

Module 2: Enchanté!
Topic 2 Content: Communicating With Gestures

Introduction



The French people are known worldwide for being expressive when it comes to the use of nonverbal gestures. Click the ***NEXT*** button to explore information about how the French commonly use gestures.

Module 2: Enchanté!
Topic 2 Content: Communicating With Gestures

To Express That You're Doing Great



When the French want to tell you they are doing great or very well, they may use the thumbs-up sign.

Module 2: Enchanté!
Topic 2 Content: Communicating With Gestures

To Express That You're Doing Okay or So-So



If they want to tell you they are doing just okay, the French may hold their hand in front of them palm down and rock it from side to side.

Module 2: Enchanté!
Topic 2 Content: Communicating With Gestures

To Express That You're Not Doing Bad



When you ask them how they're doing and they want to say they aren't doing bad, the French may shrug their shoulders and frown.

Module 2: Enchanté!
Topic 2 Content: Communicating With Gestures

To Greet Someone or Say Goodbye



It is also customary in France for people to use gestures when they meet someone or say goodbye. For instance, girls may kiss girls or guys on the cheek when they say hello or goodbye. The number of kisses varies from two to four depending on the region they are from.

Module 2: Enchanté!
Topic 2 Content: Communicating With Gestures

To Greet Someone or Say Goodbye



While in earlier times it was also customary for men to kiss one another on each cheek, it is now more acceptable to shake hands as people do in the United States.