



Computer Assisted French @ HCC - Central College, Detiveaux

VADE MECUM: Doing Computer Homework

The Multimedia Language Lab at HCC-Central offers students of French access to any language-learning computer work. The lab is located in FAC – 305, and its hours vary from semester to semester. Visit it regularly: do not wait until the last minute to get your computer work done before a test, as learning a language involves contact & practice *every day!* Call the ESL/FL Department (713.718.6678) for the current lab hours. The following is intended as a guide to doing all computer homework assigned with each chapter we cover in class.

FREN 1411, 1412, & 2311

1. *Vis-à-vis* Web Page

Open the web browser (Start, Internet Explorer), enter the address www.mhhe.com/visavis3 in the address bar, and hit enter. Click on Student Edition on the left center of the screen. Choose your chapter in the pull-down menu on the left. In the chapter's list of exercises, you'll find, among others, some called *Paroles* and some called *Structures*. You are required to do these for each chapter covered in class. There are other exercises as well should you want additional practice with a specific chapter. Although most of these exercises involve reading & writing only, some have audio-visual components and may require the headsets at your station.

2. *Vis-à-vis* Student CD-Rom

The CD-Rom for *Vis-à-vis* has been installed on all of the computers in the lab (Start, *Vis-à-vis*). Enter your name & class then choose *Continuez*. Choose the appropriate chapter, then click on the green *Activités* hand in the upper right. You are required to do all of these exercises for each chapter covered in class. Most exercises involve more than reading and writing and will require the use of the headsets at your station. Feel free to listen and repeat when prompted: you're in a special place frequented by language learners making sounds just as strange as you are!

3. MHELT for *Vis-à-vis*

Another computer program that was designed to supplement your text is the MHELT (Start, MHELT for *Vis-à-vis*), or McGraw-Hill Electronic Language Tutor. Although a very unattractive, no-frills program, MHELT is an excellent tool to perfect your grammar and spelling. Choose activities from the pull-down menu, then open, then click once on CHAPITRE, then open, click once on the chapter desired, then open, and you are presented with a list of exercises for that chapter. You are required to do all exercises for each chapter covered in class, but printed scores from a chapter's MHELT exercises will be collected only periodically. Hold down the Alt key and hit enter to make the MHELT window take up the whole screen.

4. Listening Exercises in the *Vis-à-vis* Cahier d'exercices (Workbook / Lab Manual)

At the beginning of the semester, you were given a CD with audio files for the workbook. Put your station's headset on, get out your workbook, insert this CD in the CD drive of the computer, open the folder to browse the CD, find the *Vis-à-vis* Cahier audio folder, choose the appropriate chapter, then double-click on the appropriate file. You are required to do *all* of the listening exercises and *all* of the written exercises for each chapter covered in class. You may want to note the audio file's number next to the last exercise you do so you'll know where to begin next time. Oral practice not only involves listening, but repeating, so please feel free to listen and repeat *out loud* when prompted: you're in a special place frequented by language learners making sounds just as strange as you are!

FRENCH 2312

1. MHELT for *Collage*

Designed to supplement your grammar text, the MHELT (Start, MHELT for *Collage*), or McGraw-Hill Electronic Language Tutor, has been installed on the hard drives of the computers in the lab. Although a very unattractive, no-frills program, MHELT is an excellent tool to perfect your grammar and spelling. Choose activities from the pull-down menu, then open, then click once on CHAPITRE, then open, click once on the chapter desired, then open, and you are presented with a list of exercises for that chapter. You are required to do all exercises for each chapter covered in class, and printed scores from a chapter's MHELT exercises will be collected periodically. Hold down the Alt key and hit enter to make the MHELT window take up the whole screen.

2. Audio Files for the Cahier d'exercices for *Collage*

At the beginning of the semester, you were given a CD with audio files for the listening portion of the workbook activities. Put your station's headset on, get out your workbook, insert this CD in the CD drive of the computer, open the folder to browse the CD, find the *Collage* Cahier audio folder, choose the appropriate chapter, then double-click on the appropriate file. You are required to do *all* of the listening exercises and *all* of the written exercises for each chapter covered in class. You may want to note the audio file's number next to the last exercise you do so you'll know where to begin next time. Oral practice not only involves listening, but repeating, so please feel free to listen and repeat *out loud* when prompted: you're in a special place frequented by language learners making sounds just as strange as you are!