

French baguettes should be Unesco-listed treasures...

...according to French President Macron

Before you read the complete article, look at this vocabulary and find it in the text:

baguette: a long, narrow French loaf of bread

to safeguard: to protect something from harm or damage

baker: a person who makes and sells bread & cakes

to enshrine: to protect or respect a right, tradition or idea

to voice: to express (in words)

yeast: a fungus, used to make bread rise

to make the grade: to reach the desired standard

gingerbread: a cake/biscuit flavoured with ginger

to rack up: to accumulate or achieve something, especially a score or amount

lace: a fine fabric made of cotton or silk, made by looping, twisting or knitting thread in patterns

The French **baguette** should be listed as a Unesco cultural treasure, says France's President Emmanuel Macron. "The **baguette** is the envy of the whole world," he said, in support of a national bakers' association that is promoting the application.

The bakers have been inspired by the success of Italy's Naples pizza, which was protected by the UN's cultural body last year. Unesco's list aims to save traditions from globalisation. The Committee for the **Safeguarding** of Intangible Cultural Heritage meets annually to evaluate nominations from around the world.

The **bakers** say it is not just the name and shape, but the recipe and ingredients that need to be **enshrined**. "Excellence and expertise must be preserved, and that is why it should be heritage-listed," President Macron told French radio after receiving a group of master bakers at the Elysée presidential palace in Paris on Friday. Artisan bread-makers have **voiced** concern about mass-produced imitations.

"When I see the quality of bread in supermarkets, it is impossible not to get angry," Dominique Anract, president of the National Confederation of French Patisseries and Bakeries (CNPBF), told food website Atabula. "The bread is frozen, some of it comes from Romania or who knows where, nothing is carried out in accordance of the rules of the art."

The traditional **baguette** is already protected in France by a 1993 law. To meet the criteria, the bread must only be made from four ingredients: wheat flour, water, **yeast** and salt. It cannot be frozen or contain added preservatives.

Unesco's Lists of Intangible Cultural Heritage is different from its register of places, known as World Heritage Sites. Instead, this list focuses on traditions - mostly crafts, music, dance and cuisine. Yoga, Spanish flamenco and Tibetan Opera have already **made the grade**, as have Belgian beer culture and the **gingerbread** craft of northern Croatia. France has already **racked up** multiple successful applications, from Alençon **lace**-making to French-style equitation.

There is even a broadly termed listing for the "French gastronomic meal". That submission was centred mostly around the rituals that accompany the cuisine: how wines are paired with dishes, how the table is dressed, and the precise placing of glasses and cutlery.

The UK does not have any entries on the list. It is one of few countries in the world that has not signed up to the "**safeguarding** intangible heritage" convention, which was established in 2003.

adapted from : <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-42674724>

"Let's chat about that!"

Write your answers in an email and send them to your ECP coach! Give reasons for your answers.

- Do you like eating bread? Why / why not?
- Is French bread the best in the world? If not, which is?
- Where do you keep your bread - in the cupboard, the fridge or somewhere else? Why do you keep it there?
- What tradition would you add to Unesco's list and why?
- Which is better: champagne or cava? Why?
- Why do you think the UK doesn't have any traditions on the list? Can you think of any that should be protected?





French words every English speaker knows...

These common French words are used in English. Ask your ECP coach their meaning and how to pronounce them correctly in English.

French words ending in -tion

English words ending in **-tion** come from Latin. That's why many of the -tion words are identical in French and in English. Here are a few words in **-tion** that are commonly used in French and in English:

Information Attention Communication Transformation
 Competition Justification Action
 Connexion Television

French words ending in -able

Table Stable Adorable Comfortable

French words ending in -ible

Accessible Audible Visible

Here are a few common French words used in English to talk about food and drinks:

à la carte Menu Aperitif Café Picnic
 Salad Soup Omelette Bon appetit
 Hors d'oeuvre Vinaigrette Restaurant
 Alcohol Chef (means boss in French and not only cook)

Other common French words used in English:

Bourgeois Brunette Chauffeur Chic
 Critique Depot Déjà vu Eau de Cologne
 En route Entrepreneur Fiancé Genre
 Joie de vivre Toilette Voyeur R.S.V.P
 Souvenir A propos Bon voyage Cliché
 Bouquet Boutique Coup

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Do you know what these words mean?

déjà-vu Try to use them in sentences.

entrepreneur Practise with your ECP coach and colleagues

laissez-faire

début genre

double-entendre au-fait faux-pas

pastiche haute-cuisine coup-d'état cul-de-sac ballet

saboteur panache café montage raison-d'être

chic brunette tête-à-tête brique-à-brac lingerie gaffe impasse savoir-faire chef

amateur amateur lingerie mousse voyeur hommage chef

in-lieu blasé cliché silhouette m'aider soirée vis-a-vis

critique critique

parkour parkour

aperitif aperitif clique

madame madame

tour-de-force tour-de-force

bouquet bouquet motif

en-suite en-suite

à-la-mode à-la-mode

omelette omelette

mise-en-scène mise-en-scène

chic chic

brunette brunette

bureau bureau

venue venue

panache panache

bric-à-brac bric-à-brac

amateur amateur

in-lieu in-lieu

blasé blasé

cliché cliché

soirée soirée

vis-a-vis vis-a-vis