

DEFI Inter-Alliances 2026 - Competition Rules

ARTICLE 1 – Organisers

The **DEFI Inter-Alliances 2026** competition (hereinafter referred to as "THE DEFI" or "the competition") is organised by the Alliances Françaises of Newcastle, Sunshine Coast, Sydney, Atherton, Canberra, Brisbane, Adelaide, and Armidale, in collaboration with the Foundation of the Alliances Françaises, based in Paris.

ARTICLE 2 – Purpose of the Competition

The competition invites participants to complete a general knowledge quiz in French via the digital platform Kahoot.

The competition will be held in four stages:

1. **Local selection phase:** Organised by each participating Alliance (see Article 1).
2. **National selection phase** (National final).
3. **Geographic zone semi-final.**
4. **International final.**

Participating Alliances have the option to organise the selections either in person or online.

Key dates:

- **Local selection:** Each participating Alliance Française in Australia will organise its local selection between 31 March to 2 May 2026.
- **National final:** Virtual, before the 17 May 2026 via Zoom, organised by the Alliance Française of Newcastle.
- **Geographic zone semi-final:** Virtual, on Saturday, 23 May 2026 (time per zone to be confirmed).
- **International final:** In person at the Alliance Française in Brussels, the week of the 5th of July 2026.

ARTICLE 3 – Eligibility and Participation Requirements

Participation in the competition is **free** of charge. The competition is open to students enrolled in French courses at the participating Alliances Françaises, under the following conditions:

- Minimum age of 18 years as of 15 July 2026.
- French proficiency level A2, B1, B2, C1, or C2 (or currently learning).
- Not being a member of the staff or board of an Alliance.
- Not having French as a native language.

To be eligible, participants must be enrolled in a collective French course (either in-person or online) as of 1 January 2026.

The Brisbane local selection will be a general knowledge quiz in French held in person at Alliance Française de Brisbane at 5:30pm on Wednesday, 29 April. Participants only require to bring a smartphone.

The national selection and the geographic semi-final will be held through a general knowledge quiz in French on Kahoot. Participants must use two devices to participate:

- One for Zoom (for accessing the virtual platform – computer or tablet recommended),
- One for Kahoot (via the Kahoot app/website – smartphone recommended).

The international final will be in person with Kahoot. Finalists will need to use only their smartphones, with questions displayed on a screen and internet access provided by the organisers.

The responses to the general knowledge quiz will be counted and ranked as follows:

- **Local selection:** The top 2 participants will be selected for the national final.
- **National selection:** The top 2 participants will advance to the geographic zone semi-final.
- **Geographic zone semi-final:** The top participant from each zone will advance to the international final.
- **International final:** The participant with the highest score will be declared the winner.

Special condition: Participants who have won an international final in previous years (2022, 2023, 2024 or 2025) will not be eligible for **DEFI Inter-Alliances 2026**.

ARTICLE 4 – Prizes

Local selection:

- The top winner will receive 1x standard (10-week) French course at Alliance Française de Brisbane, to be redeemed within one year of the competition, in addition to their participation in the national selection.
- The first runner-up will receive 1x bottle of champagne, in addition to their participation in the national selection.
- The second runner-up will receive 1x bottle of wine.

National selection: The top 2 winners will receive a \$300 gift voucher for a local French restaurant, in addition to their participation in the geographic zone semi-final.

Geographic zone semi-final: The winner from each zone will receive a trip to Brussels during the week of 5 to 11 July 2026 to participate in the international final. This trip includes:

- Accommodation,
- Transportation from the nearest airport to the winner's home to Brussels,
- An allowance of €400.

Any additional costs (insurance, extra baggage, etc.) are the responsibility of the winners. If a visa is required to travel to France, the winner will be responsible for obtaining it.

Availability: Winners must be available to travel to Brussels. If a winner is unavailable, they will be replaced by the second-place finalist from their zone.

ARTICLE 5 – Image Rights

The local, national, and geographic zone semi-finals, as well as the international final, may be broadcast live or recorded for later broadcast on the websites and social media of the participating Alliances and competition partners.

By participating in the competition, participants authorise the organisers to use their name, surname, city, and country of residence in promotional materials and on websites and social media, without any further compensation other than the prize awarded in the competition.

ARTICLE 6 – Responsibilities

Organisers' Responsibilities: The organisers are not liable in the event of force majeure, technical issues, or any other reason that may cause the competition to be postponed, shortened, or cancelled. The organisers reserve the right to extend or limit the participation period or modify the conditions of the competition.

The organisers are not responsible for any technical issues, internet failures, or interruptions affecting the administration or fairness of the competition. The organisers are also not liable for issues related to participants' equipment or internet connection that may impact their participation.

Participants' Responsibilities: It is the sole responsibility of participants to ensure that the information they provide during registration is accurate and that they are available to participate on the specified dates. If they are not available, their participation will be automatically disqualified.

Participants are responsible for protecting their own data and software on their devices. Participation in the competition is at the participant's own risk.

By entering the competition, participants agree to act fairly and in accordance with the rules. The organisers reserve the right to disqualify any participant who fails to comply with the rules, without prior notice.

Participants also agree to allow the organisers to use their name and data for promotional purposes related to the competition.

By registering for this competition, participants tacitly accept the terms of this agreement and authorise the participating and organising Alliances to use their name and personal data for the promotion of the competition.