



CHAPTER 11

True Cognates / Des vrais amis

Cognates are words that sound and/or look the same and have the same meaning between two or more languages.

Scanning a text for cognates helps a child:

Finding the Cognates:

- Make predictions about the topic or theme of the text
- Make reading texts less overwhelming
- Better understand the text
- Focus on "What do I know" rather than "I can't read French"



Ideas to Try at Home:

Word Sort:

- Write sets of cognates on cards – one with the French word and one with the English word
- Have your child sort the words, then ask him/her what the word pairs have in common

Cognate Day:

- Once a week, have your child participate in a 'cognate day' where he/she tries to locate as many cognates as he/she can at home using media (television, radio, posters, cereal boxes)

Examples of True Cognates

English

hockey
dentist
chocolate
radio
fruit
soccer
scientist
taxi
pizza
dictionary
example

French

hockey
dentiste
chocolat
radio
fruit
soccer
scientiste
taxi
pizza
dictionnaire
exemple