

**HANDBOOK OF ENGLISH
AND FRENCH
TERMS FOR THE USE
OF MILITARY AVIATORS**

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Handbook of English and French Terms for the Use of Military Aviators by Gilbert Chinard & Earle Raymond Hedrick

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GILBERT CHINARD & EARLE RAYMOND HEDRICK

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Makers
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HANDBOOK
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ENGLISH AND FRENCH TERMS
FOR THE USE OF
MILITARY AVIATORS

BY

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PREFACE

The compilation of this little book was undertaken by Professor Chinard as a service to the School of Military Aeronautics at the University of California. It is published by the school for distribution to its students with the hope that it will make it possible for a pilot descending among Frenchmen to make himself understood, both in asking for needed things and in explaining difficulties that he may have encountered. The text has been made as brief as possible, and every effort has been extended to render all the information in the book readily accessible. The technical character of the subject matter renders it highly probable that errors exist. These will be gladly corrected in the next edition if notification is sent to the school.

Many thanks are due to Dr. E. R. Hedrick, Professor of Mathematics of the University of Missouri, for his valuable aid in the compilation and arrangement of the material. The subject matter is difficult and the sources of information uncertain, which have rendered the task the more difficult.

B. M. Woods,

Dean of the School.

Approved for publication:

A. N. KROGSTAD, Major, U. S. A.,
 Commandant,
 Berkeley, July, 1917.

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PRONUNCIATION

A and i sound as in animal; ai, ei, é, è, ê, e followed by one or two consonants like a in prepare; e mute or silent, printed thus (e) is hardly sounded, but the letter that precedes it is always sounded. E written thus (e) has always the sound of the English a. A vowel followed by n has usually a nasal sound. The vowel u, written thus (ü) does not exist in English; purse the lips and try to pronounce u separately in utmost or utter; au is pronounced like o in cod; ou like oo in poor; que is equivalent to k.

All silent letters are printed in light-face type, thus: (n), (t), (r); they should not be pronounced at all, except (e) mute or silent, the sound of which has been indicated above.

The French words carry a slight, but perceptible accent upon the last syllable, or rather vowel. Try to give the same value to all the syllables, and never drop the last.

Familiarize yourself in advance with the divisions of the book. Do not try to make sentences. If you are not understood, point out the word in your book, and have some one write the answer.

I cannot understand what you say, *je ne comprends pas*. How do you do? *bonjour*. Thank you, *merci*. Please, *s'il vous plaît*. Yes, *oui*, pronounced like *we* in English.

N.B.—*Merci* means also, No, thank you; if you are offered something and wish to accept it, say, *Oui, s'il vous plaît*.

Attention is called to the fact that the French frequently write the numerals 1, 4, 5, 7 as in the following figure.

FRENCH AND ENGLISH NUMERALS

French	English
1	1
4	4
5	5
7	7



1. NUMBERS—NOMBRES

1	un	70	soixante-dix
2	deux	71	soixante-et-onze
3	trois	80	quatre-vingt
4	quatre	81	quatre-vingt un
5	cinq	80	quatre-vingt-dix
6	six (like cease)	91	quatre-vingt-onze
7	sept	100	cent
8	huit	101	cent un
9	neuf	200	deux cent
10	dix	201	deux cent un
11	onze	1000	mille
12	douze	1100	onze cent
13	treize	2000	deux mille
14	quatorze		
15	quinze	$\frac{1}{2}$	un demi
		$\frac{1}{3}$	un tiers
16	seize	$\frac{1}{4}$	un quart
17	dix-sept	$\frac{1}{8}$	un huitième
18	dix-huit	$\frac{1}{10}$	un dixième
19	dix-neuf		
20	vingt	first	premier
		second	second
21	vingt-et-un	third	troisième, etc.
22	vingt-deux	and so on, adding	ième to the
30	trente	cardinal number	
31	trente-et-un		
40	quarante		
		N.B.—From 60 to 100 the	
41	quarante-et-un	French numbers resemble the	
50	cinquante	old English count by scores.	
51	ciquante-et-un	Thus, 90, four score and ten, is	
60	soixante	quatre-vingt-dix.	
61	soixante-et-un	once	une fois
		twice	deux fois, etc.

2. METRIC SYSTEM—SYSTEME METRIQUE

Length—longueurs: The unit is the meter or *mètre*, divided into 100 (cent) *centimètres*, each *centimètre* being divided into 10 *millimètres*. 1 *mètre* = 39.37 inches; 1 mile = 1609.30 *mètres*; 1 in. = 2.54 cm.; 1 sq. in. = 6.452 sq. cm.; 1 cu. in. = 16.387 cu. cm. (See cut, p. 11). The *kilomètre* being 1000 *mètres*, it can be said that 2 miles equal 3 *kilomètres*, approximately.

Calibres and diameters are usually expressed in millimeters; for example the French field gun, whose bore is 75 mm., is called "le soixante-quinze."

Liquid and dry measures—mesures: the unit is the *litre*. 1 quart = 1 *litre* nearly, or .94636 exactly. 1 pint = $\frac{1}{2}$ *litre*, un demi *litre*. $1\frac{1}{2}$ pint = $\frac{3}{4}$, un quart, or un quart de *litre*.

N.B.—1 quart is thus equivalent to 4 French quarts.

Weights—poids: the unit is the *kilogramme*, or 1000 *grammes*. 1 *kilogramme* = $2\frac{1}{6}$ English pounds nearly, or 2.20462 pounds exactly. 1 pound = 453 *grammes* nearly, or 453.359 *grammes* exactly. 1 ounce = 28 *grammes* nearly, or 28.3495 *grammes* exactly. The French pound or *livre*, though not an official measure, is often used.

Degrees—degrés: Angles are read in minutes and seconds, as in English.

Temperature—température: Only the centigrade thermometer is used. (See cut, p. 9).

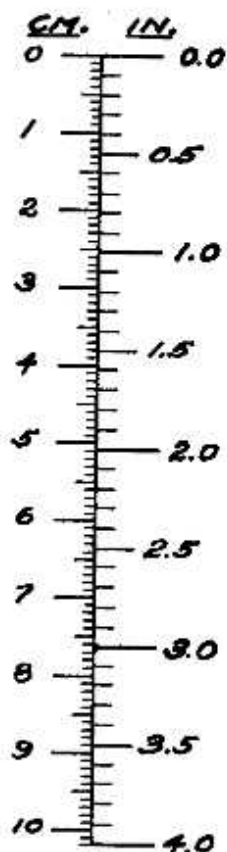
Pressure: Barometers, gauges, etc., are read in *kilogrammes*, *centimètres*, and *millimètres*.

The divisions and multiples used in the metric system are as follows:

unit = 1 unit, e.g., meter.	unit = 1
deca- = 10 units, e.g., decameter.	deci- = 1/10
hecto- = 100 units, e.g., hectometer.	centi- = 1/100
kilo- = 1000 units, e.g., kilometer.	milli- = 1/1000



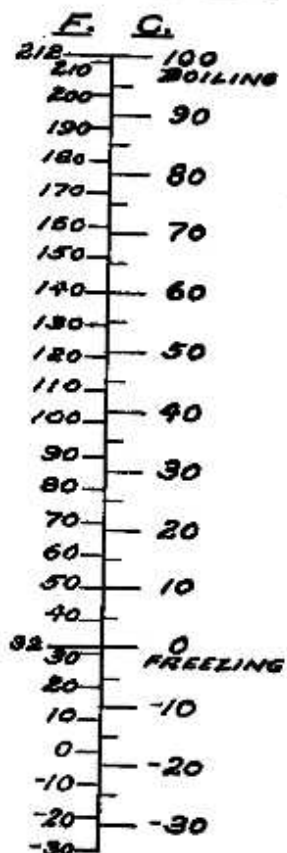
LENGTH



1 CM. = 0.3937 IN.

1 IN. = 2.54001 CM.

TEMPERATURE



F = 32 + $\frac{9}{5}$ C.

C = $\frac{5}{9}$ (F - 32)



3. MONEY—MONNAIES

The unit is the franc (frs.), about 20 cents. The franc is divided into 100 centimes, but the smallest denomination commonly used is 5 centimes, about 1 cent. The word *sou* (5 centimes) is often used popularly.

1 cent = un sou, or cinq centimes (0,05).

2 cents = deux sous, or dix centimes (0,10).

5 cents = cinq sous, or vingt-cinq centimes (0,25).

10 cents = dix sous, or cinquante centimes (0,50).

20 cents = vingt sous, or un franc (1 frs.).

25 cents = un franc vingt-cinq (1,25).

50 cents = deux francs cinquante (2,50).

\$1.00 = cinq francs (5 frs.).

The French currency is as follows: le sou, 1 cent (copper); le gros sou, or décime, 2 cents (copper); cinq sous, or vingt-cinq centimes, 5 cents (nickel); dix sous, or cinquante centimes, 10 cents (silver); vingt sous, or un franc, 20 cents (silver); deux francs, 40 cents (silver); cinq francs, \$1.00 (silver or paper); 10 francs, \$2.00 (paper); 20 francs, \$4.00 (paper); 50 francs \$10.00 (paper); 100 francs, \$20.00 (paper).

Caution: Bills under 5 francs have been recently issued in certain parts of France, owing to the shortage of silver coins. They are not legal tender throughout France and can be used only locally. A soldier should not accept these unless he is to remain in the same place for some time.

1 pound English = \$5.00 approximately.

1 shilling = 25c.

I cannot take paper. *Donnez-moi des pièces.*

How much is it? *Combien?*

Too dear. *Trop cher.*

Cheap. *Bon marché.*

Can you make change? *Avez-vous la monnaie?*

This is not the right change. *Ce n'est pas le compte.*