

LESSON NOTES

Pronunciation: the 5 main differences between French and English

1. **Some French sounds are different from English... or don't even exist in English.**

(See Module 4)

EXAMPLES:

- The French "R" sound is different from the English "R" (See Module 4.5)
- The French nasals don't exist in English (See Module 4.4)

► **REMEMBER:**

Learning takes time, so **be patient**. **Train your ear with the exercises** provided with the course. Indeed, you first need to **hear the sound** correctly **before you can say it** with confidence!

2. **There are no diphthongs in French. French sounds are short.**

(Diphthongs are a glide between 2 vowels sounds, such as in the English words *day*, *cow*, *boat*, etc.)

3. **Some letters in French combine to form a new sound: you don't pronounce the letters individually. (See Module 3)**

Don't let yourself be overwhelmed by all these letter combinations: you will see them all the time and **you will quickly become familiar with them**.

4. **The letters D, G, P, S, T, X and Z are generally silent at the end of a French word. (See Module 3.2)**

5. **French uses accents and graphic signs – for example the cedilla. (See Modules 2.2 and 4.7)**

These 'baroque written adornments' are not optional and will affect the pronunciation of words!