

Les sons et les lettres



Audio: Concepts, Activities
Record & Compare

The letter r

The French **r** is very different from the English *r*. The English *r* is pronounced by placing the tongue in the middle and toward the front of the mouth. The French **r** is pronounced in the throat. You have seen that an **-er** at the end of a word is usually pronounced **-ay**, as in the English word *way*, but without the glide sound.

chanter **manger** **expliquer** **aimer**

In most other cases, the French **r** has a very different sound. Pronunciation of the French **r** varies according to its position in a word. Note the different ways the **r** is pronounced in these words.

rivière **littérature** **ordinateur** **devoir**

If an **r** falls between two vowels or before a vowel, it is pronounced with slightly more friction.

rare **garage** **Europe** **rose**

An **r** sound before a consonant or at the end of a word is pronounced with slightly less friction.

porte **bourse** **adore** **jour**

Prononcez Practice saying these words aloud.

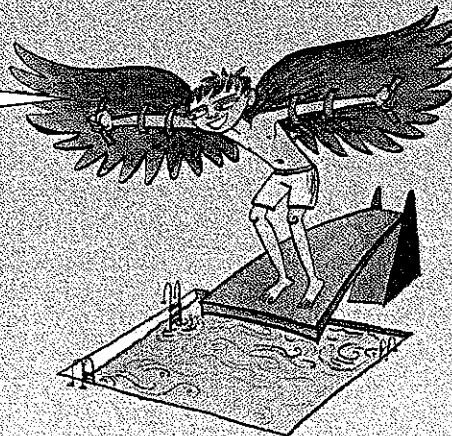
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|---------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. crayon | 5. terrible | 9. rentrer | 13. être |
| 2. professeur | 6. architecture | 10. regarder | 14. dernière |
| 3. plaisir | 7. trouver | 11. lettres | 15. arriver |
| 4. différent | 8. restaurant | 12. réservé | 16. après |

Articulez Practice saying these sentences aloud.

- Au revoir, Professeur Colbert!
- Rose arrive en retard mardi.
- Mercredi, c'est le dernier jour des cours.
- Robert et Roger adorent écouter la radio.
- La corbeille à papier, c'est quarante-quatre euros!
- Les parents de Richard sont brillants et très agréables.

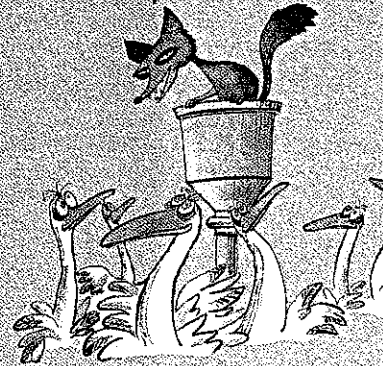
Dictons Practice reading these sayings aloud.

Qui ne risque rien n'a rien.¹



¹ Nothing ventured, nothing gained.
² When the fox preaches, watch your goose.

Quand le renard prêche, gare aux oies.²



ressources



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