exploration of the rich culture of France and the Francophone world is fully supported in **Connect French** through audio and video resources and interactive activities.

- Every four chapters, *Vis-à-vis* introduces a focus on a new French or Francophone character and region. The personal online journal entries in **Le blog de…** , the related **Reportage**, and the **Bienvenue…** readings that precede Chapter 1 and follow Chapters 4, 8, 12, and 16, expose students to contemporary language and the vast diversity of life and culture in France, Belgium, Tunisia, and Martinique. In **Connect French**, instructors may assign the readings and new auto-graded comprehension activities that prepare students for class discussion.

- **Le vidéoblog de…** and the stunning **Bienvenue** video segments give students a window into the sights and sounds of eight different French-speaking regions/countries: France, Belgium, Switzerland, Quebec, Louisiana, Tunisia, Senegal, Martinique, and Tahiti. Each video is accompanied by comprehension and cross-cultural comparison activities that encourage students to make connections between their culture and those of the French-speaking world. The new video activities in **Connect** break the segments into manageable "chunks" that keep students focused on specific information and help improve their listening skills.

- The **Avant de lire** and **Compréhension** activities that accompany the **Lecture** in the **Perspectives** section (**Leçon 4**) of every chapter may now be done online.

The **Connect French** platform gives students the opportunity to interact with the cultural materials as often as they wish and engage them more fully in their language learning.

As we see the modern French classroom changing, we are looking at teaching and learning in a different light. Our research shows that French instructors seek digital tools to extend learning outside of the classroom in more effective ways. The cutting-edge functionality of **Connect French** and **LearnSmart** enables instructors to achieve their course goals using new online presentation activities, improved homework tools, and a better reporting feature. Together, **Connect French and LearnSmart** create a dynamic learning environment that presents communicative practice and rich cultural content as it motivates students to succeed regardless of the delivery platform. We invite you to experience the new *Vis-à-vis* program to see how our partnership with today's instructors and students has allowed us to identify and address some of the most common needs in today's French classrooms. Discover the power of *Vis-à-vis'* proven approach enhanced by **LearnSmart** and our new digital platform **Connect French.**

> "**Vis-à-vis** *is an exciting, beginning French program that addresses the needs of the 21st century student. There is a rich mixture of language, culture, and technology that will stimulate the reluctant learner.* "
>
> —Dr. Debra Boyd, *North Carolina Central University, Durham*

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Program Supplements

Connect French: Used in conjunction with *Vis-à-vis: Beginning French,* **Connect French** provides digital solutions for schools with face-to-face, hybrid, or 100% online modes. In addition to the interactive e-Book, complete *Workbook / Laboratory Manual*, grammar tutorials, and audio and video resources described on the preceding pages, some of the key administrative capabilities of **Connect French** include:

- the ability to customize syllabi and assignments to fit the needs of individual programs;
- an integrated gradebook with powerful reporting features;
- the ability to assign **LearnSmart** modules and monitor student progress;
- access to all instructor's resources, including the *Digital Transparencies, Instructor's Manual, Connect French User's Guide*, pre-made exams, and a customizable testing program with audio for the online delivery of assessments;
- access to **Tegrity,** McGraw-Hill's proprietary video capture software that allows instructors to post short videos, tutorials, and lessons for student access outside of class.

MH Campus and Blackboard: Integration of **MH Campus** and **Blackboard** simplifies and streamlines your course administration by integrating with your campus's Learning Management System. With features such as single sign-on for students and instructors, gradebook synchronization, and easy access to all of McGraw-Hill's language content (even from other market-leading titles not currently adopted for your course), teaching an introductory language course has never been simpler.

Annotated Instructor's Edition: The *Instructor's Edition* of the text includes a wide variety of suggestions for presenting each section of the book, ideas for recycling vocabulary, helpful cultural notes, suggested expansion activities, and useful follow-up activities. Answers to the textbook activities are provided in the *Instructor's Manual*.

Workbook / Laboratory Manual: This print supplement provides more conventional, drill-like practice of the **Paroles** and **Structures** sections presented in the textbook using a variety of written and audio activities. In addition, each chapter includes **Le blog de…** and a **Pause-culture** section that expands upon the cultural themes of the chapter. The **Perspectives** section provides additional pronunciation practice, a capstone listening activity (**À l'écoute**), and two writing activities: **Par écrit**, a guided writing activity, and **Journal intime,** a free-writing activity. For students using the print version, the audio files are posted at **Connect French**.

The *Vis-à-vis* **Video Program,** which contains **Le vidéoblog de…** and the **Bienvenue…** video segments, is available in **Connect French** and on DVD.

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