

## AN AMERICAN RALLYIST IN PARIS

You arrive in France by plane at Charles de Gaulle airport and take the train (RER – B line) from there to the Saint Michel station – a shared train and metro stop – in the heart of Paris. You exit the station at 10 a.m., finding yourself in the Latin Quarter on Boulevard Saint-Michel between Rue Saint Séverin and Rue de la Huchette (<https://bit.ly/stmichelmetro>).

Briefly overwhelmed by the sight, sound, and smell of Paris, you are relieved to see a welcome table set up across the street in a plaza called Place Saint-Michel, directly in front of the famous fountain of Saint Michael slaying a dragon. (SI: if interested, rotate 180° at the above link to see the plaza and fountain.) Steve, one of your travel guides, is there to greet you.



[This smiley face will be replaced by an updated image in the final GRs to be provided to all registrants at the rallye start.]

‘Bonjour! I’m Steve – or Étienne, in French. Nice to meet you and welcome to Paris! I’m sure you’re jet-lagged, so we’ve planned some fun activities for the day to keep you busy and awake! Since I see you have your suitcase with you, you’ll probably want to make the hotel your first stop. We’ll have you walk, as the fresh air will do you good and there are some great sights on the way! To get there, read the rest of these Ground Rules, start on [REDACTED], then follow the Route Instructions in ascending order starting with RI 1. I’m only giving you a few RIs now, but there are 30 RIs in total. When you get to the hotel, check in and get further instructions from my colleague Anne. She’ll tell you what’s happening next. There’s a parade this morning on Saint Germain, so all pedestrians and vehicles must stay off that roadway until the afternoon. It’s ok to scurry across, though, as long as you’re careful. And one more thing: French Lesson New. À toute à l’heure [see you later]!’

## Definitions

Use only the following definitions whenever the listed items occur in rallye materials or on signs, except use the definitions of ‘at’ and ‘on’ only when they are in directional rules, instructions, instruction parts, or other definitions. Other terms have their ordinary English meanings.

<< >> – these are French double quote marks [called ‘guillemets’ in French]; they indicate you are to look for a sign that contains one or more of the words between the quotes

@ - at, or else beyond

at – as close to as possible within 50 feet; ‘at’ is implied if a directional term in an instruction or instruction part is not followed by a preposition

beyond – as soon as possible after passing

CS – proceed as straight as possible through one intersection plus 25 feet

D – turn to the right [the directional term ‘right’ in French is ‘droite’]

delete – render non-existent for rallye purposes

directional – requiring movement in a stated direction, or requiring a turn, such as an instruction to D, G, CS, or turn

execute – perform or do

forced turn – a location in which you can turn right or turn left but not both, and past which you cannot continue straight ahead

G – turn to the left [the directional term ‘left’ in French is ‘gauche’]

instruct – to direct by means of an instruction

instruction – a Route Instruction, Note, or French Lesson

intersection – a meeting of two or more roadways

name – the first word of a roadway identifier, or a person’s forename (some examples of French forenames are Michel, Marie, Jacques, Yvette, and Constantin), or the word (if any) immediately following ‘Saint’ or ‘Sainte’ on a roadway-identifying sign

number – one or more digits standing alone or set off from other words or numbers by a space or punctuation mark, or the corresponding word (*e.g.*, 1 and one are both numbers)

on – physically upon

onto – onto a roadway by name

opp – an opportunity to travel in the direction indicated in an intersection

proceed – continue as straight as possible

question – a request for information, even if not in the form of a question

roadway – a paved, public thoroughfare for vehicles and/or pedestrians, including parking lots

rule – a stated principle governing the conduct of this rallye, or a directed action other than an ‘instruction’ as defined

segment – the part of a roadway between two intersections

turn – change direction by more than approximately 45 degrees in an intersection

T – an intersection in which you can travel in two directions other than U’ing, but you cannot proceed forward (SI: Whether an intersection is a T may depend on whether you are traveling by foot or motor vehicle. End SI.)

U – reverse your direction of travel

word – one or more letters standing alone or set off from other words or numbers by a space or punctuation mark, or an ordinal number (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, etc.)

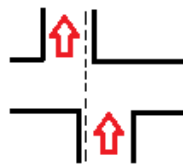
### **Order of Precedence**

When rules or instructions conflict at a given time and place, apply the rule or instruction of highest precedence. When multiple rules or instructions direct you to take an action at a given time and place, execute the action required by the rule or instruction of highest precedence:

1. Rallye Personnel are always right! Do what they say and answer their questions. Rallye Personnel may include people or toons at a CP, toons otherwise encountered on the route with nametags, rallye-appointed bus drivers, and/or the rallyemaster.
2. Special Insisted-Upon Acts (SIs). There are no gimmicks on SIs. SIs on the RI pages take effect upon fully executing the immediately preceding RI or SI. Do not consider lower precedence instructions, or other directed actions of lower precedence, when working on SIs.
3. Obey signs that limit or control your movement, once per sign.
4. Notes. Instructions preceded by the word Note. Notes take effect when received and remain in effect until otherwise informed.
5. French Lessons. See the ‘French Lessons’ section below.
6. Ground Rules (GRs). The ground rules of the rallye that you are reading now.
7. Route Instructions (RIs). Numbered instructions on the RI pages. Each valid RI has either a single option or options labeled A and B. Each option has one or more parts, separated by

commas. If there are multiple options, execute the option (A or B) whose first part can be fully executed first and write the letter associated with that option next to the corresponding RI number on your scoresheet. If both options' first parts can be executed at the same place and time, write C on your scoresheet next to the corresponding RI number and execute option A. Execute an option with multiple parts by executing each part in order from left to right. When you have executed all parts of an RI option, consider that RI to be fully executed.

8. After turning on a roadway you are 'onto', follow the identified roadway, even if you must U to do so, until you can execute the next RI.
9. Proceed in the straightest possible direction. At an intersection, consider the entire width of the roadway you are on to determine the straightest possible direction of travel, regardless of which part of the roadway you are traveling on. For example:



### Route

Travel only on roadways. Roadways with the same roadway identifier are the same roadway. Roadways with different roadway identifiers are different roadways. A roadway segment with two or more roadway identifiers is one roadway. Regardless of what Google Maps displays, consider yourself to be on an appropriate part of a given roadway (pedestrians on a pedestrian walkway or sidewalk unless crossing a roadway, motor vehicles on the part of a roadway that is intended for them). When walking on a roadway where cars are permitted, keep to the right unless there is only a left-hand sidewalk or you need to cross a roadway to follow the route.

Do not execute more than one directional instruction or instruction part in the same intersection. Do not execute any directional instruction or instruction part in a forced turn. In a T for which no other rule or instruction specifies which direction to turn, turn in the direction closest to that in which you were traveling prior to your previous turn. For example:



The text after 'at', '@', 'on', 'onto', or 'beyond' in an RI part or Note or on a sign represents a rallye definition, a roadway identifier (or its equivalent in the Glossary table), and/or words to be found on signs (if they are in quotes in the RI part or Note), and it may also include an ordinal modifier (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, etc.). Completing an RI or RI part that contains 'onto' puts you onto the identified roadway (see Order of Precedence #8).

## Signs

A sign is a display containing one or more words and/or symbols. Only government-posted or rallye-created signs that include a green rectangle or red circle are valid. You cannot see invalid signs. A physically separate sign is a different sign, even if on the same post or at the same location. A roadway-identifying sign states the roadway identifier in large block letters in the rectangular part of the sign. Here is a sample valid sign:



The following items do not exist on signs but, rather, are replaced by blank spaces: the words street, avenue, boulevard, way, and place, as well as their standard abbreviations and French equivalents (if identified in these GRs); the words north, south, east, and west, and their standard abbreviations; the words le, la, les, de, du, des, au, and aux; punctuation marks; and accent marks (like the marks on the letters à, ç, é, and ô). Single letters preceding an apostrophe (such as the 'd' in d'Artagnan) also do not exist on signs. The only markings you can see on signs are words you understand (other than those listed in the preceding two sentences), names, the word 'CP', and pictorial images. Do not split words on signs unless otherwise instructed. Extra words on signs do not invalidate them. Do not look behind you to see signs except roadway-identifying signs within 25 feet of intersections that you encounter. Ignore graffiti and stickers on signs. **(SI: You may need to examine a location from multiple angles/approaches or even dates to see and/or read all valid signs, especially on narrow pedestrian roadways. As some signs are difficult to spot, you may want to use the Map View at the bottom of the Google Maps screen to help locate roadways of interest. Zooming in as far as possible will reveal the most roadway identifiers, but only roadway-identifying signs define valid roadway identifiers for purposes of this rallye. End SI.)**

The following sign types have the stated meanings when you are traveling in a vehicle:



No Entry



No G



No D



Speed Limit  
(km/hr)

A 'No Entry' sign applies if you can see it from an intersection and it is clearly intended to mark a roadway, even if the sign is not precisely at the intersection. Signs with red circles other than the four shown above do not have a defined rallye meaning but may still be valid.

## French Lessons

French Lessons are instructions that appear on the Route Instruction pages or are provided by Rallye Personnel with the words ‘French Lesson’ and the title of the lesson. A French Lesson on the RI pages goes into effect when the RI or SI most closely preceding it has been fully executed. A French Lesson provided by Rallye Personnel goes into effect immediately. A French Lesson goes out of effect when you are told to ‘end’ the lesson by Rallye Personnel or by an ‘End French Lesson’ command on the RI pages. Execute an ‘End French Lesson’ command on the RI pages after fully executing the RI or SI that most closely precedes it. When a French Lesson is in effect, find its title below and follow the corresponding instruction(s) whenever possible.

- Beauty Spend a few seconds, or as much additional time as you like, contemplating the beauty of Paris. Then circle the word ‘beauty’ on your scoresheet.
- Bicycle White signs with an image of a bicycle are valid. Whenever you are on a tour bus that encounters such a sign, the bus driver takes a cigarette break and directs you to continue on the route by bicycle (which he provides). The bus driver picks you up again when this French Lesson ends. A bicycle is not a vehicle.
- Delete Once only, delete option B of the RI currently in effect.
- Hyphen Dashes and hyphens are letters, they do not split words, and they can be seen on signs.
- Jetlag You couldn’t sleep on the plane to Paris and have been awake for more than 24 hours straight. Jetlag hits you suddenly and hard, with the surprising and distressing result that you see spaces in place of the letters E, G, J, M, and U in words on signs.
- New You get excited when you see a French word you understand (from the left column of the Glossary table) on a roadway-identifying sign, causing you to turn on that roadway (only once per word, and not including English equivalents).
- Right The following row is added to the table in the Glossary section of these GRs so that it becomes the bottom row in that table:

R	D
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- Warp Uh oh. Something very strange has happened. Enter the following URL in your Internet browser, replacing the question marks with the RI number associated with the RI option or part that you just executed – <https://bit.ly/TRCwarp-??> – then you’ll understand. For example, if French Lesson Warp took effect after you executed option A or B of RI 12, you would enter <https://bit.ly/TRCwarp-12>

## Glossary

Upon arriving in Paris, you do not understand French words. To help you navigate the route, we are providing you with English translations of several French words. In the table below, French words are on the left and English words are on the right. When you see one of these words on a sign, in a question, in the RIs, or in another section of these GRs, you will understand each word in the table to be equivalent in meaning to the other word in its row. Note: except as directed in the preceding sentence, you only understand single letters, defined terms, and English words (including English words borrowed from French, like ‘chauffeur’) and you cannot speak or write words you do not understand, but you can speak or write names in any language and numbers.

French	English
bonjour	hello
four	oven
chat	cat
rue	street
mauvais	naughty
quatre	four
maison	house

## Questions

Answer any questions presented to you when directed to do so, if possible. Questions on the RI pages are in effect during the period between the complete execution of the surrounding RIs. After fully executing the RI that follows such a question, write the answer in the corresponding space on the scoresheet. If a question has no applicable answer, answer ‘Smelly Cheese’.

## Checkpoints (CPs)

Checkpoints are indicated by a sign marked with CP, a CP identifier letter (A, B, etc.), and one or more CP identifier words (not including the identifier letter). For each CP, write the CP identifier word(s) on your scoresheet in the space next to the corresponding identifier letter. When you receive a message telling you to enter a CP, enter the CP by clicking this [link](#) to join a Zoom meeting with Rallye Personnel. If prompted, enter Meeting ID 816 3010 1745 and/or Passcode 450546. You will start in a waiting room and be admitted when Rallye Personnel are free. (SI: CPs will be open from 12:30pm to 6:30pm Pacific Time (19:30 to 01:30 UTC). We encourage all members of your team to join the Zoom meeting together, though only one team member participant is required. If the CP is busy, we may split into breakout rooms. In that case, the first person to greet you will get your team together and assign you to a breakout room. Be patient during this process. When the official CP visit starts, the Rallye Personnel will let you know. End SI.)

At CPs, Rallye Personnel may give you rules, direct you to take actions, and/or ask you questions. Give them the information they request if possible, but don't use French words when answering them! Also, after being admitted to your 1<sup>st</sup> CP and hearing the word 'Welcome', show the Rallye Personnel how happy you are to be in Paris by singing:

Frère Jacques / Frère Jacques / Dormez-vous? / Dormez-vous?

## Scoresheet

Do not mark on the scoresheet except as directed. In the top section of the scoresheet (the full section above the RIs), write the name of each rallyist on your team and the other requested information. Answer the following tiebreaker questions in the corresponding spaces at the bottom of your scoresheet: TB1 – What will your score be on this rallye (out of 1000 possible points, 10-20 points per gimmick)? TB2 – What will the top score be on this rallye? TB3 – What will the final tiebreaker number be (between 1 and 100)? Keep your scoresheet up to date at all times. When you finish the rallye, transfer the information from your scoresheet to the online version available **at this link** and submit it by 7:00 p.m. PT (02:00 UTC). 10 points will be deducted for each minute late, and scoresheets received more than 15 minutes late will not be counted. Any protests must be submitted by 7:15 p.m. PT (02:15 UTC) via email to [apr2024@therallyeclub.org](mailto:apr2024@therallyeclub.org). A Zoom meeting for results will be held starting at 8:00 p.m. PT (03:00 UTC). You can join by clicking this **link**. If prompted, enter Meeting ID 882 5652 3943 and/or Passcode 662961.

## Miscellaneous

There are no gimmicks in this rallye based on capitalization. You 'encounter' something if it is located along the roadway you are on and you pass it or it is within 50 feet ahead of you (but not if it is only behind you), or if it is within 15 feet of an intersection that you encounter (such as a roadway-identifying sign for a crossroad). To enrich your Paris rallying experience, these GRs and the Route Instruction pages include bits of trivia in square brackets [ ]; they are purely for education/entertainment and contain no traps. SI: If you run into a problem on the route, you can ask for help by emailing [support@therallyeclub.atlassian.net](mailto:support@therallyeclub.atlassian.net) with 'Help' as the subject and your team #, the number of the RI or Q you're working on (if any), your phone #, and a description of your issue in the body of the email. We'll respond soon; please be patient. If our response meets your needs, please do not reply. If you have another help request, send a new email rather than replying to the last one. End SI.

**(SI: Navigating in Google Maps is sometimes a challenge. If you want to travel in a particular valid direction but Google Maps Street View does not display an arrow in that direction, or if clicking the arrow takes you somewhere you did not intend, try moving in that direction with your keyboard arrow keys or clicking on where you want to go in the Map View at the bottom of the screen. End SI.)**

Enjoy your virtual trip to Paris and bonne chance [good luck]!

Sincerely,

Your Rallyemaster, Matt Poppe